

SERVICE FOR AN ACT OF REMEMBRANCE, COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION

- Note 1 This procedure may be used at a war memorial, in Church or chapel before or after any service, or during the services on Remembrance Sunday or 11th November (see Chapter 16). It may be appropriate for the re-dedication of a refurbished memorial.*
- Note 2 The essential elements of the Act of Remembrance are Exhortation, the Placing of the Wreath and the Silence. if practicable, it is also desirable to have the Last Post and the Reveille, preferably sounded by a bugler (or trumpeter or a recording of these. In deciding the sequence it is also important to consider the demands made on Standard Bearers who should not have to dip and carry the Standard several times.*
- Note 3 Bearing all these variations and considerations in mind, the following procedure is recommended, subject to agreement with the officiating clergy. We should recognise that the spirit of the Act of Remembrance is more important than the format, and modification may have to be made depending on local conditions and resources.*

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

HYMN

“O Valiant Hearts” (which may be split. singing three verses at the beginning, and the fourth verse at the end.)

PRAYER

“Let us commemorate and commend to the loving mercy of our Heavenly Father, the Shepherd of Souls, the Giver of Life Everlasting, those who have died in the service of our country and its cause.”

NAMES

The names of those to be commemorated by name may be read.

Buglers sound the “Last Post”

THE EXHORTATION

*The officiating clergy or a senior member of the Legion shall recite:
(Standards dip)*

“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.”

Response: **“We will remember them.”**

THE PLACING OF THE WREATH(S)

THE SILENCE

(The Silence may be of one minute or two minutes, as appropriate)

Buglers sound: “Reveille”
(Standards raise on first note)

Note 1 At Legion organised Acts of Remembrance and Dedications it is recommended that those in uniform, such as Lords Lieutenant, Officers Commanding military contingents, etc, salute only when the National Anthem is played or sung, and not during the Last Post, Exhortation or Silence.

COMMITMENT

We pledge ourselves anew to our work in support of the wartime generations and to all those in other conflicts since. We promise to do everything possible to help where there is a need, and to ensure that they may enjoy the years that lie ahead in comfort and dignity and contentment.

DEDICATION

The Dedication may be either: “When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today” (Kohima Epitaph) or “The Legion of the Living salutes the Legion of the Dead.”

Response: “We will not break faith with you.”

PRAYER

“Remember, O Lord, all those who have died the death of honour and are departed in the hope of resurrection to Eternal Life, especially the Officers, Men and Women of our Sea, Land and Air Forces, to whom it was given to lay down their lives for the cause of Freedom and Justice. In that place of light, whence sorrow and mourning are far vanished, give them rest, O Lord, the Lover of Men. Grant this for Thine only Son, Jesus Christ’s sake. **Amen.**”

HYMN

Last verse “O Valiant Hearts”