St Mary's
PULBOROUGH



SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

10.55am Sunday 8th November, 2026

We are very grateful that these service leaflets today have been sponsored.

'In remembrance of the fallen.
In gratitude for their ultimate sacrifice.
With hope and prayers for lasting peace'.

When those in the Parade from the Memorial Garden have gathered by the War Memorial the Rector introduces the service:

Dear friends, we have gathered around this memorial today to remember before God all those from this community who were caught up in the tragic events of the two world wars and more recent conflicts.

We remember those who were killed in action or as a result of disease, the bereaved, the lost, the families that were shattered, the wounded, maimed and injured, those who held in silence unspeakable memories of warfare. As we remember those who fought and those who remained anxiously at home in this community, let us pray that God will heal memories, speak His word of peace and bring us His healing. At this time we also remember before God those across the world who today suffer because of war and conflict, particularly the besieged people of Ukraine.

So let us commend to his safe keeping, those who have died for their country in war; those who we know about, and whose memory we honour; and all who have lived and died in the service of the peoples of the world.

The Act of Remembrance

The Parade Commander says
'They shall grow not old, as we who are left
grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the
years condemn. At the going down of the sun,
and in the morning, we will remember them.'
All: We will remember them.

The Last Post

THE TWO MINUTES' SILENCE

Reveille

The Rector continues:

Ever-living God,
we remember those whom you have gathered from the storms of war into the peace of your presence; may that same peace calm our fears, bring justice to all peoples and establish harmony among the nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

'The Dancer' from Beyond our Tears

Read by Frances Hancock

I still remember Friday 14th March.

That evening we were in the Lyceum cinema when the siren sounded. We walked home to our back-to-back. Bombers were overhead, so we went into the cellar. Just after midnight Mum felt poorly; we returned to the living-room. My sister and I went upstairs to fetch some blankets and called, 'Leeds is on fire!
We came down and a bomb crashed through the chimney. I was trapped in the rubble and covered with soot. My legs were burning. My boyfriend tried to pull me away from the fireplace. My sister called out and lost consciousness. I was conscious and remember intense pain.

The rescue workers took us outside – it was cold – then to a neighbour's house. The ambulance arrived and took us to the infirmary. Next day my uncle realized Mum had not been rescued. He dug her body out of the rubble.

My sister and I were so ill. We were told of Mum's death three weeks later. My brother heard about the bomb just before he was taken prisoner by the Japanese. I remember weeks of pain…..

Eventually the surgeon decided to amputate my right leg just below the knee….When discharged, I hopped on crutches, on and off buses, carrying shopping.

In 1942 I met my husband. In December 1942 I got my first artificial leg. We married in January 1943 and lived in Quarry Hill Flats where I was to pull our son (born 1944) and his pushchair up 45 steps. Our other two sons were born in the prefabs at Beckett Park.

Since 1941 I have smiled and danced through life, winning medals for ballroom and Latin-American dancing in 1981.



THE LAYING OF WREATHS

The Royal British Legion
West Sussex County Council
Pulborough Parish Council
St Mary's Parish Church
Pentalpha Lodge
Storrington & Pulborough Rotary
St. Mary's School
Pulborough & District Community Care Association
The Sea Scouts
Cubs
Beavers
Brownies
The Brynin Family
Others wreaths

The planting of poppy seeds

Some of the Beavers will now plant poppy seeds in pots behind the War Memorial

To conclude the Act of Remembrance the Parade Commander now says:

"When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today" (Kohima Epitaph)

All: We will not break faith with you.

Fr Paul prays:
Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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, the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all now and for ever. Amen.

Please now make your way into the church where the service continues and the Standards and Colours will be presented at the altar.

Gathering organ music:
Wade: Sussex by the Sea

The Opening Hymn: NEH 436
Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven
who like thee his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King!

2 Praise him for his grace and favour
to our fathers in distress;
praise him still the same for ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Praise him! Praise him!
Glorious in his faithfulness!

3 Father-like he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes:
Praise him! Praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows!

4 Angels, help us to adore him,
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space:
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace!

Fr Paul says:
Welcome to this holy place which has been the focus for acts of remembrance for this community over the centuries. We invite people of all faiths and none to gather together on this important day, to pause, reflect and celebrate lives that were lost in the conflicts of the past. We especially welcome our young people, a sign of hope for the future. We particularly acknowledge members of our uniformed organisations

But first let us confess to God the sins and
shortcomings of the world; its pride, its selfishness, its greed;
its evil divisions and hatreds.
Let us confess our share of what is wrong, and our failure to seek and establish that peace which God wills for his children.

After a short silence, all say

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, have mercy on us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Please sit



In Flanders Fields - by John McCrea
Read by: Michael Pioli

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Hear these words of hope and consolation

Jesus said, Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. Trust in God, trust also in me

(John 14.27)

He did not say you will not be storm tossed, but he did say you will not be overcome.

(Julian of Norwich)

For those with faith, death is not extinguishing the light but putting out the lamp because the dawn has come.

(Rabindranath Tagore)

Please stand

Hymn: NEH 488
William Blake (1757-1827)

1 **And did those feet in ancient time**
Walk upon England's mountains green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
On England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
Among these dark Satanic mills?

2 **Bring me my bow of burning gold!**
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land.

Please sit

Matthew Ch 5, vv 43-end.
Read by Ed Feldmanis

Jesus said: You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

THE ADDRESS: Austen Hindman
Diocesan Ordinand and member of
St Mary's Leadership Team.

Please stand
During which a collection will be taken for Royal British Legion 'Poppy Appeal'

HYMN: O&N 417
Isaac Watts 1674-1748

1 **O God, our help in ages past,**
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home;

2 **Under the shadow of thy throne**
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

3 **Before the hills in order stood,**
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

4 **A thousand ages in thy sight**
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

5 **Time, like an ever-rolling stream,**
Bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

6 **O God, our help in ages past,**
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home!

Please sit or kneel

The Prayers

Led by Alyson Heath

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict and ask that God will give us peace;

For the service men and women who have died in the violence of war, each one remembered by and known to God;
O God give peace.
God give peace

For those who love them in death as in life, offering the distress of our grief and the sadness of our loss;
O God give peace.
God give peace.

For all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day, remembering family, friends and all who pray for their safe return;
O God give peace.
God give peace.

For civilian women, children and men whose lives are disfigured by war or terror, calling to mind, in penitence, the anger and hatreds of humanity;
O God give peace.
God give peace

For peacemakers and peacekeepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free;
O God give peace.
God give peace

For all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership,
political, military and religious;
asking for gifts of wisdom and resolve in the search of reconciliation and peace.
O God give peace.
God give peace

Fr Paul concludes with:

O God of truth and justice,
We hold before you those whose memory we cherish, and those whose names we will never know.
Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world,
and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm.
As we honour the past,
we put our faith in your future;
for you are the source of life and hope, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please remain seated

Organ Music before the Choir Anthem
Canzona from Music for the Funeral of Queen Mary
by Henry Purcell

Choir Anthem: Thou knowest, Lord - H. Purcell (adapted)

Please stand

Hymn: I vow to thee my country
Cecil Arthur Spring-Rice (1859-1918)

1 **I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above,**
entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love:
the love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
that lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
the love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
the love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

2 **And there's another country, I've heard of long ago,**
most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
we may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
and soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase
and her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.

The Standards and Colours are now collected

Act of Commitment

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and our fellow men and women:
that we may help, encourage, and comfort others,
and support those working for the
relief of the needy and for the peace
and welfare of the nations.

Lord God our Father, we pledge ourselves
to serve you and all humanity,
in the cause of peace, for the relief of want and suffering,
and for the praise of your name.
Guide us by your Spirit; give us wisdom;
give us courage; give us hope;
and keep us faithful now and always. Amen

The National Anthem

God save our gracious King,
long live our noble King,
God save the King.
Send him victorious,
happy and glorious,
long to reign over us:
God save the King.

Thy choicest gifts in store
On him be pleased to pour,
Long may he reign.
May he defend our laws,
And ever give us cause,
To sing with heart and voice,
God save the King.

The Blessing

God, grant to the living grace, to the departed rest, to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth and all people, unity, peace and goodwill, and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and all whom you love, living and departed, this day and always.
Amen

Final organ music: –Walton, Crown Imperial



Please take this leaflet home with you as a reminder of Remembrance Sunday 2026

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IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE OR EMERGENCY IN THE CHURCH, LEAVE THE BUILDING BY THE NEAREST AVAILABLE EXIT