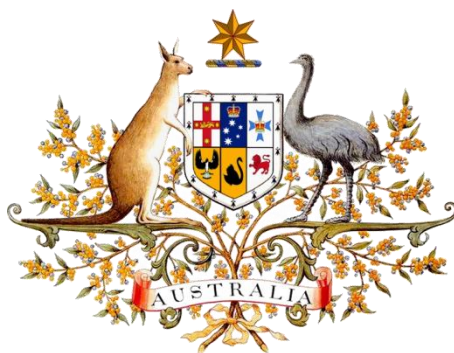


Westminster Abbey



A Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving to mark Anzac Day



Saturday 25th April 2026
Noon

HISTORICAL NOTE

This year marks the 111th anniversary of the landings on the Gallipoli Peninsula on 25th April 1915. At Gallipoli, Australian and New Zealand forces fought for the first time under a united command as the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, or, more famously, the ANZACs.

The Gallipoli campaign exacted a heavy toll on both sides. Some 50,000 Allied troops from the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, France, Newfoundland, and India lost their lives.

Including those wounded or evacuated for sickness, the total number of Allied casualties numbered around 250,000. Casualties at Gallipoli amounted to almost 9,000 Australians killed and in excess of 19,000 wounded. For New Zealand, near to 3,000 lost their lives and over 5,000 were wounded. These figures do not include those who died as a result of mental trauma in the years following.

The Turkish forces lost over 86,000 in addition to those wounded.

In Australia and New Zealand, Anzac Day, 25th April, not only commemorates those first landings at Gallipoli, but also all the Australians and New Zealanders who have served their countries in time of conflict, and especially those who have given their lives in that service.

While we remember the sufferings and sacrifice of over a century ago, we also remember and commemorate past and present acts of service, offered by many, to bring about peace today.

Members of the congregation are requested kindly to refrain from using private cameras, video, or sound recording equipment. Please ensure that mobile telephones and other electronic devices are switched off.

The whole of the church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.

The service is conducted by The Reverend Mark Birch MVO, Canon in Residence.

The service is sung by the Westminster Abbey Special Service Choir, conducted by Paul Greally, Assistant Organist.

The organ is played by François Cloete, Organ Scholar.

The Fanfare team is from the Band of the Irish Guards.

The New Zealand flag is borne by Major Grace Blanks.

The Australian flag is borne by Flight Lieutenant Charlotte Watts.

The Turkish flag is borne by Master Sergeant (MSG) Mr Mustafa Sarici

The flag of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is borne by Lieutenant Commander Matthew Poulson.

Before the service James Gough, Assistant Organist, Southwark Cathedral, plays

An Old English Melody *Alfred Ernest Floyd (1877–1974)*

Chorale Prelude on Kilmarnock *Alfred Ernest Floyd*

Chorale Prelude on Song 13 *Alfred Ernest Floyd*

Andante *from* Three Pleasant Pieces *Helen Caskie (1907–2001)*

To His Servant Bach, *Graeme Koehne (b 1956)*
God Grants a Final Glimpse: The Morning Star

Elegy *George Thalben-Ball (1896–1987)*

His Excellency Osman Koray Ertas, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Türkiye to the Court of St James's is received by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and is conducted to his seat.

Their Excellencies Mr Hamish Cooper, High Commissioner of New Zealand to the United Kingdom, and The Honourable Jay Weatherill AO, High Commissioner of Australia to the United Kingdom, are received.

The Lord Coaker, Minister of State, Ministry of Defence, is received. Presentations are made and he is conducted to his seat.

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Westminster, Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg is received. Presentations are made. All stand as he is conducted to his seat and then sit.

All stand.

Her Royal Highness The Princess of Wales is received. Presentations are made.

ORDER OF SERVICE

*All remain standing as the choir and clergy, together with Her Royal Highness The Princess of Wales, move to places in the Quire and Sacrarium.
All sing*

GOD save our gracious King.
GLong live our noble King.

God save The King.
Send him victorious,
happy and glorious,
long to reign over us:
God save The King.

arranged by Gordon Jacob (1895–1984)

All remain standing. The Reverend Mark Birch MVO, Canon in Residence, gives the Bidding

EARLY on the morning of 25th April 1915, soldiers of the newly formed Australia and New Zealand Army Corps landed at Gallipoli and were plunged into battle. By the end of that first day, they had sustained two thousand casualties, either killed or wounded. War is a hard craft, and the armed services of Australia and New Zealand have had many bitter and brave engagements since that day.

We gather to remember what must never be forgotten. We commemorate and honour those who served at Gallipoli and the long record of distinguished service since then. We are here to remember not simply courage, but common cause. We reflect on the complex history that makes allies or enemies of us. We pray that we will learn history's lessons.

As we reflect on human courage, hope, and resilience, we do so at a time when many suffer through conflict and international turmoil. We pray for peace, justice and reconciliation. In this church of Coronation, we pray for Their Majesties The King and The Queen, and for the Commonwealth of Nations. Knowing that we are stronger together, we pray that the virtues of trust, respect,

service, and resilience may grow in us. We do all this in the Easter season, rejoicing in Christ's victory over death. We hear again his summons to live in the shared hope and joyful celebration of God's redeeming and reconciling love.

All remain standing to sing the hymn, during which the flags of New Zealand, Australia, the Republic of Türkiye, and the United Kingdom are borne through the Abbey Church and placed in the Sacrarium



O VALIANT hearts, who to your glory came
through dust of conflict and through battle flame;
tranquil you lie, your knightly virtue proved,
your memory hallowed in the land you loved.

Proudly you gathered, rank on rank, to war,
as who had heard God's message from afar;
all you had hoped for, all you had, you gave
to save mankind—youself you scorned to save.

Splendid you passed, the great surrender made,
into the light that never more shall fade;
deep your contentment in that blest abode,
who wait the last clear trumpet-call of God.

Long years ago, as earth lay dark and still,
rose a loud cry upon a lonely hill,
while in the frailty of our human clay
Christ, our Redeemer, passed the self-same way.

O risen Lord, O Shepherd of our dead,
whose cross has bought them and whose staff has led,
in glorious hope their proud and sorrowing land
commits her children to thy gracious hand.

The Supreme Sacrifice
Charles Harris (1865–1936)

John Arkwright (1872–1954)
Charles Harris (1865–1936)

All sit. His Excellency Mr Hamish Cooper, High Commissioner of New Zealand to the United Kingdom, reads the first Reading

JESUS said 'My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and 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. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.'

John 15: 8–15

Thanks be to God.

The choir sings the Psalm

I WILL lift up mine eyes unto the hills :
from whence cometh my help.
My help cometh even from the Lord :
 who hath made heaven and earth.
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved :
 and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.
Behold, he that keepeth Israel :
 shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord himself is thy keeper :
 the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;
So that the sun shall not burn thee by day :
 neither the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil :
 yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in :
 from this time forth for evermore.

Henry Walford-Davies (1869–1941)

Psalm 121

His Excellency The Honourable Jay Weatherill AO, High Commissioner of Australia to the United Kingdom, reads the second Reading

Isaw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

‘See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.’

Revelation 21: 1–4

Thanks be to God.

The Very Reverend Joanne Kelly-Moore, Dean of St Albans, gives the Address

The choir sings the Anthem during which Theo Hunter and Gen Toyne, young citizens of New Zealand and Australia, present wreaths to the High Commissioners

MANY waters cannot quench love,
neither can the floods drown it.

Love is strong as death.

‘Greater love hath no man than this: that a man lay down his life for his friends.’

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.

Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Greater Love Hath No Man *Song of Solomon 8: 7a, 6b; John 15: 13a; 1 Peter 2: 24;*
John Ireland (1879–1962) *1 Corinthians 6: 11b; 1 Peter 2: 9; Romans 12: 1*

All stand for the Act of Remembrance

The Last Post is sounded

The Reverend Robert Latham, Minor Canon and Precentor, says

AS we hear the words inscribed on the memorial at Anzac Cove in the Dardanelles, let us recall with gratitude all who fought and lost their lives at Gallipoli.

His Excellency Osman Koray Ertaş, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Türkiye to the Court of St James's, says

THOSE heroes that shed their blood
and lost their lives...
you are now lying in the soil of a friendly country.
Therefore rest in peace.
There is no difference between the Johnnies
and the Mehmetts to us where they lie side by side
here in this country of ours...
You, the mothers,
who sent their sons from far away countries
wipe away your tears;
your sons are now lying in our bosom
and are in peace.
After having lost their lives on this land they have
become our sons as well.

Mustafa Kemal Atatürk (1881–1938)

The High Commissioners lay wreaths at the Grave of the Unknown Warrior

Silence is kept

The choir sings the Exhortation and Kohima

WHEN you go home, tell them of us and say:
For your tomorrow we gave our today.

Chris Chivers (b 1967)

*Kohima Epitaph
adapted from Simonides (556–468 BC)
by John Maxwell Edmonds (1875–1958)*

Captain Morgan Findlay, New Zealand Army, says

EKORE rātou e kaumātuatia
Pēnei I a tātou kua mahue nei
E kore hoki rātou e ngoikore
Ahakoa pehea I ngā āhuatanga o te wā
I te hekenga atu o te rā
Tae noa ki te arangamai I te ata
Ka maumahara tonu atou ki a rātou
Ka maumahara tonu atou ki a rātou

The Ode of Remembrance

Corporal Damon Edmunds, Australian Army, continues

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.
We will remember them.

*from For the Fallen
Laurence Binyon (1869–1943)*

Reveille is sounded. All remain standing

Ngāti Rānana London Māori Club sings

W HAKAARIA mai tōu	<i>Lord, set your cross</i>
rīpeka ki au;	<i>before me;</i>
Tiaho mai rā roto i te pō.	<i>be with me in the darkness.</i>
Hei konā au titiro atu ai;	<i>To you I turn;</i>
Ora, mate, hei au koe noho ai.	<i>in life and in death, stay with me.</i>

All sing the Hymn



OLORD my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed:
*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
how great thou art, how great thou art!*
*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home—what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim: My God, how great thou art!
*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
how great thou art, how great thou art!*
*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

*Swedish folk melody
arranged by Stuart Hine (1899–1989)*

*Russian hymn
translated by Stuart Hine*

All remain standing. The Precentor leads the prayers

Let us pray for our nations and their leaders, for the
Commonwealth, and for peace and goodwill among all people.

All kneel or sit

Young citizens of New Zealand and Australia continue the prayers. Jack Fogarty says

LET us pray for His Majesty The King; for the Governors General of Australia and New Zealand, and for all who govern the nations of the world: that they may pursue the paths of justice, harmony, and peace.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Octavia Marshall says

LET us pray for the Church in this season of Easter, and for all people of faith and goodwill: that, in word and action, we may be faithful in love and service towards God and all our neighbours.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Marley Chase says

LET us pray for all living through war and violence today; for the injured and bereaved; for refugees; for international efforts to care for the suffering and to bring hostilities to an end.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Senna Harper says

LET us remember the bravery and sacrifice of our allies in the First World War, and all who gave their lives for the sake of freedom. Let us pray for all veterans of war; for members of our Armed Forces today; for those who bear physical and mental scars and those who support them; that their service may be honoured and their needs be met.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Jacob Rice says

LET us give thanks for the friendships that have developed between former enemies, and pray that we may continue, within the Commonwealth and the whole family of nations, to pursue all that builds peace and reconciliation.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Milly Casson says

LET us pray for ourselves, for the responsibilities we bear today as citizens of Australia and New Zealand; to remember with thanksgiving, to heed the call to service, and to fulfil our duties to one another; that by God's grace our communities and countries may flourish to the benefit of all.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

The Precentor concludes

Rejoicing in the hope of Christ's resurrection, let us pray with confidence in the words our Saviour taught us:

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

All stand to sing the Hymn



O PRAISE ye the Lord!
praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word,
ye angels of light;
ye heavens adore him
by whom ye were made,
and worship before him,
in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord!
praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord,
ye sons of new birth;
praise him who has brought you
his grace from above,
praise him who has taught you
to sing of his love.

O praise ye the Lord!
all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord,
re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory
forth tell in deep tone,
and, sweet harp, the story
of what he has done.

O praise ye the Lord!
thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured
all ages along:
for love in creation,
for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation,
O praise ye the Lord!
Amen, amen.

Laudate Dominum 427 NEH
Hubert Parry (1848–1918)
from Hear my words, ye people

Henry Baker (1821–77)
after Psalm 150

All remain standing. The Canon in Residence gives the Blessing

MAY God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory, give you joy and peace in your faith; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

A fanfare is sounded. The flags are returned to their bearers.

All sing the National Anthem of Australia



AUSTRALIANS all, let us rejoice for we are one and free,
We've 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!'

All sing the National Anthem of New Zealand, first in Māori, then in English



EIHOWĀ Atua,
O ngā iwi mātou rā
Āta whakarongona;
Me aroha noa
Kia hua ko te pai;
Kia tau tō atawhai;
Manaakitia mai Aotearoa.

God of Nations, at thy feet,
in the bonds of love we meet,
hear our voices, we entreat,
God defend our free land.
Guard Pacific's triple star
from the shafts of strife and war,
make her praises heard afar,
God defend New Zealand.

All remain standing as the procession, together with Her Royal Highness The Princess of Wales, moves to the west end of the church

Music after the service

7 Chorale Preludes
Set 1, VII 'St Anne'

C. Hubert H. Parry (1848–1918)

The bells of the Abbey Church are rung

Members of the congregation are requested kindly to remain in their seats until directed to move by the Honorary Stewards

There will be a retiring collection in aid of London Legacy and The Royal New Zealand Returned and Services' Association (RNZRSA)



The Royal New Zealand Returned and Services' Association (RNZRSA) has supported New Zealand's veterans and their whānau for more than a century. Founded during the First World War, the RNZRSA works across communities throughout Aotearoa New Zealand to honour service and ensure veterans and their families receive the care, advocacy and practical assistance they deserve. Through remembrance activities such as Anzac Day, and the annual Poppy Appeal, the RNZRSA raises vital funds to provide support, wellbeing services and emergency assistance to those who have served our New Zealand. Donations help us continue this work, ensuring that the sacrifice of New Zealand's servicemen and women is honoured not only in remembrance, but through ongoing support for those who served.





Legacy is a voluntary organisation providing services and support to families after the death of a spouse or parent during or after their defence force service.

Legacy had its origins in the Great War of 1914–18, in Gallipoli, Palestine, France, and Flanders. Legacy is here to care for widows, children, and dependents of deceased Australian and New Zealand war veterans; not only those killed in hazardous service but also those serving in peacekeeping service and those killed in training for war. After the Second World War it became even more necessary to have a legacy outpost in Europe and particularly in the United Kingdom and this led to the foundation of London Legacy over 60 years ago.

The support for widows and families provided by London Legacy comes in many forms, including practical assistance in such matters as accommodation, medical, legal, and general welfare. To donate please scan the QR code below:

