

## **An Act of Remembrance**

We are here today to remember with thanks and sorrow the people from Bentley and other places, whose lives were taken in two world wars and in other conflicts past and present. Remembrance transcends all boundaries. It is an opportunity to stand together and reflect on the price of freedom. That price is still being paid. More than 12,000 British servicemen and women have been killed on active service since 1945.

**Tell them. O guns that we have heard their call.  
That we have sworn and will not turn aside,  
That we will onward till we win or fall,  
That we will keep the faith for which they died.**

*From 'The Anxious Dead' by John MacCrae*

Lord, with thankfulness we show our respect for the past, and stand in hope for the future.

We give thanks for those who made sacrifices. and the freedom for which they fought.

We give thanks for those who faithfully recall the horror of war, and remind us of its great price.

We give thanks for pride and discipline, and remember horror and panic.

We give thanks for heroism, and remember orders blindly obeyed.

We give thanks for purpose, meaning and identity, and remember devastating loss.

We give thanks for the making of life-long friendships, remembering the loss of a generation; the loss of loved ones.

We give thanks for service offered and a sense of duty, and remember those who had no choice in the matter.

We give thanks for lives given to save others, and remember lives wasted for a few yards of no-man's land.

We remember the courage of those who faced bullet and shell.

Lord, we give you thanks for your gift of life, that gives hope even in times of death, and renews us to face the coming days. **Amen**

We remember today. O Lord, all who have died in war, or acts of terrorism. We remember the victims and the perpetrators and their families.

We remember those whose lives have been scarred by war, those who came home with terrible injuries, those who became mentally ill through the trauma of war and those who lost loved ones.

We remember all the damage done by people to people in times of conflict and ask for strength for all who strive to bring peace to our world. **Amen**

Let us remember before God, and commend to his sure keeping; those who have died for their country in war; those we knew, and whose memory we treasure; and all have lived and died and continue to die in the service of mankind.

*The names of the fallen are read out:*

## **THOSE WHO DIED IN THE 1914 – 1918 WAR**

**GEORGE BILNER**

**PERCY BRAYBROOK**

**HERBERT BULLARD**

**WILLIAM CLARK**

**WILLIAM COLEMAN**

**CYRIL KEEBLE**

**GEORGE LLOYD**

**ALBERT MORTON-MONKS**

**FREDERICK PEACOCK**

**FREDERICK PICKESS**

**ARTHUR RICHARDSON**

**CHARLES RUSH**

**FREDERICK RUSH**

**HERBERT SCOTT**

**JOHN SOUTHGATE**

**SAMUEL SOUTHGATE**

**ROBERT THIRKETTLE**

## THOSE WHO DIED IN THE 1939 – 1945 WAR

FREDERICK COPPEN  
WILLIAM FRASER  
RAYMOND FRASER  
ARTHUR KING  
JOHN PEACOCK  
DENNIS UNDERWOOD  
WILLIAM WILLIS

*The 'chaplet' is placed on the memorial.*

**They shall not grow 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.**

**We will remember them.**

*Two minutes silence*

**We are the dead.  
Short days ago we lived,  
felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
loved and were loved,  
and now we lie  
in Flanders fields.**

**When you go home, tell them of us and say**

**For your tomorrow, we gave our today.**

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***

God, our refuge and strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that the earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen***

Let us pledge ourselves anew 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, we pledge ourselves to serve you and all mankind, in the cause of peace and for the relief of want and suffering. Guide us by your Spirit; give us wisdom; give us courage; give us hope; and keep us faithful now and always. ***Amen***