



Resources to commemorate Centenary of World War One

Prayers, music, literature and art are part of a pack of resources released by the Church of England's Liturgical Commission for parishes and groups to use to commemorate the centenary of World War One.

Specifically, it includes:

- A selection of suitable readings from the Bible
- Appropriate hymns, songs, music, literature and art
- A selection of different kinds of prayer (including a Litany of remembrance)
- An outline for a service around a War Memorial
- An outline for a Vigil Service on 3 or 4 August 2014 (marking the centenary of the Declaration of War)
- Material for use in a Requiem Eucharist.

Further material will be made available throughout the years of commemoration up to 2018.

The Chair of the Commission, Bishop Stephen Platten said:

"It is hard to underestimate the significance of the First World War for our national life. The Liturgical Commission is conscious that people will wish to commemorate its centenary in a number of ways. There will of course be national events such as the planned Vigil Service in Westminster Abbey on the evening of Monday 4 August, but many will want to hold local commemorations in a range of contexts. It is with these in mind that the Commission has prepared these resources, specifically with parish clergy and other worship leaders in mind. It is timely to launch them on the eve of the official commemoration of the Revd Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy ('Woodbine Willie'), remembered for his outstanding service as a military chaplain in the First World War."

Bishop Stephen talks about the "essential role" the Church of England has to play in the commemorations here: <http://bit.ly/1kC7TaV>

You can download the resources by going to the Church of England's website www.churchofengland.org and clicking on the 'World War One' box, or here: <http://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-worship/worship/latest-updates/world-war-one-liturgy.aspx>