

Words of Farewell from Frank's Sister, Marie

My Dear brother Frank was a very special person. We always got on well together; He was the older brother who would always look out for me and my sister, Olive. Even when Maurice and I took our family to Australia, Frank would always keep in touch at Christmas and birthdays, and always took an interest in what our family was doing. He often said Mass for any of us who were sick, and we were always in his prayers, as he was in ours.

I have a large collection of the many letters he wrote to us while on his travels, and copies of his religious writings that have enriched the lives of many other people. He visited us twice, and I was able to visit him in England 3 times.

I will be eternally grateful for the Facebook video-chats we had each Tuesday evening for more than a year prior to his passing. When we last spoke to him on the 8th of December, he was in very high spirits, still keen to share the message of love and faith that drove him to become a priest all those years ago, and still full of life and vitality.

He told us that the first thing he wanted to do when the Coronavirus restrictions were relaxed was to go down to Madelene's house and give her a big hug, and if he could, he would come over to Australia and give me a big hug too. Even in that final conversation, he was talking about the great importance of love in our daily lives, and the very last thing he said before saying goodbye that day was "carry on".

Dear Frank,
Thank you for the way you've cared
Thank you for your many prayers
Thank you for your smiling face
Thank you for your loving grace
Thank you for your gentle way
of helping me along my way
Thank you for your blessings too
It's special to be blessed by you
But now the blessings come from me
as I praise the God who set you free,
the God you lived your life to serve
and welcomes you as you deserve.

Goodbye and God Bless, Frank. I love you deeply and I will miss you

Marie