

# Sample Prayer Service ANZAC Day

## Introduction:

Leader/Principal:

## Acknowledgment to Country

On the war fields of South Africa, throughout Europe and on the beaches of Gallipoli, in the jungles of the Pacific, in Korea, Vietnam and troubled countries throughout the world; the men and women of our armed services gave of themselves to protect our country and to strive for world peace. Today we enjoy the freedom won for us by the ANZACS. We remember their sacrifice and we pray that the gift of peace, given to us by these brave people will be treasured and protected for generations to come.

## Opening Prayer

**Student Reader 1:** Let us start our prayer service with the Sign of the Cross. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen

God of love and peace, we gather to pray for those who gave so much for their country. May we always remember their gifts of freedom and peace.

We recall the sacrifices of those who died serving our country in the armed forces as we say together: Anzacs, we will remember you.

## **Student Reader 2:**

You gave your lives so that we may live in freedom.

**All:** Anzacs, we will remember you.

You fought for us in the horror of war and showed us a great example of courage and love of our country.

**All:** Anzacs, we will remember you.

We remember your families who lost loved ones in the fight for peace and justice.

**All:** Anzacs, we will remember you.

Loving God, bless all who fought so that we may be safe and free today. Remember their sacrifice and bless us with your peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen



## **Scripture Reading (John 14: 25-27)**

### **Reader:**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

**All:** Glory to you, O Lord.

I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## **Reflection**

Suggestion:

Watch the music video [Spirit of the ANZACS](#) - Lee Kernigan and various Australian artists.

Watch Andrew Chinn's [We Will Remember Them](#) (My Grandfather's Hat).

## **Prayer of the Faithful**

**Leader/Teacher:** God of peace, through the example of the ANZACS, we have learnt the value of sacrifice, friendship and courage. Through our prayers, may we develop these qualities, which gave our country freedom and peace.

We respond: "Send your peace, Lord"

**Student 1:** For all the men and women who struggled against fear and hopelessness so that we may be free.

Lord, hear us.

**Response:** Send your peace, Lord.

**Student 2:** For all who sacrificed their lives for their country.

Lord, hear us.

**Response:** Send your peace, Lord.

**Student 3:** For all innocent victims of war – the children, the families, the refugees.

Lord, hear us.

**Response:** Send your peace, Lord.



**Student 4:** We pray for all people in the places where there is war today – Afghanistan, the Middle East and countries in Africa. Send them your peace.

Lord hear us.

**Response:** Send your peace, Lord.

**Student 5:** For world leaders, that they work to find peaceful solutions to issues and conflicts.

Lord, hear us.

**Response:** Send your peace, Lord.

**Student 6:** For all who work for peace in our world today.

Lord, hear us.

**Response:** Send your peace, Lord.

**Leader/ Teacher:** Father, you asked us to love one another. May we bring your love and peace into the lives of everyone we meet. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

**Song: Andrew Chinn- Aboriginal Our Father.**

### **Blessing**

**Reader:** Student/Teacher

Go out into the world in peace.

Be brave; keep hold of what is good.

Never pay back wrong for wrong; encourage the faint hearted.

Support the weak and distressed; give due honour to everyone.

Be always joyful and give thanks whatever happens, for this is what God wills for you.

**All:** Amen

Let us end our prayer service today with the Sign of the Cross. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **Final Song**

Suggestion: Advance Australia Fair

