

IN LOVING MEMORY SERVICE – SUNDAY 31st OCTOBER

This year's In Loving Memory Service was held on Sunday 31st October. This is a service of remembrance for all of those that have died during the year. Families of those who have died are written to and invited to the service in an act of collective remembrance and support. It is also an opportunity for members of the congregation to remember those loved ones whose minds rest peacefully during the year.



This year's service was particularly poignant for some since it had been announced earlier in the day that Phyllis Dellar had passed away overnight. Phyllis had been a member of the congregation for many years and her funeral will be at 1130 on Tuesday 15th November at St Faiths Church.

There were a number of relatives from those who had died during the year but unfortunately not many regular members of the St Faiths congregation were present. Those who did come joined in singing some well-known hymns and listened as the choir sang the anthem 'Lord of all Hopefulness', which was very appropriate for the service.



During the service the names of the departed are read out and after this those attending were invited to light a candle in remembrance. During this part of the service Hannah and Rose sang that beautiful Andrew Lloyd Webber anthem 'Pie Jesu'. This was sung beautifully with Hannah and Rose's voices complimenting each other wonderfully. It was certainly appreciated by all of those who were there.

Grief can often be a very lonely experience for many people. Although the passing of time makes the loss of a loved one easier to bear, people never forget. One of the things that the In Loving Memory Service helps to do is to remind people that they are not alone. It helps people to reflect on their loved ones in an atmosphere of mutual support for each other. This point was reiterated in this week's bulletin in Charmaine's opening paragraph of her thought for the week.

'Part of our call as the witness to 'Christian life and discipleship' to our local community is to support all those in times of distress and grief. So thank you to the Choir and Musical Directors for their part in making the 'Loving Memory Service something that brought help and comfort to those who attended, it was appreciated'.

