



CHESTER
CATHEDRAL

NHS
SOCIAL CARE &
FRONTLINE WORKERS' DAY
5 JULY 2021

WE THANK YOU

INSPIRATION

What an inspiration Captain Sir Tom Moore has been during these unprecedented times. The former Army officer not only raised more than £32 million in sponsorship for NHS Charities Together, he also raised our spirits. Watching him walk 100 lengths of his garden as he approached 100 years of age brought a ray of sunshine into the pandemic darkness. When he was interviewed by the media he always offered a wise word and a note of encouragement that earned him legions of fans, not only in the UK but around the world. When he passed away on 2nd February 2021 we said farewell to a modest man who captured all our hearts. So, when you're taking part in the two-minute silence for the heroes of our NHS and frontline services, please take time to also remember the heroic spirit of Captain Tom.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF REMEMBRANCE

Canon Jane Brooke says

We gather here on this Social Care
and Frontline Workers' Day
to remember and give thanks
for all in our care services who have
supported us through the Covid Pandemic.

*The candle is lit to witness to the presence of
Christ in our wilderness and space at this time;
a short time of silence is held*

Eternal God,
who made this world to shine
with the brightness of your one true light:
set us aflame with the fire of your love,
and bring us to the radiance
of your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GATHERING

We come to pray and give thanks
for those who have served
on the front line
in the National Health Service
and care homes,
all who have worked
in the emergency services
and assisted with the immediate tasks
of coping with the loss of lives,
and finally to remember the acts of
kindness shown by millions of volunteers
who have enabled God's love to be made
known to neighbours near and far.
We also hold before God,
the crisis and opportunities
that have arisen as our lives have been
changed during this time;
in reflecting on the moments
that have touched and moved us,
we now try to look forward to the future
with faith and confidence,
learning lessons from what we have
experienced and discovered,
which will shape the journey
that lies ahead of us.

THE GATHERING

Let us pray

Gracious God,
as we remember before you
the thousands who have died,
surround us and all who mourn
with your strong compassion.
Be gentle with us in our grief,
protect us from despair,
and give us grace to persevere
and face the future with hope
in Jesus Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

Jesus says

‘Come to me, all you that are weary and
are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give
you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and
learn from me; for I am gentle and humble
in heart, and you will find rest for your
souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden
is light.’

Matthew 11. 28–30

THANKSGIVING FOR THE NHS

God of healing and compassion,
we commend to you
those who have served
this community and country
in the last year with thanks and gratitude.

For the tireless commitment and
dedication of all on the frontline
who have ministered your blessing,
for the devotion and patience
of all on the ward and in the home
who have shown your love and care,
for the research and skill
of those in the laboratory
who have revealed your salvation,
and for the acts of kindness and thought
shown by our neighbours around us.

We thank you
for all who have been beside us
and pray that you will continue to sustain
those who care for all in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Let us now remember and give thanks for
them in the silence that follows.

A two minutes silence follows

HOPE

At the end, candles are lit to remember and give thanks for all frontline and care workers

We ask for healing and hope
to restore our broken lives
and for courage and determination
to begin to build for the future:
as we struggle through this Pandemic,
hold us through our pain,
as we hold feelings of anger and anxiety.
give us relief and healing,
as we have doubts and despair
bring us reassurance and inspiration,
as we wait for freedom and resurrection
inspire us to look forward with hope,
that this tragedy will be overcome.

God of our deepest longing,
all our hopes are met in you.
You hear our heart's cry,
you know our deepest need
hold us in the journey that lies ahead
through the life, death and resurrection of
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HOPE

God of constancy and change,
help us to recognise
where we have lost motivation and way;
break through our tiredness
and relieve our exhaustion,
to re-ignite the spark of hope to bring
about new life, new hope
to restore and renew
your creation in our world,
as we overcome the evil of the pandemic
and grow in grace and learn once more
to be people who can be restored
to live in freedom, love and peace,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Christ the Good Shepherd
enfold us with love,
fill us with peace,
and lead us in hope,
to the end of our days;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always.
Amen.

