

A Service Celebrating the Life of

Robert Faris Gillies

June 29, 1961 ~ February 20, 2025



March 1, 2025

*A Service Celebrating the Life of  
Robert Faris Gillies*

*The Celebrant says*

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.

Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he die.

And everyone who has life, and has committed himself to me in faith,  
shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives  
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.

After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God.

I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself, and none becomes his own master when he dies.

For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord, and if we die, we die in the Lord.

So, then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord!

So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

**Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant*     The Lord be with you.

*People*        *And also with you.*

*Celebrant*     Together, let us pray.

*O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant Robert, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

# The Liturgy of the Word

## The First Lesson – *Wisdom 3:1-5,9*

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom.

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* *Thanks be to God.*

## Psalm 23

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

*He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;*

*he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

*He restoreth my soul;*

*he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,*

*I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.*

*Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;*

*thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,*

*and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.*

## The Second Lesson – *Ecclesiastes 3:1-8*

A Reading from the book of Ecclesiastes.

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to

keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* *Thanks be to God.*

### **The Gospel – John 14:1-6**

*Celebrant:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People:* *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

*The people sit.*

### **Refelctions**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## The Prayers of the People

God, your will for us is abundant life; receive Robert now into the fullness of life in your presence. *Hear our prayer.*

You know the thoughts of our hearts and our search for faith; shed the brightness of your light on Robert, who also sought understanding. *Hear our prayer.*

You are greater than all our ideas and images of you; draw Robert into the mystery of your being. *Hear our prayer.*

We know you as perfect Mercy and Love; welcome Robert in the grace of that love and mercy. *Hear our prayer.*

We praise you as the giver of life; gather all who mourn into the hope of renewed life. *Hear our prayer.*

The Church commends all who die to the care of Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit; and so we commend Robert to you, giving thanks for the gift of his life. *Hear our prayer.*

May the Holy One, to whom all the desires of our hearts are known before we ask, hear our prayers for Robert, and for all who mourn, and grant us newness of life, and peace. *Amen.*

## The Commendation

*The Celebrant and other ministers take their places at the body. This anthem, or some other suitable anthem, or a hymn, may be sung or said*

*Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,  
where sorrow and pain are no more,  
neither sighing, but life everlasting.*

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

*Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,  
where sorrow and pain are no more,  
neither sighing, but life everlasting.*

*The Celebrant, facing the body, says*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Robert Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. *Amen.*

### **The Blessing**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*Thanks be to God.*

*The Service will continue at Good Guy Cemetery*

### **The Committal**

*The following anthem is sung or said*

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me; I will never turn away anyone who believes in me. He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also give new life to our mortal bodies through his indwelling Spirit. My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope. You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

*Then, while earth is cast upon the coffin, the Celebrant says these words*

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our sister Robert; and we commit him to his resting place; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless him and keep him, the Lord make his face to shine upon him and be gracious unto him, the Lord lift up his countenance upon him and give him peace. *Amen.*

*Then the Celebrant says*

Gracious God, you alone are the source of all life. May your life-giving Spirit flow through us, so that we may be ministers of your compassion to one another; in our sorrow give us the calm of your peace, and kindle our hope, and in your good time, let our grief give way to joy, through Jesus Christ our Deliverer. *Amen.*

Rest eternal grant to Robert, O Lord:

*And let light perpetual shine upon her.*

May his soul, + and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen.*

## The Blessing

*The Celebrant dismisses the people with these words*

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.  
*Amen.*

Robert Faris Gillies, 63, of New York City, passed away on February 20, 2025. He was born June 29, 1961 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and grew up in Manhattan, New York, and Manhasset, Long Island. He graduated from Hampton Bays High School in 1979. Rob attended Boston College, graduating in 1983 with a degree in Mathematics. At BC, he forged dozens of extraordinary friendships that lasted his entire life. For most of his business career, Rob worked as a self-employed commodities broker on Wall Street. Robert was a talented athlete, a lover of all music genres, a loyal friend to many and a kind, generous, upstanding human being. He will be deeply missed, lovingly remembered and always held precious in our hearts.



Rob is survived by his father, Ralph Gillies; sister, Barrie, brother-in-law William Drummy, and beloved nephew Will Drummy. Robert was preceded in death by his mother, Barbara Faris Gillies.

### *From The 1979 Book of Common Prayer (P. 507)*

*The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised.*

*The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that “neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

*This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.*





*A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island*

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Fall-Winter Weekend Church Services

Sundays 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist in the church (10 a.m. Livestreamed)  
The first Sunday of each month Healing & Anointing will be included in both services.

Thursday Midweek Service

11:00 AM Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing in Fr. Chris' Office

Office Hours

Tuesday—Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

All Members of Saint Mark's are Ministers of the Church!

The Rt. Rev. Lawrence Provenzano—*Bishop of Long Island*  
The Rt. Rev. GERALYN WOLF—*Assisting Bishop*  
The Rt. Rev. William Franklin—*Assisting Bishop*  
The Rt. Rev. Daniel Allotey—*Assisting Bishop*

The Rev. Christopher D. Jubinski—*Rector of Saint Mark's*

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The Rev. Dr. Anne Gavin Ritchie—*Priest-in-Residence*  
Stephen Hunt—*Director of Music*  
Kate Gabrielsen—*Parish Administrator*  
Chris Adams—*Facilities Manager*  
Rosanna Davis—*Director of St. Mark's Bright Beginnings Preschool*  
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Vestry Members:

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Thomas Simson—*Treasurer*  
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