

The Parish Church of St Mary's, West Rainton

Remembering Our Loved Ones



Sunday November 1st 2026 3.00pm

As you enter church please fill in the short form and take a tea-light for each name.

Names will be read out later in the service and you can bring your candle forward and light it in an Act of Remembrance.

This will be a gentle and calm service. Music is pre-recorded.

~~~~~

“I am the resurrection and the life”, says the Lord. ‘Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die”

John 11: 25,26

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted”

Matthew 5:4

~~~~~

Welcome

Opening prayer

“God of compassion and love be with us here today. As we join in this service together, we offer you all of our suffering and pain, all of our loss and hurt. Give us strength to bear our weakness, peace in the midst of turmoil, healing and wholeness for your broken world and love to fill the spaces in our lives. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.”

Amen

Poem by Kevin F:

Read by Annabel Burns



Where do they go to, the people who leave?
Are they around us, in the cool evening breeze?
Do they still hear us, and watch us each day?
I'd like you to think of them with us that way.

Where do they go to, when no longer here?
I think that they stay with us, calming our fear Loving
us always, holding our hands
Walking beside us, on grass or on sand.

Where do they go to, well it's my belief
They watch us and help us to cope with our grief
They comfort and stay with us, through each of our
days Guiding us always through life's mortal maze.

~~~~~

Bible reading from Ecclesiastes, chapter 3

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:*

*a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what  
is planted;*

*a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to  
laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a  
time to gather stones together;*

*a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; ...*

~~~~~

Please join in singing hymn 50 from Mission Praise ("Be Still") if you would like
to. The music is gentle. (You do not need to stand.)

The Act of Remembrance

The large Easter candle is lit as a reminder of Christ's place as Light of the World. As the names are read out slowly please bring your candle to the front to be lit and placed in the holder. Then those who are remembering privately will be invited up.

Gentle music will also be playing.

When the last candle is placed a short silence will be kept, then;

~~~~~

## Prayer

*"Dearest Lord, Bless those who mourn the death of a relative or friend and feel that with this loss their lives are incomplete. Bless those who mourn, and fill these empty hearts with pleasant memories, the sound of laughter, sunshine and happier days. Bless those who mourn and heal their brokenness with the soothing balm of your gentle touch, that they might know shalom, wholeness, peace. "*

## **We say together 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 them 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.

*A short period of silence and reflection to quiet music follows*

## BLESSING:

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sunshine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand. **Traditional Irish Blessing**

---

*(Please stay for refreshments after the service )*



## Footprints in the sand

"One night I dreamed a dream.

I was walking along the beach with my Lord. Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life. For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand, one belonging to me and one to my Lord. When the last scene of my life shot before me I looked back at the footprints in the sand. There was only one set of footprints. I realized that this was at the lowest and saddest times of my life.

This always bothered me and I questioned the Lord about my dilemma.

"Lord, You told me when I decided to follow You, that You would walk and talk with me all the way. But I'm aware that during the most troublesome times of my life there is only one set of footprints. I just don't understand why, when I need You most, You leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you, never, ever, during your trials and testings. When you saw only one set of footprints, It was then that I carried you." **Margaret Powers**

St Mary's is your local Parish Church.

You can learn more about us and our special events and services on our

Facebook page [www.facebook.com/stmaryschurchwestrainton/](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryschurchwestrainton/)

We rely on our congregation and fund raising to pay all the costs of running this lovely building. You can make donations electronically using our machine or scan this QR code.

 sumup

**Scan  
to pay**

Download SumUp Pay or  
pay online as a guest.

