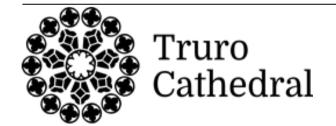


To remember the lives of children who have died



About this Service

We warmly welcome you all to this Service of Remembrance with all that you bring. The first of these services was held in the Cathedral nearly thirty years ago in 1995. As you enter the cathedral you will be a given a candle. These will be lit shortly after the service begins and then offered up in an act of remembrance towards the end of the service.

If the name of the child you have come to remember is not already in the Remember our Child Book, but you would like them to be remembered by name in the service, please fill in one of the blue forms that can be obtained from the Lay Assistants at the back of the Nave. Please return this form to a Lay Assistant before the start of the service so that your child's name can be added to the list of names to be read out during the Act of Remembrance.

You can also use this form to have your child's name added to the Remember Our Child Book of Remembrance so that your child will be remembered every year on the anniversary of their death at our quiet 9am Holy Communion service. The Cathedral will write to you to acknowledge when your child's name has been added to the book, and will keep you informed about future Remember Our Child services.

After the service you are welcome to sit quietly in the Boer War chapel by the main West entrance and refreshments will be served in the Chapter House, accessed by the North door.

The date of next years' service will be Sunday 12th May 2024 at 2pm.

All stand to sing the hymn.

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy, Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe, Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray, Your strength in our hearts, Lord at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace, Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,

Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,

Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Please be seated

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Canon Alan

The Lighting of the Candles

Please go to the front of the nave to have your candles lit. The Easter Candle, positioned on the Podium, reminds us of God's promise of eternal life. Our candles are lit from this, and thus brings the hope of Easter directly into our lives, as we hold before God those whom we remember before him this afternoon. During the lighting of candles, a recording of the Cathedral Choir singing 'In My Father's House,' by Philip Stopford will be played.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

A Child of Mine by Edgar Guest (1881-19589) read by Julie James

I will lend you, for a little time, A child of mine, He said. For you to love the while he lives, And mourn for when he's dead. It may be six or seven years. Or twenty-two or three. But will you, till I call him back, Take care of him for Me? He'll bring his charms to gladden you, And should his stay be brief. You'll have his lovely memories, As solace for your grief. I cannot promise he will stay, Since all from earth return. But there are lessons taught down there, I want this child to learn. I've looked the wide world over. In search for teachers true. And from the throngs that crowd life's lanes, I have selected you. Now will you give him all your love, Nor think the labour vain.

Nor hate me when I come
To take him home again?
I fancied that I heard them say,
'Dear Lord, Thy will be done!'
For all the joys Thy child shall bring,
The risk of grief we'll run.
We'll shelter him with tenderness,
We'll love him while we may,
And for the happiness we've known,
Forever grateful stay.
But should the angels call for him,
Much sooner than we've planned.
We'll brave the bitter grief that comes,
And try to understand.

A period of silence is kept.

Second Reading

Jeremiah 1. 4-8 read by Beverly Hulme

A reading from the prophecy of Jeremiah

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord."

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

A period of silence is kept.

All **stand** to sing.

Be still for the presence of the Lord,
The Holy One is here
Come bow before Him now,
With reverence and fear
In Him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord,
The Holy One is here.

Be still for the glory of the Lord, Is shining all around He burns with holy fire, With splendour He is crowned How awesome is the sight Our radiant King of light Be still for the glory of the Lord, Is shining all around.

Be still for the power of the Lord, Is moving in this place
He comes to cleanse and heal,
To minister His grace
No work too hard for Him
In faith receive from Him
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place.

Please be seated.

Address

Canon Simon Robinson, Interim Dean

Prayers

led by Sarah Chaplin: Senior Chaplain, Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust

Please sit or kneel

There will be a short pause for silent prayer before each response.

Let us turn to God in prayer.

We gather in remembrance of those whom we love and who have died. We remember with fondness the many gifts they shared with us.

Lord hear us.

All Lord graciously hear us.

We pray for each parent, sibling and grandparent who has experienced the death of a child, and for their friends and family. Lord, comfort and console them. May they find peace and renewed hope in your love and the love of others.

Lord hear us.

All Lord graciously hear us.

We pray for the parents and relatives of children that have unexplained deaths, children who have died before birth or as a result of stillbirth, illness or accident. Help them to find assurance that with you nothing is lost or incomplete and uphold them with your love.

Lord hear us.

All Lord graciously hear us.

We pray for those who mourn a child who has been the victim of a violent death or who has taken their own life. Renew in them your sustaining strength for we believe that there is nothing in all creation that can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus.

Lord hear us.

All Lord graciously hear us.

We pray for ambulance personnel, accident and emergency staff, doctors, nurses, police, clergy, funeral directors and all the professionals who help families at the time of the death of a child. May the skill, care and sensitivity with which they carry out their duties bring comfort and reassurance to the bereaved in their loss.

Lord hear us.

All Lord graciously hear us.

We pray for all who support those who mourn. Encourage and strengthen by your blessing all those that give their time, talents and energy strengthening others who are experiencing sorrow, helping to nurture hope out of despair.

Lord hear us.

All Lord graciously hear us.

We pray for each other as we remember the children who have died. Enable us to rest in your love for them and for us and lead us to seek opportunities to serve you in one another.

Lord hear us.

All Lord graciously hear us.

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us

All 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.

Act of Remembrance

All **stand** whilst the Remember Our Child Book of Remembrance is processed from the West End of the Cathedral to the Podium.

The Book of Remembrance is offered to God as we commend them to God's continuing love and care.

The names of the lost children are read.

Following this, Canon Simon says the following prayer

Lord of all, we pray for the souls of the faithful departed that they may rest in peace.

We praise you for all who have entered into their rest and reached the promised land where you are seen face to face. Give us grace to follow in their footsteps as they followed in the way of your Son.

Thank you for the memory of those you have called to yourself:
by each memory, turn our hearts from things seen to things unseen,
and lead us till we come to the eternal rest you have prepared for your people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Canon Simon continues

Eternal Father, we offer our prayers for those whom we have named before you.
When we are weary and in need of strength,
When we are lost and sick at heart,

All We remember them.

When we have a joy we crave to share When we have decisions that are difficult to make When we have achievements that are based on theirs,

All We remember them.

At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring,

All We remember them.

At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn,

All We remember them.

At the rising of the sun and at its setting,

All We remember them.

All As long as we live, they too will live. For they are now a part of us, As we remember them.

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
May the rains fall softly upon your fields.
Until we meet again,
May God hold you in the hollow of his hand.

All Amen.

All sing the final hymn.

YE holy angels bright,
Who wait at God's right hand,
Or through the realms of light
Fly at your Lord's command,
Assist our song,
For else the theme
Too high doth seem
For mortal tongue.

Ye blessèd souls at rest,
Who ran this earthly race,
And now, from sin released,
Behold the Saviour's face,
God's praises sound,
As in his sight
With sweet delight
Ye do abound.

Ye saints, who toil below,
Adore your heavenly King,
And onward as ye go
Some joyful anthem sing;
Take what he gives
And praise him still,
Through good or ill,
Who ever lives!

My soul, bear thou thy part,
Triumph in God above:
And with a well-tuned heart
Sing thou the songs of love!
Let all thy days
Till life shall end,
Whate'er he send,
Be filled with praise.

You are warmly invited to stay for refreshments in the Chapter House, which is accessed by the North door.

We are most grateful to St Eval Candle Company for providing candles, which members of the congregation can take home with them at the end of the service.

Please take this order of service away with you.

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