



St Paul's Cathedral

Together transforming our City and Diocese

Service in Memory of Australian Defence Force
Members Who Served in Vietnam, 1962–1975.

14 October 2020 • 2pm

WELCOME

Welcome to St Paul's Cathedral, the home for worshippers from more than two dozen nations, the seat of the Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne and the home church for Anglicans in Melbourne and Victoria. We are delighted that you are with us this afternoon: come and worship with us again.

We worship on the traditional lands of the Kulin nation and we acknowledge and pay our respect to their elders past and present and to Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders with us today.

Please join us in singing the hymns and saying those parts of the service printed in **bold** type.

JOINING THE SERVICE

The Cathedral will livestream the service via **Youtube**.

Please use this link on the day to watch the service:

https://youtu.be/374_88irqvg



WELCOME

Mr Nigel Wilson, Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia, Life Member, Geelong and District Sub-branch on behalf of Bob Elworthy AM, President, Victorian Branch Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia

Please join in singing

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

**Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are young 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.**

THE BIDDING

The Revd Canon Robert Vun, Canon Missioner

We are gathered here this afternoon to honour all who fought valiantly to ensure the freedom that our land now enjoys, especially those of all 3 services who served in Vietnam.

This year marks the 58th anniversary of the deployment of Australian service personnel to Vietnam and the 28th anniversary of the dedication of the National Memorial in Canberra. It is also the 10th anniversary of the dedication of the Vietnam Commemorative plaque in the Cathedral.

We give thanks for all who served and particularly remember those who gave their lives in action and the families they left behind.

We say together

PSALM 121

**I lift up my eyes to the hills:
but where shall I find help?
My help comes from the Lord:
who has made heaven and earth.**

He will not suffer your foot to stumble:

and he who watches over you will not sleep.
Be sure he who has charge of Israel:
will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord himself is your keeper:
the Lord is your defence upon your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day:
nor shall the moon by night.
The Lord will defend you from all evil:
it is he who will guard your life.
The Lord will defend your going out and your coming in:
from this time forward and forevermore.

SCRIPTURE READING

Read by Mr Gary Ryan, Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia, Geelong and District Sub-branch Secretary, Life Member.

A Reading from the Gospel of St John.

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. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

John 15.9-17

Hear the word of the Lord.

All respond: Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

The Revd Canon Robert Vun
Canon Missioner

WHAT MY MEDALS MEAN

by Ned Falconer D Company 7 RAR Vietnam

*Read by Mr Rieny Nieuwenhof, Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia,
Geelong and District Sub-branch President, Life Member*

I'd never worn my medals – they were left in the drawer.
So when I finally took them out, it had been twenty years or more.

My daughter saw me take them out and asked me what they're for.
I looked at her and calmly said "They're a reminder of a war.

They remind me of the mates I had – who never made it back,
who died in a stinking paddy field or on a jungle track.

They remind me of the troubles and the hardships we went through,
they remind me why we were there; it was for people just like you.

They remind me of the hellhole while we were over there,
they remind me of our countrymen who really didn't care.

They remind me of the mateships forged in a foreign land,
they remind me of a certain mate who lost the whole of his hand.

They remind me when we went away, we thought the reason was just,
they're to remind me of when we came back, they turned their backs on us.

They remind me of the time we spent left there on our own,
they remind me that it took twenty years to welcome us back home.

They remind me of all the suffering, the heartache and the pain,
they're to remind me if we're called upon, we'd do it all again.

They remind me when I wear them next; the thoughts will come again,
at the going down of the sun and in the morning,

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

Then, I looked at her smiling face and I knew it had not got through.
I said "Listen Love, they're to remind me – **I did it all for you.**"

THE INTERCESSIONS

The Revd Canon Robert Vun

Let us pray:

Prayer for the Defence Force

Eternal God, the only source of peace, we pray for all who serve in the Defence Force of this land. Give them courage and comfort in danger, patience in waiting, and discipline in the just use of force. Help us to seek for all people the freedom to serve you and each other in compassion and peace. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for justice and freedom

O God, the King of righteousness, lead us, we pray, in ways of justice and peace; inspire us to break down all tyranny and oppression, to gain for all people their due reward, and from all people their due service; that each may live for all and all may care for each, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for peace

Eternal Lord God we pray for the peace of the world. Especially we commend to your mercy the homeless and refugees; those who have been dispossessed and have lost their employment; those whose families have been disrupted and who mourn the loss of loved ones. We pray for the situation in the Middle East. Grant that the sane and selfless councils may prevail in these places, and wherever there is warfare. For Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray

Our Father, which art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come.

Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive them that 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.

Please join in singing

THE HYMN

1
Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the
 restless wave,
Who bid'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to thee,
for those in peril on the sea.

2
O Christ, the Universal Lord,
who suffered death by
 nails and sword,
from all assault of deadly foe
sustain thy soldiers where they go;
and evermore hold in thy hand
all those in peril on the land.

3
O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace
Who fills with strength the human race;
Inspire mankind to know the right,
Guide all who dare the eagle's flight;
And underneath thy wings of care
Guard all from peril in the air.

4
O Trinity of love and power!
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee,
Praise from the air, the land and sea.

The congregation remains standing for

THE COMMEMORATION

Let us now stand in silence and bow our heads as we remember all those who died whilst serving in Vietnam, in the defence of human freedom and in the name of their country.

THE ODE

*Led by Mr Nigel Wilson, Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia,
Life Member, Geelong and District Sub-branch*

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.
All: We will remember them.

LAST POST

SILENCE

For one minute

In memory of fallen and departed comrades,
Lest we forget.
All: Lest we forget.

ROUSE

All say together

PRAYER FOR THE FALLEN

**Remember, O Lord, all those, the brave and the true,
who have died the death of honour,
and are departed this life
in the hope of resurrection to eternal life.
Especially we remember this day
those in whose memory this service is held,
and grant to those whom they have left behind
the grace and comfort of your healing Spirit
until death is swallowed up in victory.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

PRAYER REMEMBERING THOSE NO LONGER WITH US

Almighty God, we give you thanks for the lives of those who,
having returned home from the arena of war, are no longer with us.
We remember with gratefulness their mateship and memories shared.
Be with their families, loved ones and us all, as mingled with grief at their
passing, we remember them with joy and appreciation.
This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted;
give honour to all; love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of God almighty;
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

SERVICE LEADER Officiant and Preacher: The Revd Canon Robert Vun, Canon Missioner; Lay Clerks of the St Paul's Cathedral Choir, directed by Mr Philip Nicholls; Organist: Siegfried Franke

PERMISSIONS Texts of Scripture are taken from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Hymns are taken from the hymnals indicated and are used by permission. This compilation is copyright, © 2019 St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne



St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne
209 Flinders Lane
Melbourne Victoria 3000

www.cathedral.org.au • (03) 9653 4333

welcome@cathedral.org.au

twitter.com/stpaulscathmelb • facebook.com/stpaulscathedralmelbourne