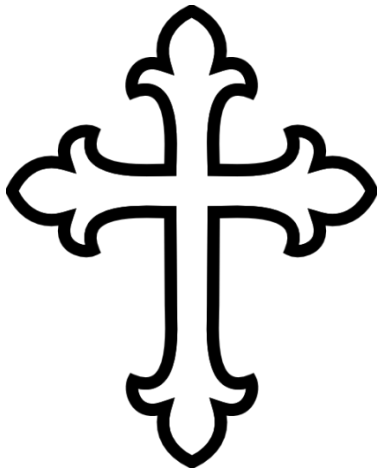


All Souls Day Remembrance Service

3 November 2024



Welcome to this time of reflection and remembrance. We pray that the opportunity to remember and give thanks for your loved ones, in the company of others, will be a blessing to you.

The church will remain open after the service if you would like to stay for a little longer.

If you would like to talk or pray with someone, either now or over the coming days, please speak to Patrick or to one of the ASK team.

***Hymn 769:
Through All the Changing Scenes of Life***

Welcome and Introduction

We meet together today to remember with thanksgiving those of our loved ones who have died. We come to this place of worship to receive comfort and reassurance from our heavenly Father and to renew our trust in his promises.

Be with us, Spirit of God;
Nothing can separate us from your love.
Breathe on us, breath of God;
Fill us with your saving power.
Speak in us, wisdom of God;
Bring strength, healing and peace.

Silence is kept

The Lord is here;
His Spirit is with us.

Jesus said, "I am the Resurrection and the Life
... Come to me all you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest."

*Music is played
(Laudate Dominum by Mozart)*

Opening prayer

Heavenly Father, you have not made us for darkness and death, but for life with you for ever. Without you we have nothing to hope for; with you we have nothing to fear. Speak to us now your words of eternal life; lift us from anxiety or guilt; bring us to the light and peace of your presence, and set the glory of your love before us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Prayers of penitence

Let us call to mind our human frailty, as we confess our sins in penitence and faith:

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,**

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, our God. Amen.

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Music is played (The Rose - André Rieu & his Johann Strauss Orchestra)

Reading: John 6: 37-40

Address

*Candles may be lit in memory of loved ones as music is played.
(Moonlight Sonata 1st Movement - Beethoven)*

‘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 be afraid.’
John 14:27

Hymn 724: The Lord’s my Shepherd

Prayers

O God our maker, we give you thanks for the gift of our earthly life and the rich blessings you gave to those we remember today. Thank you for the years we shared with them and the love we received from them. For every memory of love and joy, every memory of life well lived, and every sorrow shared with us, we give thanks.

God of consolation, you pursue us with untiring love and dispel the shadow of death with the bright dawn of life.

Look in mercy on those that mourn. Lead them gently in their grief. Give them patient faith in times of darkness, strength to meet the times to come, and courage to leave their loved ones in your care, confident in your promise of eternal life and peace.

God of compassion, you are tender towards your children and your mercy is over all your works. Heal any memories of hurt and failure, and give us wisdom and grace to use aright the time that is left to us on earth, to turn to Christ and follow in his steps, in the way that leads to everlasting life.
Amen.

Let us pray with confidence as 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.

Hymn 352: In Christ Alone

Reading: They are gone – David Harkins

Blessing

May God give you his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the next; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Music is played (Steal Away – Phil Coulter & Ukrainian Choir)