

### **Introductory thoughts**

How good is your memory?  
Memory is a gift from God, but we must use it wisely. You may feel sad that you can no longer go to places that you used to visit or see people that you used to see....but you may be able to picture them in your mind. It is good to dwell on happy things but not so good to brood on unhappy times.

In November we have several days that are set apart for remembering.  
All Saints' Day is a time for remembering saints (that is holy men and women who have done their best to follow God). You will certainly have known some of them in your lifetime. They may still be alive or they may have died. We can remember them all with gratitude.

On Remembrance Day we remember those affected by war.  
You may have special people to think about, someone killed, injured or bereaved.  
No one ever wins a war, everyone is a loser...and wars still go on today.

### **Prayer**

*(You may like to light a candle)*

Heavenly Father,  
Thank you for the gift of remembering.  
Thank you for..... *(names of special people)*  
Thank you for..... *(happy time)*  
Thank you for..... *(kind act)*  
I commend them..... *(names)* to your love.  
Amen.

### **Hymn**

O God our help in ages past  
Our hope for years to come  
Our shelter from the stormy blast  
And our eternal home.

Before the hills in order stood  
Or earth received her frame  
From everlasting Thou art God  
To endless years the same.

### **Prayer**

We pray for the world and our own country.

Heavenly Father,  
we pray for political leaders,  
that they may strive for peace;  
we pray for religious leaders,  
that they may seek truth;  
we pray for those in the police and military,  
that they may enforce law and order  
with justice;

we pray for health professionals, that they may bring healing and have compassion;  
we pray for those in our own neighbourhood,  
that there may be community.  
Bind us together in love, in Jesus' name.  
Amen

### **Bible verses John 15**

*(Traditional words)*  
*Greater love has no man than that he lay down his life for his friends.*

*(A modern version)*  
*Jesus said, "Love one another the way I loved you. This is the very best way to live. Put your life on the line for your friends. You are my friends when you do the things I command you."*

### **Thoughts**

Friends are important to us at all stages of our lives. Sometimes it is said that to have a friend we must be a friend. We share of ourselves, our time, our energy and our interest in another.  
Take a moment to think of any friends you have at this stage in your life.  
Thank God for them.  
Jesus invites us to be His friends. He cares for us all the time and we can share all our joys and sadnesses with Him.

## Hymn

(Tate and Brady)

Through all the changing scenes of life,  
In trouble and in joy,  
The praises of my God shall still  
My heart and tongue employ.

O magnify the Lord with me,  
With me exult His name;  
When in distress to Him I called,  
He to my rescue came.

O make but trial of His love,  
Experience will decide  
How blest are they, and only they  
Who in His truth confide.

## Prayer and blessing

Our Father 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.  
Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them  
that trespass against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.

May God bless you and your friends today  
With the knowledge of His love  
And the power of His Spirit to face whatever  
challenges lie before you.  
Amen.



# Remembering

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