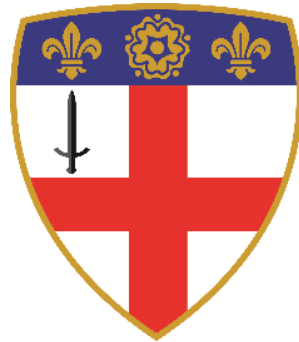


# KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL WITLEY



## ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021

*The school community gathers in silence in front of the King Edward Tower, facing the War Memorial.*

Chaplain: We meet in the presence of God to commit ourselves to work in penitence and faith for reconciliation between the nations that all people may, together, live in freedom, justice and peace. We pray for all who in bereavement, disability and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror.

We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives, in world wars and conflicts past and present, have been given and taken away, especially those of this Foundation who gave their lives in war.

*The names of former pupils and masters who died on active service in the two World Wars of the Twentieth Century are read out. In remembrance of each person, a cross will be placed by the War Memorial. Two wreaths will also be laid: one on behalf of the Old Witleians' Association by Mr Alan Carver; the other on behalf of the Foundation by Mrs Justine Voisin, Treasurer.*

## **ANTHEM**

*The Choir will sing the anthem, 'Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts' by Henry Purcell*

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayers; but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty. O holy and most merciful Saviour, thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not at our last hour, for any pains of death to fall away from Thee.

Chaplain: “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.”

**All: We will remember them**

### **THE LAST POST**

*Thomas Clarke will play ‘The Last Post’ (the piece of music traditionally played in the Armed Forces as the final order of the day) to indicate to us when the two minutes’ silence will start.*

### **SILENCE**

*Two minutes’ silence is kept by all present.*

### **REVEILLE**

*Thomas Clarke will play ‘Reveille’ (the piece of music traditionally played to rouse all military personnel from their beds at the start of the day) to indicate to us when the two minutes’ silence ends.*

Chaplain: “When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today.”

Chaplain: Ever-living God, we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm 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.

**All: Amen.**

## CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

*All sing the hymn*

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.

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.

## CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

Chaplain: God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

May God grant to the living, grace;  
to the faithful departed, rest;  
to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth,  
and all humankind, peace in Christ;  
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting.

And the blessing of God almighty,  
The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All: Amen.**

*The whole school community then moves off in a respectful silence.*