



St Margaret's Church

Together we aim to: Worship God, Proclaim Jesus, Grow in the Spirit and Serve the World

In Contact

9th November 2025

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2025

John 15.13



On Remembrance Sunday we pause, reflect, and honour those who sacrificed their lives to secure peace and freedom for others. Yet, for Christians, this act of selfless devotion finds its most profound and eternal meaning in the person of Jesus Christ, whose sacrifice serves as the definitive act of love and the foundation for ultimate peace.

The Gospel of John captures the essence of this sacrificial love in one powerful statement: *"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friend"* (John 15.13).

Spoken during His final hours, these words are not just theoretical thoughts but a promise and a declaration of intent. In this message shared at the last supper, Jesus moves from master and servant image to one of genuine friendship. The sacrifice He was about to make—the voluntary surrender of His life on the cross—was not an obligation forced upon Him, but the ultimate expression of commitment to those He called friends. This willingly chosen act of self-emptying sets the gold standard for all subsequent acts of heroic devotion.

We are all well aware of some of the wars raging at the moment. We have seen the horrifying grey images of destruction from Gaza and blown up apartment blocks (even a kindergarten) in Ukraine. Our media does not say much about the ongoing civil wars in Myanmar (once Burma) and Sudan. Nor the marauding gangs of Jihadist Militia who cross borders from Mali and Burkina Faso, through Northern Nigeria and into Cameroon—looting, burning, killing, raping, kidnapping and often specifically targeting Christians.

In our comfortable homes watching on screen if we are longing and praying for peace in these places, how much more are those in the thick of these conflicts.

And yet, when peace does come and the guns stop, this is just a moment in time—a cease-fire, freedom from oppression, or the preservation of a nation. This peace secures physical and political stability. However, the sacrifice of Jesus has eternal consequences. Jesus did not merely avoid a future war; he conquered the spiritual forces of division and sin, thereby inaugurating a reign of eternal peace. The cross is not just a symbol of suffering, but the engine of peace, offering eternal security and unconditional friendship with God to all who accept it.

This Remembrance Sunday, as we honour the brave individuals who laid down their lives in the pursuit of earthly stability and friendship, we are implicitly reminded of the great love proclaimed in John 15:13.

Jesus' sacrifice encompasses all others, offering not just a memory, but a constant, available, and eternal peace that transcends all conflict and human understanding.

It is the perfect, ultimate, and everlasting act of self-giving love that makes spiritual life and peace possible for us all.



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Bible Verse for 2025: *Philippians 4.4*

Rejoice in the LORD always. I will say again : Rejoice!

This week- Sunday 9th November 2025:

Remembrance Sunday at 10.30am. Gather at the lychgate at **10.15 am**. Matt will be speaking on the theme: **'The Ultimate Sacrifice for Peace...'**

BCP Communion at 3pm

Funeral of Marjorie Jackson: Monday **10th November** at **11 am**.

Church Working Party: 09.30am-12pm, Saturday **15th** November. Please come and help if you can as we tidy church indoors and out (weather permitting) ahead of the Christmas period. Please see Jane Franklin if you intend to join.

Alpha Course: Mondays, 7pm. Please continue to pray for those attending that they may grow in faith and understanding. The Holy Spirit day will be **Saturday 8th November**. If you can **help** by cooking some bacon butties (plus halloumi for vegetarians)-please let Matt know.

Next Week 16th November 2025:

Family Communion: Sunday 16th November, Family Communion with Rev Jon Williams (former Rector) as part of our 150th anniversary celebrations.

Annual memorial service: at 3pm. Slips of paper to write names on, now at back of church.

November 9th – 15th, Please Pray for:

- People living in Mauldeth Road (west of Kingsway) & Harwood Road (mosque).
- Bereaved following Marjorie Jackson's funeral on Monday.
- Reflection Remembrance service on Tuesday after Lunch.
- Matt conducting a peer review on Tuesday of another clergy person.
- Good listening and wise decisions at the PCC meeting on Wednesday.
- Good attendance & prayer at Greater Manchester Prayer event on Wednesday.
- Helpful Mission Community Chapter meeting on Thursday.
- Deanery Synod on Friday with motion from our PCC.
- Good attendance at work party in and around church on Saturday.
- Visit of previous Rector, Jon Williams, next Sunday (16th) to preach.
- Comfort & hope for bereaved at annual Memorial service on Sunday (16th).
- Christian children in Bangladesh ostracised & rejected by friends & family.

Looking Ahead:

Bud winter warmer: on 30th November, 3pm-6pm. If you can help make or serve refreshments, see Matt. We will also be putting on a version of Experience Christmas for families and other activities in church. Again, helpers needed for this.

Church History Book: If you've not yet bought the latest church history book 'Continuing His-Story 2000-2025' or you're looking for Christmas presents, there are still copies available at £5 each. See Susan Whittaker.



Burnage Tesco, Burnage Library
(when open) and Asda Reddish

WINTER SHOPPING LIST: Please concentrate on Festive Treats, Long life juice, Cordial, Long life milk, Spaghetti hoops, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Sweet Corn/Peas, Tinned cold meat, Jam/Chocolate spread, Tea/Coffee/Hot chocolate, Shampoo, Deodorant, Razors, Nappies, Baby wipes