

SUNDAY PLUS

Remember

Remembrance Sunday

By Fr Denis McBride C.Ss.R.

Today is Remembrance Sunday, a day where we commemorate the contribution of the British and Commonwealth military and civilian services in the two World Wars and in later conflicts.

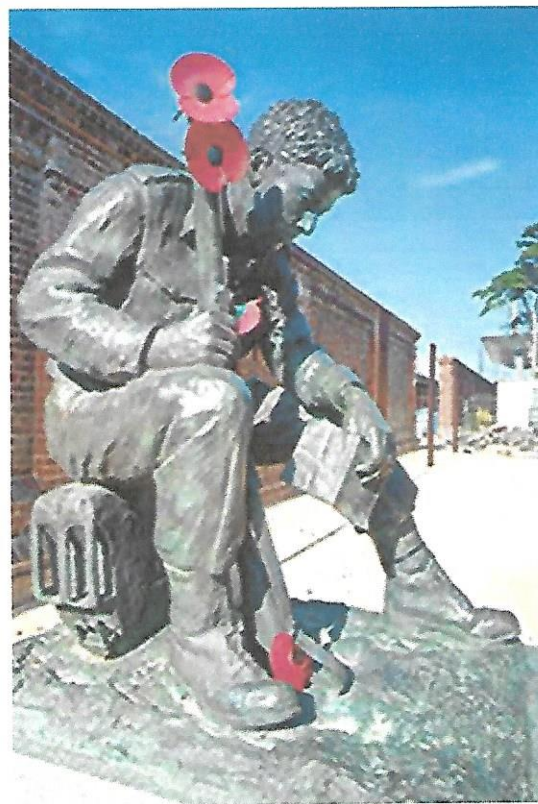
This morning, across the United Kingdom, there are many such ceremonies: many poppy wreaths of remembrance will be laid in towns and villages and there will be a two minutes' silence to respect the memory of those who gave their lives, of those who were injured, of those who returned home to pick up the pieces and of those who never returned. We remember, too, those at home who worked tirelessly as wardens, firefighters and nurses.

These services are always solemn, sincere and sad, particularly the service at the Cenotaph in London which has been televised since 1946,

the longest-running annual live televised event in the world. For so many people who cannot attend, they can watch the programme and pay their own respects privately.

Today is a time to remember, and what many people particularly appreciate is the silence: the two minutes' silence which represents the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918, when the guns of Europe fell silent. It is a silence where our thoughts hold in respect the brave men and woman who took part. It is the only time in our calendar where the whole country falls silent, thinking about something other than their own personal issues. Let us remember them.

Fr Denis McBride's many books, CDs and DVDs are available from Redemptorist Publications, www.rpbbooks.co.uk.



Help me, Lord, to be faithful in my love for you and for others. Let me be generous in my relationships – and let me not hold back on telling people how much I appreciate them.
✚ Amen.

Remembrance

Grant rest, O Lord, to those no longer with us;
Who died protecting us and this their land.
Bring healing, Lord, to those who, through their service,
Bear conflict's scars on body or in mind.
With those who mourn, support and comfort share,
Give strength to those who for hurt loved ones care.

And some there be who no memorial have:
Who perished are as though they'd never been.
For our tomorrows their today they gave,
And simply asked that in our hearts they'd live.
We heed their call and pledge ourselves again,
At dusk and dawn – we will remember them!

From Remembrance, Charles Henrywood



How I long to find the right words to stir up enthusiasm for a new chapter of evangelisation full of fervour, joy, generosity, courage, boundless love and attraction! Yet I realize that no words of encouragement will be enough unless the fire of the Holy Spirit burns in our hearts.

Pope Francis

Feast of the week
Wednesday 13 November



St Frances Xavier Cabrini
(1850-1917)

St Frances Xavier Cabrini ("Mother Cabrini") fulfilled her childhood missionary dreams by travelling from Italy to America to impoverished legal and illegal Italian migrants, refugees and domestic workers.

Maria Francesca Cabrini was the youngest of thirteen children, only four of whom survived beyond adolescence. Longing to be a missionary, and foundress of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (M.S.C.), Pope Leo XIII personally asked her to go "not to the East, but to the West", to New York rather than to China.

Mother Cabrini and six Sisters sailed to New York, where the bishop advised her to return to Italy – but she refused and founded 67 institutions dedicated to caring for people who were poor, abandoned, uneducated and sick.

Afraid of water, Cabrini sailed to Europe at least 30 times to fundraise for her projects, often visiting the Southwark Archdiocese – which explains the Cathedral's shrine in her honour.

In 1917, Mother Cabrini died of malarial complications whilst preparing Christmas sweets for local children.

Today:
Wisdom 6:12-16
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

Monday:
Wisdom 1:1-7
Luke 17:1-6

Tuesday:
Wisdom 2:23 – 3:9
Luke 17:7-10

Wednesday:
Wisdom 6:1-11
Luke 17:11-19

Thursday:
Wisdom 7:22 – 8:1
Luke 17:20-25

Friday:
Wisdom 13:1-9
Luke 17:26-37

Saturday:
Wisdom 18:14-16; 19:6-9
Luke 18:1-8

Next Sunday:
Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31
1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
Matthew 25:14-30