

A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE



Sunday 10th November 2024

**2.45 pm
meet at Warren School.**

**3.00pm
The War Memorial Plaque at
Kershaw Close
Chafford Hundred, Essex**

Please can all those attending this Service of Remembrance ensure that your mobile telephone is either switched off or on silent.

Thank you.

GATHERING

All gather in silence

THE MINISTER

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. *Psalm 46.1*

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. *Psalm 121:1-2*

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary they shall walk and not faint. *Isaiah 40.31*

We meet in the presence of God.

We 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.

HYMN

O GOD OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

our hope of years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.

Beneath the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

Issac Watts (1674-1748)

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

“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 followed by Two Minutes Silence

**The completion of the silence
will be signalled with the Reveille**

KOHIMA EPITAPH

“When you go home, tell them of us and say,
For your tomorrow we gave our today”

Prayer

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. Amen.

LAYING OF WREATHS

PRAYERS

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict, and ask that God may give us peace: for the service men and women who have died in the violence of war, each one remembered by and known to God;

May God give peace

All: God give peace

for those who love them in death as in life, offering the distress of our grief and the sadness of our loss;

May God give peace

All: God give peace

for all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day, remembering family, friends and all who pray for their safe return;

May God give peace

All: God give peace

for civilian women, children and men whose lives are disfigured by war or terror, calling to mind in penitence the anger and hatreds of humanity.

May God give peace

All: God give peace

for peacemakers and peace-keepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free;

May God give peace

All: God give peace

for all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership, political, military, and religious; asking for gifts of wisdom and resolve in the search for reconciliation and peace.

May God give peace

All: God give peace

O God of truth and justice, we hold before you those whose memory we cherish, and those whose names we will never know.

Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm.

As we honour the past, may we put our faith in your future; for you are the source of life and hope, now and for ever.

AMEN

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your Kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours.

Now and for ever.

AMEN

HYMN

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, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, 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.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

ACT OF COMMITMENT

Let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service.

Will you strive for all that makes for peace?

All: We will

Will you seek to heal the wounds of war?

All: We will

Will you work for a just future for all humanity?

All: We will

Merciful God, we offer to you the fears in us that have not yet been cast out by love:

May we accept the hope you have placed in the hearts of all people,

And live lives of justice, courage and mercy; through Jesus Christ our risen Redeemer.

AMEN

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

God save our gracious King

Long live our noble King

God save the King

Send him victorious Happy and glorious

Long to reign over us

God save the King

Final Prayer of Blessing

Thank you to all who have contributed to
today's service.

Following the service, you are invited for
refreshments at the Warren Primary School.





The first official Legion Poppy Day was held in Britain on 11th November 1921, inspired by the poem 'In Flanders' Fields' written by John McCrae. Since then the Poppy Appeal has been a key annual event in the nation's calendar.

In Flanders' Fields

John McCrae, 1915

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

2nd Lt Samuel E Kershaw

Born 6th February 1922 - Died 21 February 1945

Killed in action



Kershaw Close is named in memory of 2nd Lt Samuel E Kershaw whose plane crashed on this site during World War II.

Born on 6th February 1922 in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, USA he served with the 55th Fighters Group of the US Army Air Force.

The crash was witnessed by Grays man, Ken Rydings who was 14 years old when he watched helplessly as the drama unfolded before his eyes as the plane crashed close to the Mill Lane School.

When Mr Rydings realised that Bovis Homes were due to develop the site, he contacted the company to ask if there was a chance of naming one of the roads after the young American pilot who died in the crash.

2nd Lt Kershaw is buried at the American Legion Cemetery in Doylestown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, USA.