

Returned and Services League of Australia



ANZAC Day Commemoration Service

25th April
Morpeth NSW



*They gave up their tomorrows
So that we could have our todays*

Prologue (St Bede's)

We are assembled here to commemorate that immortal day when the young men of Australia, by their deeds and sacrifice demonstrated to the World at Gallipoli that Australia was truly a Nation.

The sons and daughters of ANZACS came forward without question, accepted gladly and discharged fully their responsibilities during World War 2, Korea, Malaya, Borneo, Vietnam, The Gulf War, East Timor, Afghanistan, Iraq plus the many peacekeeping duties throughout the world.

On this day we remember the sacrifice of such men and women for an ideal for a way of life. Let us take strength in the knowledge and hope that our sons and daughters will never forget the examples set by our forefathers. In our everyday life let us endeavour to carry on those traditions established by post war years and conflicts at such tragic cost.

We think of every man, woman and child who, in those crucial years, died so that the lights of freedom and humanity might continue to shine. We nurture too the obligation at showing that liberty, so costly won is not lost by our own indifference. Therefore, let us mourn with pride, but let us also remember with equal pride, those who served and still live.

We hear them say "See that ye hold fast the heritage we leave you. Yea and teach your children that never in the coming centuries may their hearts fail or their hands grow weak."

A Soldier's Oath to His Mate (St Aloysius)

You are my comrade-in-arms.
As you go into battle I will go with you.
If you rest I will guard you.
If you stumble I will catch you.
If you fall I will carry you home
If you die I will mourn you and honour you
And remember you all of my days; your
Loved ones will remain in my heart.
I am your comrade-in-arms.

HYMN "The Recessional"

God of our Fathers, known of old, Lord of our far-flung battle line. Beneath whose awful hand we hold Dominion over palm and pine; Lord God of hosts, be with us yet, Lest we forget – lest we forget.	The tumult and the shouting dies, The captains and the kings depart Still stands Thine ancient sacrifice, An humble and a contrite heart. Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet, Lest we forget – lest we forget
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Prayer of Thanksgiving (Largs)

We thank you O Heavenly Father, for the efforts being made by the Nations of The World in seeking peace and happier relations with each other.
We praise You for the spirit in men and women which made them scorn the way of safety and venture all for the common cause of Freedom and Right; for all great and noble acts known and unknown, which we believe by the mercy of God will bring about the final conquest of the forces of evil which threaten the peace and security of the world.

Prayer for the Queen (Iona)

Almighty God, who rules over the Kingdoms of the Earth, bless your Servant, Queen Elizabeth, and be pleased to bestow upon Her the blessings of Divine Wisdom and grace, that under Her, this Nation may be wisely directed to take its rightful place in the wider life of the world.

Prayer for the Nation (Hinton)

Almighty God, watch over all those serving in the Armed Forces and those who still suffer disabilities through sickness or injuries suffered in all conflicts, strengthen and encourage those who have been saddened by loss of loved ones, especially children deprived by a father's care and protection.

Grant that the same courage and resolution, the same comradeship and service shown in the last great struggle in which our country was involved, may now be offered in the greater tasks of making a true and lasting peace.

HYMN "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

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| 1. O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home. | 3. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten as a dream
dies at the opening day. |
| 2. A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun. | 4. O God, our help in ages past
our hope for years to come,
be Thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home. |

Commemoration Address – An oration on the theme of ANZAC (Sqn Ldr Brad Machan)

Commemoration of the Fallen (Morpeth)

O Lord, through the mouth of your Prophet you declared that all souls are Yours. We thank you for the brave and faithful dead, who willingly laid down their lives on the battlefield in War or succumbed to the perils of the deep or of the air. We bless You for the dauntless courage of those defenders of our Commonwealth who have fallen in the cause of truth and righteousness. In Your hands, O Father, we leave their departed spirits. Grant us to follow their good example in faithfulness and endurance, even unto death, that we may, with them, be found worthy of the crown of everlasting life.

Laying of Wreaths, Flowers and Books

Bugle will sound "The Last Post" (Bugler Ian Wilson)

The Ode

They went with songs to the battle, they were young, straight of limb,
True of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted.
They fell with their faces to the foe.

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.

LEST WE FORGET

We will now observe one minutes silence.

Bugle will sound “Reveille”

A Prayer for Peace and Freedom (St Joseph’s)

O Lord God, on this day set aside for the
Commemoration of ANZAC, we remember the cause for
which our loved ones died.

The freedom of the world.

Help us preserve this precious gift, which
must be tempered with discipline and wisdom.

Give us the courage to maintain this freedom, so unselfishly
secured for us, and that the nations of the world be united in true
brotherhood and peace, where there is justice and mercy,
truth and freedom, which is the hope for us all.

As individuals, we seek that inward peace of mind, and your peace
that passes all understanding.

This we ask through Him who is the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, Our Lord

AMEN

HYMN – “Abide With Me”

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide,
The darkness deepens, Lord with me abide;
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, Oh abide with me.

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless,
ILLs have no weight and tears no bitterness,
Where is death’s sting? Where grave Thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM

Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are one and free;
With golden soil and wealth for toil;
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature’s gifts
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history’s page, let every stage
Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.

