

A Thought Post Remembrance Day

The eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. Where were you Tuesday? Did you attend a special service at church, gather at a cenotaph service, watch the national broadcast from Parliament Hill, or respectfully pause from your activities for a moment of silence? I was blessed to be leading a Service, very humbling.

Remembrance Day is not just a ceremonial nod to history—its relevance today is profound. In a world still grappling with conflict, injustice, and division, Remembrance Day serves as a moral anchor. It reminds us of the cost of peace, the fragility of freedom, and the courage it takes to defend both. It is a living testament to the values we hold dear and the future we aspire to build. It is a day of looking back and a day of shaping the moral compass of tomorrow.

Remembrance Day is a call to vigilance, to ensure that the freedoms we enjoy are never taken for granted and are never left undefended. The Canadian Forces is not the Department of War!

Our soldiers fought, not for personal gain, but for the preservation of innocence, for the defense of those who could not defend themselves and for the protection of the innocent, the vulnerable, and the honorable.

Remembrance Day invites us to confront uncomfortable truths. It challenges us to examine not only the external causes of war but also the internal struggles—the pride, greed, and hatred—that reside within each of us.

Remembrance Day asks us to reflect on the human condition, on the capacity for both good and evil that exists in every heart. It is a moment to recommit ourselves to peace—not just as a geopolitical goal but as a personal discipline.

Viewing the world through a spiritual lens, the sacrifices made on the battlefield echo the ultimate sacrifice made on the cross. Just as soldiers lay down their lives for others, so too did Christ lay down His life for humanity.

Our efforts at justice and compassion, however noble, are but reflections of this divine act. They are imperfect glimpses of a greater truth—that real innocence and worth are not earned through battle but bestowed through grace. Remembrance Day, then, is not only a civic observance but a sacred reminder of the cost of redemption and the power of sacrificial love.

There is nothing glorious about war. It is brutal, chaotic, and dehumanizing. On Remembrance Day, we remember those who faced these horrors with courage. Their legacy is not found in medals or monuments but in the freedoms we enjoy, the rights we exercise, and the lives we lead.

Remembrance Day is not passive. It challenges us to live lives worthy of the sacrifices made. It also calls us to support our veterans, honour the fallen, and care for the living.

In a world often divided by politics, ideology, and identity, Remembrance Day offers a rare moment of unity, bringing together people of all backgrounds, beliefs, and generations in shared reflection and reminding us that the values we hold in common—freedom, dignity, peace—are worth defending together.

We remember the cost of peace and the price of freedom, and we commit to living lives of purpose, to building a nation of compassion, and to ensuring that the sacrifices of the past are never in vain.

Let us remember. Let us never forget. We Shall Remember Them.

With God's Grace may it be so.