

A Service to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day Friday 8th May 2020

Please join us from your home by following the link to St Mary's Newick
<https://www.facebook.com/saintmarysnewick/>

The Gathering (10.50am)

We meet in the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, whose will it is that wars may cease, and all people know his peace. 75 years ago today Winston Churchill announced to the people of the United Kingdom that the war in Europe was over.

Today we give thanks for the peace which followed nearly 6 years of World War, we commemorate the lives of all of those who died in armed conflict or as civilians, we remember the sacrifices made by so many at home and abroad, we hold before God all places of war and violence today, the members of the Armed Forces serving at this time, and those they leave behind, and we pray in hope and faith for peace.

Let us pray.

Lord our God,
our defence in trouble and our refuge from the storm, hear us as we remember and pray on this 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe, help us never to forget the sacrifices which won for us our freedom, and bless your world with peace; for we ask it in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Reading from Book of Revelation 21:1-5

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.' And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

Prayers

Let us pray for the peace of the world,
for the Royal family, our nation, our government,
for the Royal Navy/Royal Marines/Army/Royal Air Force,
for all the Armed Forces and those who support them
For our Emergency Services, Health Service Workers
for each other and for ourselves:

For those who served and died in World War II

O God of truth and justice,
we hold before you those men and women
who have died in active service,
particularly in the Second World War,
whose sacrifice brought Victory in Europe.
As we honour their courage and cherish their memory, may we put our
faith in your future;
for you are the source of life and hope,
now and for ever.
Amen.

For those who serve today

O Lord God of Hosts,
stretch forth, we pray, your almighty arm
to strengthen and protect our service men and women. Support them in
times of conflict,
and in their rest and training keep them safe from all evil; endue them with
courage and loyalty; and grant that in all things they may serve without
reproach; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the peace of the world

O God, who would fold both heaven and earth
in a single peace; that the design of your great love lighten
upon the waste of our wraths and sorrows and give peace to your church,
peace among nations, peace in our dwellings and peace in our hearts;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for the sovereign

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, and all who are in authority under her; that they may order all things in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace, to the honour and glory of your name and the good of your Church and people; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer of Saint Ignatius

Teach us, good Lord, to serve thee as thou deservest, to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to ask for any reward; except that of knowing that we do thy will. Amen.

Act of Remembrance

The Tribute to the Millions:

Let us remember those who so selflessly gave their lives at home and abroad, whose sacrifice enables us to enjoy the peace and freedom we have today.

Let us remember those who came home wounded, physically and mentally, and the friends and family who cared for them.

Let us remember those who returned to restore their relationships and rebuild their working lives after years of dreadful conflict and turmoil.

Let us remember the families that lost husbands, sons and sweethearts.
Let us remember the service men, merchant seamen, miners, brave civilians and others from Commonwealth and Allied countries who fought, suffered, and died during several years of war.

Let us remember those in reserved occupation and the brave people who kept us safe on the home front - the doctors and nurses who cared for the wounded, the women and men who toiled in the fields, those who worked in the factories, who all played such a vital role in the war effort at home.
(8mins)

The Last Post

First Maroon

Silence is kept.

Second Maroon

The Reveille

Let us pray:

O Lord our God,
as we remember, teach us the ways of peace.
As we treasure memories, teach us to hope.
As we give thanks for the sacrifices of the past,
help us to make your future in this world,
until your kingdom comes.
Amen.

The Blessing

God grant to the living, grace;
to the departed, rest;
to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth,
and all people, 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 upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

The National Anthem is sung.

God Save the Queen
God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen;
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the Queen.