

*A Celebration of the Life of  
Jerry A. Shields M.D.*



*Born: June 9, 1937*

*Entered into Eternal Life: June 22, 2025*

*June 27, 2025*

*Saint John Vianney Parish  
Gladwyne, PA*

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# Introductory Rite

*Greeting*

*Sprinkling with Holy Water*

*Placing the Pall*

*Entrance Hymn*

*We Gather Together*

KREMSER



1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing; He  
2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing, Whose  
3. We all do ex - tol you, our lead - er tri - um-phant, And



1. chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known; The  
2. king - dom calls all to the love which en - dures. So  
3. pray that you still our de - fend - er will be. Let



1. wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing: Sing  
2. from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning: You,  
3. your con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion: Your



1. prais - es to his name; he for - gets not his own.  
2. Lord, were at our side; all \_\_\_\_ glo - ry be yours!  
3. name be ev - er praised! O \_\_\_\_ Lord, make us free!

Text: 12 11 12 11; *Wilt heden nu treden*; tr. by Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, alt.  
Music: *Neder-landsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626.

*Opening Prayer*

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# *Liturgy of the Word*

## *First Reading*

*Isaiah 43:1-3*

*Read by Mary Rose Shields*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

But now, thus says the Lord,  
who created you, Jacob, and formed you, Israel:  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name: you are mine.  
When you pass through waters, I will be with you;  
through rivers, you shall not be swept away.  
When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned,  
nor will flames consume you.  
For I, the Lord, am your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your savior.  
I give Egypt as ransom for you,  
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

The word of the Lord.

*Response: Thanks be to God.*

## *Responsorial Psalm*

*Psalm 103*

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A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

There is an appointed time for everything,  
and a time for every affair under the heavens.  
A time to give birth, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.  
A time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to tear down, and a time to build.  
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance.  
A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;  
a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.  
A time to seek, and a time to lose;  
a time to keep, and a time to cast away.  
A time to rend, and a time to sew;  
a time to be silent, and a time to speak.  
God has made everything appropriate to its time,  
but has put the timeless into their hearts so they cannot find out,  
from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

The word of the Lord.

*Response: Thanks be to God.*

***Gospel Acclamation***

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A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled.

You have faith in God; have faith also in me.

In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.

If there were not,

would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you,

I will come back again and take you to myself,

so that where I am you also may be.

Where I am going you know the way."

Thomas said to him,

"Master, 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Response: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.*

**Homily**

*Reverend William G. Donovan*

**General Intercessions**

***Lord, hear our prayer***

*Read by Margaret Pennington, M.D.*

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# Liturgy of the Eucharist

## Preparation of the Gifts

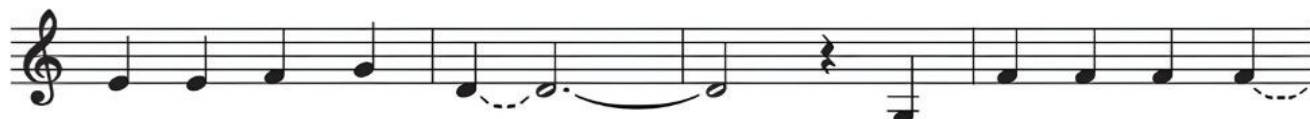
## Prayer of St. Francis

Verses 1, 2, 4



1. Make me a chan-nel of your peace.  
2. Make me a chan-nel of your peace.  
4. Make me a chan-nel of your peace.

Where there is ha-tred,  
Where there's de-spair in  
It is in par-don-



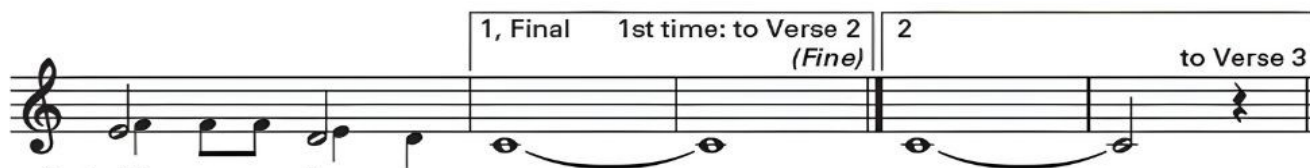
1. let me bring your love. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. life, let me bring hope. \_\_\_\_\_  
4. ing that we are par-doned, \_\_\_\_\_

Where there is in - ju -  
Where there is dark-ness \_  
In giv - ing of our -



1. ry, your par-don, Lord,  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ on - ly light,  
4. selves that we re - ceive,

And where there's doubt, true  
And where there's sad - ness  
And in dy - ing that we're



1. faith in you.  
2. ev - er  
4. born to e - ter - nal life.

2. joy.

Verse 3



3. O Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek

So much to be con -



3. soled, as to con-sole,

To be un-der-stood, as to un-der-



3. stand, To be loved, as to love, with all my soul.

Dedicated to Mrs. Francis Tracy. Text: Based on the prayer traditionally ascr. to St. Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226.  
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*Gifts presented by  
Samuel Fallon, M.D., Nellie Fallon, M.D., John Shields, M.D.,  
Samantha Shields, Will Yoh, & Mary Rose Shields*

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## *Communion Rite*

### *The Lord's Prayer*

### *Lamb of God*

### *Communion Hymn*

### *Here I Am, Lord*

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain

The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the refrain: 'Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you'. The second staff continues the melody for the second line: 'call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.' The third staff contains the final line: 'I will hold your peo-ple in my heart.' and ends with a triple bar line and a '3' indicating a triple measure rest.

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you  
call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your peo-ple in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Text: Based on Isaiah 6. Text and music © 1981, OCP. All rights reserved.

### *Meditation Hymn*

### *Ave Maria*

### *Prayer After Communion*

### *Words of Remembrance*

*Carol Shields, M.D. & Patrick Shields, M.D.*

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# Final Commendation

## Song of Farewell

## Song of Farewell

Ernest Sands



May the choirs of an-gels come to greet you. May they speed you to



par-a-dise. May the Lord en-fold you in his mer-cy. May you find e -



ter-nal life. 1. The \_\_\_ Lord is my light and my help; \_\_\_ it is  
2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord; \_\_\_ that he  
3. O \_\_\_ Lord, hear my voice when I cry; \_\_\_ have \_\_\_  
4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's good-ness; \_\_\_ I shall



1. he who pro-ects me from harm. \_\_\_ The \_\_\_ Lord is the strength  
2. grant me my heart-felt de-sire. \_\_\_ To \_\_\_ dwell in the courts  
3. mer-cy on me and give an-swer. \_\_\_ Do not cast me a-way  
4. dwell in the land of the liv-ing. \_\_\_ Hope in God, \_\_\_ stand firm



to Refrain

1. of my days; \_\_\_ be-fore whom should I trem-ble with fear? \_\_\_  
2. of our God \_\_\_ ev-'ry day of my life in his pres-ence. \_\_\_  
3. in your an-ger, \_\_\_ for \_\_\_ you are the God of my help. \_\_\_  
4. and take heart, \_\_\_ place all your trust in the Lord. \_\_\_

Text: Refrain based on *In Paradisum*; verses based on Psalm 27. Text and music © 1990, Ernest Sands.  
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## Prayer of Commendation

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## Recessional Hymn

## How Great Thou Art

Stuart K. Hine

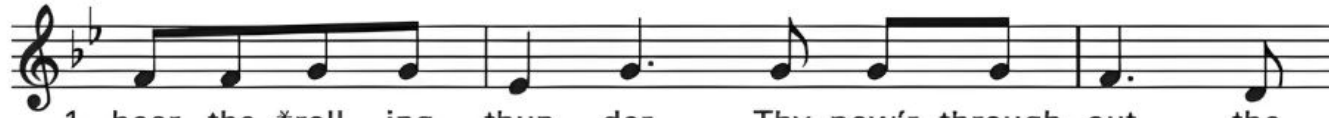
Verses



1. O Lord my God! When I in awe-some won-der Con - si - der  
2. When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, And hear the  
3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, Sent him to  
4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



1. all the \*worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I  
2. birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; When I look down from  
3. die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross, my  
4. home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in



1. hear the \*roll - ing thun - der, Thy pow'r through-out the  
2. lof - ty moun-tain gran - deur And hear the brook, and  
3. bur - den glad - ly bear - ing, He bled and died to  
4. hum - ble ad - o - ra - tion, And there pro - claim, my

Refrain



1. u - ni - verse dis-played; Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God to  
2. feel the gen - tle breeze;  
3. take a - way my sin;  
4. God, how great thou art!



thee; How great thou art, how great thou art! Then sings my soul, my



Sav-ior God to thee; How great thou art, how great thou art!

\*Author's original words are "works" and "mighty."

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# Life of Dr. Jerry A. Shields

Dr. Jerry A. Shields, Emeritus Director of the world-renown Ocular Oncology Service at Wills Eye Hospital and Professor of Ophthalmology at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, has passed away peacefully at home on June 22, 2025, holding the hand of his wife, Carol L. Shields, and surrounded by his family.

Born of humble beginnings in Pride Station, Union County, Kentucky in 1937, he was the youngest of 8 children. He attended Sturgis High School in Kentucky and later received his bachelor's degree from Murray State University in 1960, where he excelled both academically and athletically. After earning his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Michigan Medical School in 1964, he embarked on a distinguished career marked by service to his country in the Marine Corps in Vietnam and groundbreaking contributions in the field of ophthalmology and especially the field of ocular oncology. Some would say he completely re-organized ocular oncology over his 50-year tenure with his extensive teachings, published articles, and written books and atlases so that all participants could understand categorization of each eye tumor and proper treatment protocols, and anticipate the impact on each individual patient.

Some speculate this scientific drive was related to his grade school and high school years catching butterflies in the wild - - and then categorizing each according to genus and species. He accumulated several thousand specimens and then exhibited the enormous array on numerous poster boards, tediously identified and accurately labeled. This was the beginning of his scientific endeavors. It has been said that his exhibition of butterflies was the second largest in the United States in the 1950s/1960s, a collection that he generously donated to a university in Kentucky, his home state.

A proud American, Dr. Shields served as a Marine Battalion Surgeon on the "front line" during the Vietnam War, followed by service in the US Navy in Europe. Upon returning to the United States, he completed his residency at the Wills Eye Hospital in Philadelphia in 1970, specializing in ophthalmology. He further pursued fellowships in ophthalmic pathology at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Washington DC in 1971 and vitreoretinal surgery at the Wills Eye Hospital in 1972. Dr. Shields then proceeded to establish the Ocular Oncology Service at Wills Eye Hospital in 1974. This was one of the first eye cancer centers in the world, with complete focus on patients with eye tumors including treatments and outcomes. Here, Dr. Shields pioneered advancements in the field with improved detection of intraocular melanoma using ultrasonography, fluorescein angiography, and radioactive P-32 uptake. Tumor detection remarkably improved and countless lives and eyes were saved. He was one of the first doctors in the world to explore more refined treatment of eye cancers using plaque radiotherapy, a technique that is commonly used today, but was very rarely used when he started, as most eyes were managed with surgical eye removal, or enucleation.

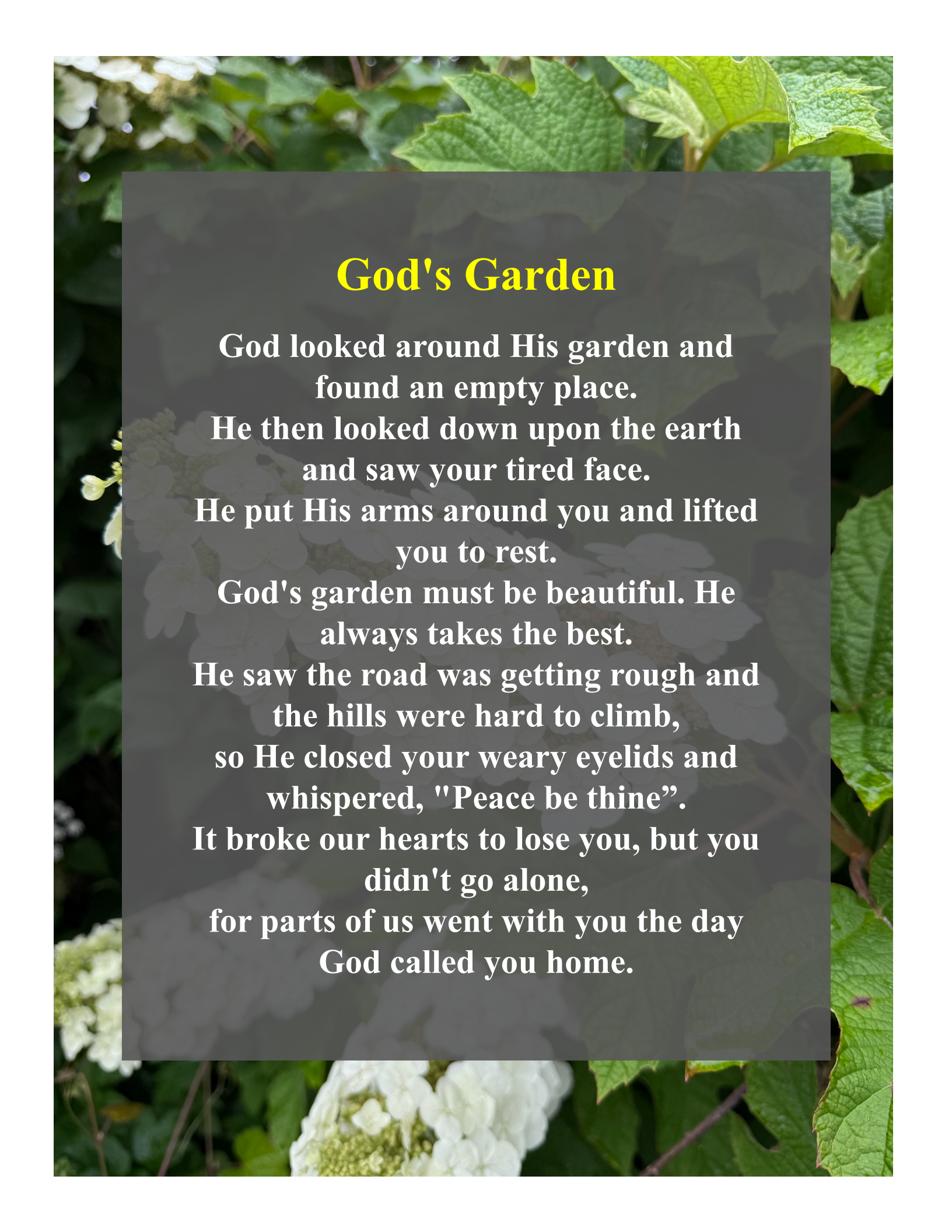
During his tenure, Dr. Shields met his beloved wife, Dr. Carol Lally Shields, with whom he built the Ocular Oncology Service at Wills Eye Hospital into the world's largest center for ocular cancers and tumors. Dr. Shields was renowned for his multidimensional talents as a physician, surgeon, researcher, and speaker, authoring over 2,000 scientific articles, 700 textbook chapters, and 13 complete textbooks. He also trained approximately 300 fellows worldwide in ocular oncology, leaving an indelible footprint on the field.

Dr. Shields has been honored with numerous awards and accolades throughout his career, including the Top National Physician of the Year Award for Clinical Excellence in 2013 from the Castle Connelly Awards, and the Laureate Award (for leading ophthalmologist in the country) in 2014 from the American Academy of Ophthalmology. He was the founding member and first President of the International Society of Ocular Oncology, an international subspecialty group focused on eye cancer. He has served on the editorial boards for numerous scientific journals and played key leadership roles in various ophthalmological societies.

Survived by his wife of 40 years, Dr. Carol Lally Shields, and their seven children, recognized him as a respected physician, warm and loving husband, and truly dedicated father with a wonderful sense of humor. Dr. Jerry A. Shields leaves behind an incredible legacy of excellence, compassion, and dedication to advancing the understanding and treatment of eye tumors.

Dr. Shields will be deeply missed by his family, colleagues, and the countless lives he touched throughout his remarkable career. In lieu of flowers or food donations, contributions in his memory can be made to: **"The Jerry A Shields MD Eye Cancer Fund"** to support future research in ocular oncology. This was his wish. Go online to <https://JASeyecancerfund.com> to learn more and contribute to his legacy.

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## **God's Garden**

**God looked around His garden and  
found an empty place.**

**He then looked down upon the earth  
and saw your tired face.**

**He put His arms around you and lifted  
you to rest.**

**God's garden must be beautiful. He  
always takes the best.**

**He saw the road was getting rough and  
the hills were hard to climb,  
so He closed your weary eyelids and  
whispered, "Peace be thine".**

**It broke our hearts to lose you, but you  
didn't go alone,  
for parts of us went with you the day  
God called you home.**