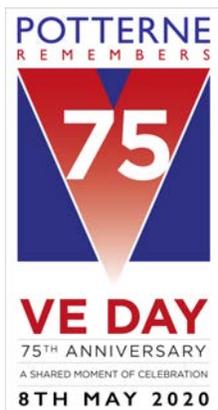




POTTERNE BRANCH
President: Sqn Ldr John Mann MBE BSc



ST MARY'S CHURCH
Rector: Rev Ali Bridewell

**A SHORT SERVICE
TO COMMEMORATE
THE 75th ANNIVERSARY
OF VE DAY**

**The Parish Church of
St. Mary the Virgin, Potterne
(via Zoom)**

**8th May 2020
at 10:45 am**

Introduction

by the President of the Potterne Branch of the Royal British Legion.

Rector: Heaviness may endure for a night:

All: But joy comes in the morning.

Rector: God has been our refuge and our strength:

All: A present help in time of trouble.

Rector:

Dear friends in Potterne, we come together conscious of our need for God's forgiveness for the sin and the desire to dominate others that leads to conflict between people, and war between nations. And, as we remember the many soldiers, sailors, and airmen who gave their lives restraining evil and opposing tyranny, so we also come in thanksgiving for the years of peace that the nations of Europe have enjoyed since the Second World War. We gather joyfully today, as those who gathered on that first Victory day, glad of each other's company, and grateful for the laughter and love that follows times of sadness and loss. But above all things, let us pray that God's will may be done on earth as it is in heaven, as we join our voices together and say:

**All: 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.

Chairman of the Potterne Branch of the Royal British Legion:

A reading from Zechariah.

I will return to Jerusalem, my holy city, and live there. It will be known as the faithful city, and the hill of the Lord Almighty will be called the sacred hill. Once again old men and women, so old that they use a stick when they walk, will be sitting in the city squares. And the streets will again be full of boys and girls playing.

This may seem impossible to those of the nation who are now left, but it's not impossible for me. I will rescue my people from the lands where they have been taken, and will bring them back from east and west to live in Jerusalem. They will be my people, and I will be their God, ruling over them faithfully and justly.

Rector:

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and our fellow men and women: that we may help, encourage and comfort others, and support those working for the relief of the needy and for the peace and welfare of the nations.

**All: Lord God our Father,
we pledge ourselves to serve you and all humankind,
in the cause of peace,
for the relief of want and suffering,
and for the praise of your name.
Guide us by your Spirit;
give us wisdom;
give us courage;
give us hope;
and keep us faithful now and always.
Amen.**

Rector: Almighty God,
from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed:
kindle in the hearts of all people the true love of peace;
and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom
those who take counsel for the nations of the earth;
that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward,
till the earth is filled with the knowledge of thy love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Rector: Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness,
bless our Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth,
and all who are in authority under her;
that they may order all things
in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace,
to the honour of your name,
and the good of your Church and people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Rector:

Our final prayer is that from the VE Day Service in Westminster Abbey on 8th May, 1945:

Blessing and honour, thanksgiving and praise, more than we can utter, more than we can conceive, be unto Thee, O most adorable Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, by all angels, all men, all creatures for ever and ever. Amen and Amen. To God the Father who first loved us, and made us accepted in the Beloved : to God the Son, who loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own Blood : to God the Holy Ghost, who sheds the love of God abroad in our hearts, be all love and all glory, for time and for eternity.

All: Amen.

Rector: The Blessing

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth, and all people, peace and concord; and to us and all his servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

The National Anthem (recording)

Valediction:

by the President of the Potterne Branch of the Royal British Legion.

We all proceed outdoors (with social distancing) and observe a 2-minute silence at 11 am, followed by a round of applause for the Potterne Good Neighbours.