

“Remembrance Sunday”

November 13th 2011: Some notes on a sermon
at Weaverthorpe

Last week I did three school assemblies on Remembrance Day. With each assembly we began by thinking how vital memory is to everything we do in life, remembering both the good and the bad, the happy and the painful...

Remembering our past
Helps us to live our today
And change our future

So what do we remember on Remembrance Sunday?

We remember the different wars, the First and Second World wars and also the wars that have happened since... but the wars are too many to mention.

We remember the different places where these wars have been fought: France, Germany, Belgium, Africa, Middle East, Far East... but the places are too many to mention.

We remember specific battles that took place where even today those memories live on. I recall taking my son to the Somme and to the massive forts around Verdun.. but the battles are too many to mention...

Of all that we can remember on this day, the two readings we heard in the service remind us of the true focus for our remembering: In Psalm 103 we heard how God, Like a loving father, remembers **us**. That is why this Psalm is often read out at funerals. And in the reading from Luke 22 vs 14-21 we hear from Jesus, just before he dies, asking his friends to eat bread and drink wine to remember **him**.

Of all that we can remember on this day most importantly we need to remember people and though there are once more, 'too many to mention', today we can focus our memories on the war memorial at Weaverthorpe.

Here we remember people like...

JOHN BAKER

Ordinary people who came from homes where we live today...

BENJAMIN BOYES

With mums and dads, brothers and sisters, wives and children...

GEORGE ERRINGTON

People with jobs in this area and yet they to signed up...

ROBERT LEPPINTON

They had their own hopes and fears, plans and futures...

RICHARD LICKES

They laid all aside to go off to defend their country...

ARTHUR WELBURN

To do the ordinary and the heroic...

WILLIAM COOPER

To do the mundane and the impossible...

BOYTON KING

To live in the most horrendous conditions imaginable...

HERBERT DOBSON

And to all lay down their lives for their family, friends and country..

ALFRED SHEPHERD

As we remember those ten names today we also can remember the words that Jesus spoke to the crowd when he said, " Greater love has no one than this, to lay one's life down for one's friends."

As we remember our past,
may God help us to live our today
and so to change or future.