Remembrance Parade Service
St James the Great Churchyard
8th November 2026

Led by Rev'd Richard Haynes, Vicar of Shirley Parish and
Rev'd Robin Wooldridge Wing Chaplain, Royal Air Force Air Cadets

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Hymn: O God our help in ages past

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

Beneath the shadow of thy throne,
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

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

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

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

Let us pray. As Jesus our Saviour has taught us:

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.

Most gracious God and Father, in whose will is our peace,
turn our hearts and the hearts of all people to yourself,
that by the power of your Holy Spirit the peace that is founded
on righteousness may be established throughout the world.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We pray for all on whom war has brought great suffering, for the injured and disabled: the mentally distressed: and those whose faith in God - or humanity - has been severely tested: for the homeless and the refugees, for those who are hungry: and all who have lost their livelihood and security: for those whose families have been broken up: those who mourn their dead: and those who have lost all hope.
So let us join together and say:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
infinite in wisdom, love and power;
Have compassion on those for whom we pray
And help us to use all suffering in the cause of your Kingdom;
Through him who gave himself for us upon the cross,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN: Eternal Father strong to save

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm does bind the restless wave,
Who bids the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;

O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Saviour, whose almighty word
The winds and waves submissive heard,
Who walked upon the foaming deep,
And calm amid the storm did sleep;

O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who did brood
Upon the waters dark and rude,
And bid their angry tumult cease,
And give for wild confusion peace;

O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and pow'r,
Your children shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire, and foe,
Protect them where-so-e'er they go;

Thus, evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Prayer For Those Deployed on Active Service

Almighty God,
stretch forth your mighty arm
to strengthen and protect the armed forces:
grant that meeting danger with courage
and all occasions with discipline and loyalty,
they may truly serve the cause of justice and peace;
to the honour of your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

And now let us remember before God, and commend to his sure keeping, those whose names are inscribed on this War Memorial; all who have died for their country in war or in times of riot and civil unrest; those whom we have known and whose memory we treasure; and all who have lived and died in the service of humankind.

11.00am *Last post* *Silence* *Reveille*

The laying of the wreaths.

They shall grow not old as we that 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.***

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

So let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and all humanity; that we may encourage and comfort others, and support those working for the relief of the needy and for the peace and welfare of the nations.

We say together:

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.

Readings from the Bible

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-7

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, and a time to gather;
a time to embrace, and a time to let go;
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. **Amen**

John 15:9-13

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. **Amen**

HYMN: I vow to thee, my country

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.

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 KOHIMA EPITAPH

When you go home,
Tell them of us and say,
'For your tomorrow,
We gave our today'.

Final prayer

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,
may we put our faith in your future;
for you are the source of life and hope,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Blessing

God grant to the living, grace: to the departed, rest:
to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth and all humankind,
peace and concord:
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting:
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. Amen.

The National Anthem - 1st Verse

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.

The Clergy and the Choir return to the Church

The parade reforms to march to the Royal British Legion Club.

Refreshments are available in Church House

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

