

Prayer Service



Sister Deborah Walter

March 30, 1949 — June 6, 2022

Nazareth Center Chapel
June 27, 2022
11:00 a.m.

Welcome

Opening Song: *Life Up Your Hearts* BB #563

Leader: God of faithfulness, you have called Sister Deborah into Your loving presence. May she be united with all the saints and rest in your peace forever. Be close to those of us gathered here as we honor the gift of her life and find comfort in your enduring love. Amen.

Antiphon: ^{All} O my Beloved, You are my shepherd.

1 You are my shepherd, I shall not want;
 You bring me to green pastures for rest
 and lead me beside still waters renewing my spirit;
 You restore my soul.
 You lead me in the path of goodness
 to follow Love's way.

2 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow
 of death, I am not afraid;
 You are ever with me;
 your rod and your staff
 they guide me,
 they give me strength and comfort.

1 You prepare a table before me
 In the presence of all my fears;
 You bless me with oil,
 my cup overflows.
 Surely goodness and mercy will follow me
 all the days of my life;
 and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Antiphon: ^{ALL} O my Beloved, You are my shepherd.

Poetic Reading: *by Mark Nepo*

*(This poem touches into the sadness we feel at her passing
and the beautiful life Deb lived)*

This is how the heart makes a duet of wonder and grief. The light spraying through the lace of the fern is as delicate as the fibers of memory forming their web around the knot in my throat. The breeze makes the birds move from branch to branch as this ache makes me look for those I've lost in the next room, in the next song, in the laugh of the next stranger. In the very center, under it all, what we have that no one can take away and all that we've lost face each other. It is there that I'm adrift, feeling punctured by a holiness that exists inside everything. I am so sad and everything is beautiful.

Sharing of Stories and Memories



Prayer to St. Agnes:

Behold, what I long coveted, I already see; what I hoped for I now hold safe. To God alone I am associated in Heaven, whom on earth I loved with all devotedness.

Leader: Pray for us, St. Agnes.

All: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Almighty and eternal God, who choose the weak of the world to confound the strong, mercifully grant that we, who are placed under the patronage of your virgin and martyr, Agnes, may feel the benefit of her intercession with you. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Song: *Irish Blessing* BB #372 vs. 1—3

