

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY, PULBOROUGH



SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

10.55am Sunday 9th November, 2025

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

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 subsequent 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 all memories, speak a word of peace and bring us his healing. At this time we also remember before God those across the world who this day suffer because of war and conflict.

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 continues with the Parade Commander saying:

‘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 Tailor – Read by Alyson Heath

I was only 21 and recently married when the war started. My husband was drafted into the tank regiment a few months after we were married and I spent the war making army, naval and air-force uniforms. I lived five minutes away from the nearest air raid shelter. As soon as the siren rang out I would wrap up blankets, pillow and food and run as fast as I could to the shelter. Everyone shared their food and drink, sang, and as soon as the sirens rang out again with the all-clear we would all go home.

My family suffered as many others in different countries all over the world. I had eight fit brothers at the start of the war. At the end, one was killed in Burma; one lost an eye when a Bren gun backfired; one lost his hearing when a horse kicked him in the head; and one was invalided out when his wife committed suicide by throwing herself out of the bedroom window

The war was a time of sorrow, but great comradeship existed and everyone shared what they had.



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
The Sea Scouts
Cubs
Beavers
Brownies
Other Representatives

*After all the wreaths have been laid **the Parade Commander** 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: 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 our hope for the future.

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



Let us be different by Kathy Galloway

Read by: Austen Hindman

Let us be different,
Let us not be the same,
You will be you, I will be me,
Each of us had our own name.

You do things your way,
In the light you have found,
You must be true to what you know,
And stand on your own ground.

Until we can learn
To honour each other,
To hear and know what makes us real
We can't love one another.

But when that time comes,
Though many the flowers,
From different roots, we shall be shown
That one earth is ours.

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

**Luke Ch 6 vv 27-31
*Read by Ed Feldmanis***

Jesus said: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

THE ADDRESS: The Reverend Canon Paul Seaman



Please stand

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

HYMN: O&N 493

(Tune Repton NEH 353)

Basil E Bridge (born 1927)

- 1 O God of hope, your prophets spoke
of days when war would cease:
when, taught to see each person's worth,
and faithful stewards of the earth,
we all would live in peace,
we all would live in peace.**
- 2 We pray that our divided world
may hear their words anew:
then lift for good the curse of war,
let bread with justice bless the poor,
and turn in hope to you,
and turn in hope to you.**
- 3 Earth's fragile web of life demands
our reverence and our care,
lest in our folly, sloth and greed,
deaf both to you and others' need,
we lay our planet bare,
we lay our planet bare.**

- 4 **Earth's rich resources give us power
to build or to destroy:
your Spirit urges us to turn
from selfish, fear-bound ways, and learn
his selfless trust and joy,
his selfless trust and joy.**
- 5 **The Prince of Peace is calling us
to shun the way of strife:
he brings us healing through his pain;
our shattered hope is born again
through his victorious life,
through his victorious life.**

Please sit or kneel

The Prayers

Led by Bren Marks

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

Choir Motet: “For the Fallen”
by Laurence Binyon, music by Victoria Larley

*“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.”*

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 concord, 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 2025***

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

SUPPORTING FAMILY SUPPORT WORK (FSW) THIS DECEMBER



FAMILY SUPPORT WORK (FSW) CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Please remember FSW when you go shopping during the next few weeks. Any of the following will be very gratefully received and can be left in the Church hamper or brought to the **Pulborough Village Market on Saturday 22nd November between 9am and 12noon**

Food bank shopping list:

Christmas tins of chocolates, Christmas tins of biscuits
Gravy granules, Cranberry sauce/mint sauce, Stuffing
Christmas Puddings/mince pies
Tinned vegetables (sweetcorn, peas, carrots)
Tinned fruit/custard/rice pudding
Tinned meat (ham/corned beef)
Crackers/savoury snacks, squash/cordials

SUNDAY 30th November – ADVENT SUNDAY 8am and 10.30am Toys for Family Support Work

Traditionally on Advent Sunday and near the Feast of St. Nicholas we have a collection for Family Support Work. On **Sunday 8th December** at our services we ask people to bring gifts **(unwrapped)** for children. This year the charity will be pleased to receive, board games, science kits, arts and crafts sets, roleplay kits, sensory toys, lego, toy cars, colouring books, gift vouchers, teen clothing with gift receipts.

Please contact Alyson Heath on 01798 873795 or for any further details of Family Support Work

At 4pm there will be **Christingle Service in aid of the Children's Society** and at 5pm we will have the switching on of the Pulborough Star on the Church tower. One person from the service will be the lucky one to turn the star on. Do join us for this popular community **eSt Mary's Church.**