

Thought for the Day – Thursday 10th February 2022

By Revd John Marshall

G A Studdert Kennedy and Auntie Sadie

I attended my Auntie Sadie's funeral on Monday – she was almost a hundred years old. She worked as a nurse, midwife, district nurse and matron of a Red Cross care home; finally she was a carer for the vicar of Little St Mary's church, James.

At the end of her life she was cared for by her family and by a live in carer.

I remember a conversation with her about her activities on VE night when she went from a shift in Lewisham hospital to celebrate at night in central London with some sailors from Greenwich, and back on shift in the morning.

She was a lady of deep faith and great love.

Father Robert linked her choice of readings the Beatitudes and linked her life with each of the sentences.

Peter her son, recognised that in her working life she was present in both the beginning and end of life and caring for people at both stages.

When I read "My Peace I give unto you" by Studdert Kennedy it chimed with these thoughts.

My Peace I Give Unto You

GA Studdert Kennedy in the Lion Book of Christian Poetry

Blessed are the eyes that see

The things that you have seen,

Blessed are the feet that walk

The ways where you have been.

Blessed are the eyes that see

The Agony of God

Blessed are the feet that tread

The paths his feet have trod.

Blessed are the souls that solve
The paradox of pain
And find the path that, piercing it,
Leads through to Peace again.