



Dedication Service

OF THE

Ormskirk and District Branch

STANDARD

ON

Sunday, 30th June, 1957,

AT 3 P.M., IN

ORMSKIRK PARISH CHURCH

Conducted by

The Rev. Canon F. A. REDWOOD, M.A.,

Vicar of Ormskirk.

Rev. T. A. WHYTE.

ORDER OF SERVICE

HYMN 1

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

Beneath the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure ;
Sufficient is Thine Arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

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

A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone :
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away :
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home. Amen.

*The Standard Bearer and the Standard to be laid up,
proceed to the Choir Entrance.*

The Chairman will say :

I commit this sacred Standard of the Ormskirk and District
Branch of the British Legion to you as Vicar of the Parish for safe
keeping for ever.

The Vicar will say :

I accept this charge.

*The Standard will then be housed.
The new Standard will then be brought into the Chancel.*

Then shall the Vicar say :

Brethren, we are met together in the presence of God, and the seen and unseen brethren, to take part in the hallowing and Dedication of the Standard of the British Legion established in Ormskirk : and to witness thereby to the noble ideals and great purposes, inspired by Almighty God, which animate the members of the Legion—such purposes being the succour of our brethren who fought in War and who have fallen out by the way of life, the care of the widows, orphans and other dependants of those who served, the fostering of brotherly love and comradeship among all its members, the remembrance of the ideals for which we fought the Wars, and of our fellow citizens who have laid down their lives for us : and also the preservation of true loyalty and devotion to our Queen and Country at all times, and in all places.

To this end I call upon the members of the Legion and the congregation here present, to offer humble prayer to Almighty God, that He will bless this Standard now to be dedicated to His Glory, and that He will inspire the members of the Legion to carry out with a single heart and devoted purpose the high aims for which they are joined in fellowship.

V. Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

R. Who hath made Heaven and earth.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with Thy spirit.

Let us 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.

O Lord God of our Fathers, Who didst lead this people through the countless sufferings of War, keep us, we beseech Thee, ever mindful of Thy mercy : pour Thy blessing upon the peoples over whom Thy servant, Elizabeth, our Sovereign Lady, the Queen, is ruler ; unite us in the bond of brotherhood and in the service of our country ; that the offering of our life's work may be acceptable unto Thee ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grant, we pray Thee, O Almighty God, that all we who here do honour to the memory of our brethren's loyal sacrifice, may be filled with the spirit of their love and courage, and, forgetting all selfish and unworthy aims, may live together to the glory of Thy Name, and in the service of our fellowmen ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The new Standard is now brought to the Sanctuary Entrance.

The Vicar, laying his hands on the Standard, will say :

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do dedicate and set apart this Standard that it may be a sign of our duty towards our Queen and country in the sight of God and a symbol of the service the British Legion is called upon to render.

The Standard is then placed upon the Altar, and the Vicar will say :

We yield Thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that Thou hast put it into the hearts of these Thy servants to join together in the fellowship of the British Legion and to desire to carry out its aims and purposes : let Thy Fatherly hand ever be over them, let Thy Holy Spirit ever be with them, and so guide their counsels that they may set forth Thy Glory, and help forward all the great works to which they have given themselves, so that by their witness and their labours the spirit of love and comradeship among those who have served may be advanced in this place, and loyalty and devotion to Queen and Country may be established here on a sure foundation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The supporting Standards will be brought to the Sanctuary
during the singing of the following Hymn.*

HYMN 2

ONWARD, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the Cross of Jesus
Going on before.
Christ the Royal Master
Leads against the foe ;
Forward into battle,
See, His banners go !
Onward, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the Cross of Jesus
Going on before.

At the sign of triumph
Satan's host doth flee ;
On then, Christian soldiers,
On to victory.
Hell's foundations quiver
At the shout of praise ;
Brothers, lift your voices,
Loud your anthems raise.
Onward, &c.

Like a mighty army
Moves the Church of God :
Brothers, we are treading
Where the Saints have trod ;
We are not divided,
All one body we,
One in hope and doctrine,
One in charity.
Onward, &c.

Crowns and thrones may perish,
Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus
Constant will remain ;
Gates of Hell can never
'Gainst the Church prevail ;
We have Christ's own promise,
And that cannot fail.
Onward, &c

Onward, then, ye people,
Join our happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices
In the triumph song ;
Glory, laud and honour
Unto Christ the King,
This through countless ages
Men and Angels sing.
Onward, &c. Amen.

A LESSON

HYMN 3

O PRAISE our God today,
His constant mercy bless,
Whose love hath help'd us on our way,
And granted us success.

His arm the strength imparts
Our daily toil to bear ;
His grace alone inspires our hearts,
Each other's load to share.

O happiest work below,
Earnest of joy above,
To sweeten many a cup of woe
By deeds of holy love.

Lord, may it be our choice
This blessed rule to keep,
"Rejoice with them that do rejoice,
And weep with them that weep."

O praise our God today,
His constant mercy bless,
Whose love hath help'd us on our way,
And granted us success. Amen.

THE ADDRESS

HYMN 4

O valiant hearts, who to your glory came
Through dust of conflict and through battle-flame ;
Tranquil you lie, your knightly virtue proved,
Your memory hallowed in the land you loved.

Proudly you gathered, rank on rank to war,
As who had heard God's message from afar ;
All you had hoped for, all you had, you gave
To save mankind—yourselves you scorned to save.

Splendid you passed, the great surrender made,
Into the light that never more shall fade ;
Deep your contentment in that blest abode,
Who wait the last clear trumpet-call of God,

Long years ago, as earth lay dark and still,
Rose a loud cry upon a lonely hill,
While in the frailty of our human clay,
Christ, our Redeemer, passed the self-same way.

Still stands His Cross from that dread hour to this
Like some bright star above the dark abyss :
Still through the veil, the Victor's pitying eyes
Look down to bless our lesser calvaries.

These were His servants, in His steps they trod
Following through death the martyred Son of God ;
Victor He rose ; victorious too shall rise
They who have drunk His cup of sacrifice.

O risen Lord, O Shepherd of our dead,
Whose Cross has brought them and Whose staff has led,
In glorious hope their proud and sorrowing land
Commits her children to Thy gracious hand. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Go forth into the world in peace ; be of good courage ; hold fast
that which is good ; render to no man evil for evil ; strengthen the
fainthearted ; support the weak ; help the afflicted ; honour all men ;
love and serve the Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with
you for ever. Amen.

*During the singing of the following Hymn, a collection will be taken
in aid of the British Legion Homes at Southport and Ripon.*

HYMN 5

God of our fathers, known of old—
Lord of our far-flung battle line
Beneath whose awful Hand we hold
Dominion over palm and pine—
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget.

The tumult and the shouting dies—
The captains and the kings depart—
Still stands Thine ancient sacrifice,
An humble and a contrite heart.
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget.

Far-called our navies melt away —
On dune and headland sinks the fire—
Lo, all our pomp of yesterday
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre.
Judge of the nations, spare us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget.

If, drunk with sight of power, we loose
Wild tongues that have not Thee in awe—
Such boasting as the Gentiles use
Or lesser breeds without the law—
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget.

For heathen heart that puts her trust
In reeking tube and iron shard—
All valiant dust that build on dust,
And guarding calls not Thee to guard—
From frantic boast and foolish word,
Thy mercy on Thy people, Lord. Amen.

*The Vicar will return the Standards to the Bearers who will
take up position for the singing of the National Anthem.*

LAST POST

REVEILLE

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM (1st verse only)

P Draper, Printer, Ormskirk.

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