



Remembrance Day 2023 Order of Service

Sunday 12 November 2023 at the War Memorial, Colchester

THE ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Jim Burgoyne

Colchester Branch Chairman of The Royal British Legion

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

(Hats off)

11.00 Firing of light gun TWO MINUTES SILENCE STARTS

11.02 Firing of light gun TWO MINUTES SILENCE ENDS

Last Post

(Hats on)

WREATH LAYING

under the direction of the Garrison Sergeant Major

HM Lord-Lieutenant of Essex, Mrs Jennifer Tolhurst, to lay a wreath followed by

The Mayor of Colchester, Councillor John Jowers

The High Sheriff of Essex, Mr Charles Bishop

Commander 16 Air Assault Brigade Combat Team, Brigadier Mark Berry

Chief Constable of Essex Police, Mr Ben-Julian Harrington

Commander Colchester Garrison, Lieutenant Colonel Ed Rankin

Vice-Chairman Colchester Branch, The Royal British Legion, Mr David Bennett

Reveille

Jim Burgoyne, Colchester Branch Chairman of The Royal British Legion

The Kohima Epitaph

When you go home tell them of us and say
for your tomorrow we gave our today

HYMN: Jerusalem

Lyrics: William Blake Composer: Charles Parry

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| 1 And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England's mountains green
And was the holy lamb of God
On England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
Among those dark satanic mills? | 2 Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear: o clouds unfold!
Bring me my chariots of fire!
I will not cease from metal fight;
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land. |
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SCRIPTURE READING

**Lorna Rowbottom representing Colchester Town Centre Churches
The Gospel of John, Chapter 15, verses 9 to 15**

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

This is my command: Love each other

PRAYERS

**The Reverend Dr Amanda Elmes, The Mayor's Chaplain, and
The Reverend Nigel Kinsella CF, Senior Chaplain,
16 Air Assault Brigade Combat Team**

Almighty God, the source of life, we remember before you all those who have given their lives in the service of their country in the cause of justice and freedom... We recall those in the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Air Force and many others at sea, on the land and in the air, who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Almighty God, the source of compassion, we commend to your care all those who continue to suffer as a result of war... Comfort the bereaved, uphold the injured and support all those whose lives have been deeply affected by conflict.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Almighty God, the source of peace, we bring to mind those places in our world where people are still at war with one another... Turn the hearts of all towards the ways of all to justice and righteousness that truth and love may prevail.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Almighty God, the source of hope, we pray for Her Majesty's Armed Forces today, especially those on operational duty today... Enable them to be courageous, disciplined and selfless that they may be professional and effective in carrying in the tasks assigned to them.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

In recognition of the bond of friendship between Colchester and the Dutch district of Renkum, The Airborne Forces collect

written by Padre John Hodgins during the Second World War to link men of all arms who wore the maroon beret:

May the defence of the Most High be above and beneath, around and within us, in our going out and in our coming in, in our rising up and in our going down, through all our days and all our nights, until dawn when the Sun of Righteousness shall rise with healing in his wings for the peoples of the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen.

We join together to say the Lord's Prayer:

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.

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

HYMN: I vow to thee my country

Lyrics: Cecil Spring-Rice Composer: Gustav Holst

- 1 I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above,
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love;
The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

- 2 And there's another country, I've heard of long ago,
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace.

PRAYER

Read by Amelie Charlton, aged 16

O Lord, our maker and our strength,
from whose love in Christ we can never be parted either by death or defeat:
May our remembrance this day deepen our sorrow for the loss and wastes of war,
make us more grateful to those who courageously gave their lives
to defend this land and commonwealth;
and may all who bear the scars and memories of conflicts, past and present,
know your healing love for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

All Amen

BLESSING

The Right Reverend Roger Morris, The Bishop of Colchester

All Amen

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

(Hats off)

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.

(Hats on)

**Garrison Sergeant Major requests permission
for the parade to prepare for the march past.**

Mayoral party retires to the Town Hall for the march past and salute

Please remember in your thoughts all who still serve this country in pursuit of
peace in areas of conflict around the world.