



**REMEMBRANCE DAY
PRAYER**

Introduction

Leader: Remembrance Day reminds us to pray for peace, to think about what we are doing as individuals, as a community and as a country to bring God's peace into the world. This is a time when a believing community should once again turn towards prayer and the call of the Gospel to love.

Let us listen to the words of Scripture.

Reading

A reading from the Gospel according to John

Jn 15:10-13

If you keep my commandments you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments, and will abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "this is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Reflection

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

*In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*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.*

Take up our quarrel with the foe:

*To you from failing hands we throw
The torch be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields*

In Flanders Fields was first published in England's *Punch* magazine in December 1915. Within months, this poem came to symbolize the sacrifices of all who were fighting in the First World War. Today, the poem continues to be a part of Remembrance Day ceremonies in Canada and other countries throughout the world.

The poem was written by a Canadian—John McCrae, a doctor and teacher, who served in both the South African War and the First World War.

Universal Prayers

Celebrant: On this Centenary of the Anniversary of the end of World War I, we give thanks for the sacrifices made by all our service men and women and bring our needs to the Lord.

Reader: For Pope Francis, Timothy and Donald, our Bishops and all the clergy:
May they respond generously to the call of the Lord to serve the needs of his people.
Let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For all past servicemen and women, who paid the ultimate price in giving up their life for others:
May they enjoy their eternal reward in heaven.
Let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For the leaders of our government and all parliamentarians:
May they like Christ remain focused on serving others and not their own interests.
Let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For the families of our servicemen and women:
May they be a support to our service personnel for giving up everything to serve their country.
Let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For those who are affected by hatred and war:
May they respond to hatred with peace.
Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us add our own intentions now in the silence of our
hearts...*(pause)*
Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, Your Son Jesus showed us how to serve others and not be served. We give thanks to you for the generosity of so many who have served our country to keep our land safe, and ask you bless them for their deeds.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Act of Commitment to Peace

Leader: Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and all people, that we may be peacemakers in our homes, in our community, in our country and in our world.

All: Lord God, we pledge ourselves to serve you and all people in the cause of peace and for the relief of want and suffering. Give us wisdom; give us courage; give us hope; and keep us always faithful.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: Together let us pray:
Our Father.....

Leader: We have all been called to love and to serve, if need be, to lay down our lives... May God help us to serve wholeheartedly and unreservedly! And to know the dignity of true service! We make this prayer in Jesus name.

All: Amen.

Prayer of St Francis

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness only light,
And where there's sadness ever joy.

Oh Master, grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console.
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
In giving of ourselves that we receive,
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

