



Dear Friends,

This weekend, at Remembrance services across the Diocese, we will remember before God all those who have given their lives and their health that we might live. It is a time to reflect and give thanks for the sacrifices that so many have made for us.

We will also pray for those from this Diocese who are serving in the Armed Forces, remembering their families and communities, as well as praying for an end to conflicts around the world.

In Basingstoke, Bishop David will be leading the Armistice Day service at Basingstoke war memorial, Bishop Debbie will be taking the service at Winchester war memorial, and Bishop Geoff, Honorary Assistant Bishop in the Diocese, will be joining the service at Southampton Cenotaph.

Our churches are likely to be busier for the Act of Remembrance this weekend and in the weeks ahead as we approach Advent, and so we wanted to make you aware of updated COVID guidance for opening and managing church buildings.

The revised guidance reflects the current situation with the virus, and the fact that the level of cases is high, though Government statistics tentatively point to it beginning to decrease. The guidance highlights sensible measures to limit the infection risk that should apply to most church situations, and is available on the National Church [website](#).

Our prayers are with the family and friends of Bishop Jonathan Gledhill, who died earlier this month. Bishop Jonathan was the Bishop of Southampton, from 1996 to 2003, before becoming Bishop of Lichfield, and we give thanks for his life and his contribution to the Diocese and the Church. If you would like to pay your respects, his family are holding a memorial service for him on 26th November at 2.30 at St Mary Bredin Church in Canterbury.

With our prayers for you all,

Bishops Debbie and David