City of Leeds Civic Observance of Remembrance Sunday



Order of Service

The War Memorial | Sunday 8 November 2026

Leeds CITY COUNCIL

Parade

The Civic Procession, led by HM Vice Lord-Lieutenant of West Yorkshire and The Lord Mayor of Leeds, departs from the Civic Hall for the War Memorial.

Military Units, Ex-Service Organisations, Cadet Units and other groups take up their positions at Victoria Gardens.

Remembering

Welcome address

The Rt. Rev Arun Arora
Bishop of Kirkstall
Church of England

The Exhortation

Councillor Billy Flynn
President, Royal British Legion
Leeds Group

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.

All repeat:

We will remember them.

The Last Post
The Two-Minute Silence
A bugler sounds the Reveille

Kohima Epitaph

Councillor Billy Flynn
President, Royal British Legion
Leeds Group

When you go home, tell them of us
And say for your tomorrow we gave our today.

Readings

Psalm 23

Read by Rabbi Anthony Gilbert
Rabbi at Etz Chaim Synagogue, Chaplain to the RBL Clive Behrens Branch

A song of David. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He causes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul; He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Even as I walk in the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

You set a table before me in the presence of my adversaries; You anointed my head with oil; my cup overflows.

May only goodness and kindness pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for length of days.

Reading from Bhagavad Gita, Chapter 2, Verse 47

Read by Chiragi Solanki, representing the Hindu Faith

Karmany evadhikaras te, ma phaleshu kadachana; ma karma-phala-hetur bhur, ma te sango ’stvakarmani.

You have a right to perform your duty, but not to the fruits of your actions. Never be attached to inaction.

Reading from the Quran 8:26-28

Read by Qari Muhammad Asim MBE

Senior Imam, Makkah Masjid (Mosque)

Remember when you were an oppressed few in the land, afraid of being wiped out; Allah gave you protection and strengthened you with His help and provided you with wholesome things so you might be thankful.

Believers, don't betray God Almighty and the Messenger knowingly, nor be disloyal to your trusts; and know that your wealth and children are a test, and that Allah has a great reward (in store for you).

Believers, if you are mindful of Allah He will give you the standard to judge between right and wrong, and He will cover up your wrongdoings and forgive you. Allah is Gracious in His favour.

Reading from the Mool Mantar, from the Guru Granth Sahib Ji, by Guru Nanak Dev Ji, the founder of the Sikh faith

Read by Gurmukh Singh Deagon

ੴ (Ik Onkar)
One Universal Creator. Eternal Truth. His Name is Truth.
ਕਰਤਾ ਪੁਰਖੁ ਨਿਰਭਉ ਨਿਰਵੈਰੁ
The Creative Being Personified. Without fear. Without hatred.
ਅਕਾਲ ਮੂਰਤਿ ਅਜੂਨੀ ਸੈਭੰ
The Timeless One. Beyond birth and death. Self-existent.
ਗੁਰ ਪ੍ਰਸਾਦਿ
Known by the Guru's Grace.
ਜਪੁ
Meditate upon and remember the Divine Name (Waheguru).
ਆਦਿ ਸਚੁ ਜੁਗਾਦਿ ਸਚੁ
True in the beginning. True throughout the ages.
ਹੈ ਭੀ ਸਚੁ True here and now.
ਨਾਨਕ ਹੋਸੀ ਭੀ ਸਚੁ ੧
O Nanak, forever and ever True.

The Prayers

Lead by the Very Rev Canon Fr Matthew Habron
Dean of Leeds Roman Catholic Cathedral

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 those 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.

WREATH LAYING

(Music is played by the Salvation Army Band as wreaths are laid)

HM Vice Lord-Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, The Lord Mayor of Leeds and the Leeds Children's Mayor place their wreaths. Followed by:

The Leeds Group, Royal British Legion Chairman

Honorary Recorder of Leeds and Under Sheriff of West Yorkshire

The Deputy Leader of Council, other Party Leaders, Political Representatives (including MPs)

Representatives of the Faith Communities

Civic Dignitaries and other represented groups

Regiments

Families of the Fallen

HYMN: Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
reclothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard
beside the Syrian sea
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm!

*Words: J*ohn Greenleaf Whittier *(*1807-92)

hymn tune REPTON, composed by C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)

Blessing

Lead by The Rt Revd Arun Arora

Bishop of Kirkstall (Church of England)

Almighty God grant to the living, grace;

to the departed, rest;

to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth and all people unity, peace and concord;

and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting:

and the blessing of God Almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.



The National Anthem

God save our gracious King,

Long live our noble King,

God save the King.

Send him victorious,

Happy and Glorious,

Long to reign over us;

God save the King!

Thy choicest gifts in store

On him be pleased to pour,

Long may he reign.

May he defend our laws,

And ever give us cause,

To sing with heart and voice,

God save the King.

MARCH PAST AND SALUTE

Preceded by the Mounted Police, The Vice Lord-Lieutenant, The Lord Mayor and Civic Representatives, will proceed to the saluting base in front of the Civic Hall on Millennium Square ahead of the march past by the Salvation Army Band, Military Units, Ex-Service Organisations, and other groups