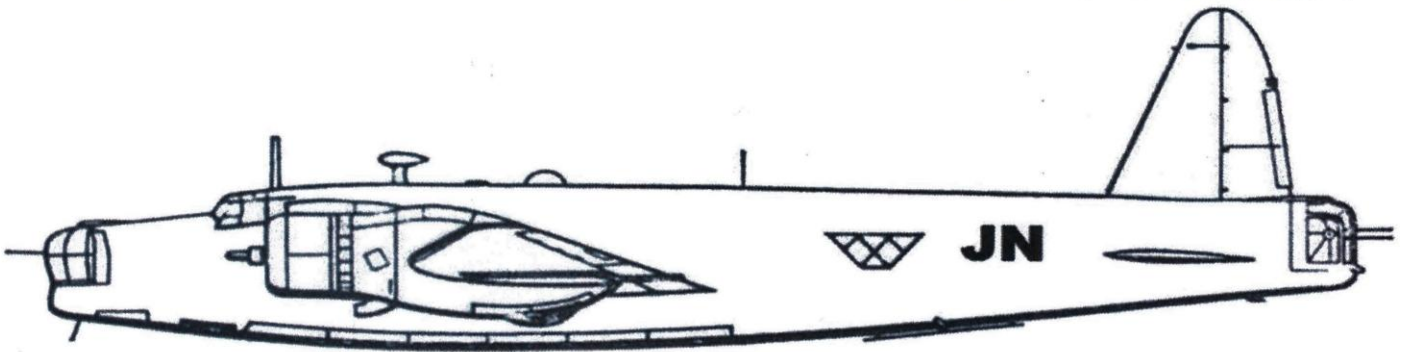


Holy Mass

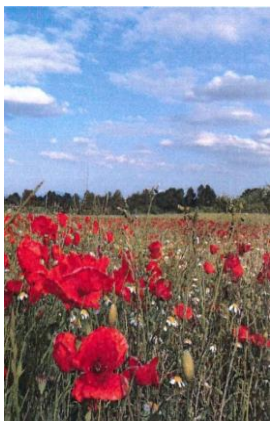
23/08/2019



WELLINGTON MkIII BJ831 150 SQN. R.A.F.



“We will remember them”



Sgt. Holdaway, Sgt. Matthews, F/Sgt. Thompson, Sgt. Mageniz, Sgt. Glasse

† 25 aug 1942 *Kersbeek*

† 03 maart 1945 *Berlijn*

† 09 maart 1945

This service commemorates the crash of the British bomber, a Wellington BIII of the 150th squadron.

The bomber was on its way back after a raid on Frankfurt when it was hit by Flak, in the Namur area. It received its final blow from the airfield at Brustem. The plane carried 5 crew members. Two of them were able to escape by parachute, but died afterwards in captivity as prisoners of war.

As a mark of our esteem, we are remembering those who, far from their homeland, made the supreme sacrifice and gave their lives to secure our freedom and democracy :

➤ Sergeant Neville Charles Holdaway: Number 403189, airgunner, aged 24 , from Darling Point (Sydney, New South Wales, Australia)

➤ Sergeant Keith Lash Matthews: Number 778843, airgunner, volunteer reserve, Royal Air Force, United Kingdom, 20 years old, born in Southern Rhodesia

➤ Flight Sergeant (Pilot) Harry Thompson: Number 402912, Royal New Zealand Air Force, 28 years of age.

Survived the plane crash but died as prisoner of war:

➤ Sergeant Lesley S. Magenis (navigator), passed away on March 3d, 1945, buried in Berlin

➤ Sergeant Basil H. Glasse (bomber), deceased on March 9th, 1945, burial place unknown.

Thanks to the heroic action of the pilot, the crash didn't cause any civilian victims as the crew remained on board of the plane thus managing to let it crash outside the residential area of this village. To honour those who died far from home to ensure our freedom and democracy , we stand here to commemorate them

We are pleased that we can inform you that after 77 years we are finally in contact with one family of one of the crew members of this aircraft.

They were not aware of this commemoration, that we have held here for many years.

It is the family of Basil Glasse, he died in prison of war during the dead march, his grave has not yet been found.

His family lives in South Africa, namely Cape Town, due the distance it was impossible for the family to be present here today.

As you can see, a new photo has been placed on the graves of the crew members, we have found a picture of the second crew member, namely Sgt. Thompson.

Hopefully we can find a picture in the future of the third crew member Sgt. Holdaway.

Entrance Procession

Entry Song:

♪ **Choir** : Zullen wij elkaar ontmoeten (Shall we meet again)



The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen

All:

**In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Introductory Rites

Reader:

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are gathered here to commemorate the crew of the plane that crashed in August 1942. For the 27th time we remember these brave men who gave their lives during a conflict that wasn't theirs; but a conflict though that could have had serious consequences for humanity.

Therefore we come together every year to remember them and to acknowledge their effort and courage. We'll never forget them! With this gathering we, as a community, want to show our infinite gratitude to those who died in a far-away country. We hope that the courage they showed sets an example to our youngsters whose future would have been very different without the sacrifice of these brave men.

Priest :

There is no life without suffering.

There is no life without pain.

There is no life without disappointments.

There is no life without loss.

Welcome to you all gathered here to celebrate Holy Mass.
Today we have come to commemorate our veterans and resistance fighters;
to remember them
to feel their presence
to pray together.

May He whose name is "I will be there" be amongst us.

May we ask Him and to each other :

"Lead me where nobody else will take me".

Penitential Rite

To choose for our Lord Jesus Christ is easier said than done. Very often we fail and find that we are half hearted Christians. Let us ask for the Lord's forgiveness.

Reader:

Forgiving is not easy.

Sometimes we are so angry that we need some time to let everything settle down. That is perfectly all right, but only if afterwards we make the first move towards the other person. For all the times we couldn't take that step we ask for your forgiveness. Lord, have mercy.

Reader:

To share the things that we own is an essential part of the message from the gospel. We do share, but often it is limited to a mere pittance. For all the times we wanted to keep the biggest part to ourselves:

Christ, have mercy

Reader:

Love thy neighbour also means to show respect to that person. But selfishness often dominates our society and we easily get carried away. For all the times we didn't consider the weak moments or limited possibilities of our fellowman :
Lord, have mercy.

♪**Choir:**Heer ik kom to U.

Priest:

Lord, forgive us for all the times we failed. Teach us how to forgive the shortcomings of others.

Gloria :

♪**Choir:**sung by the choir

Opening prayer

Priest:

Lord, our Father, because You keep us close to your heart You call upon us to glorify the Lord by our life.

Speak to us, now and forever more.

Keep challenging us so we finally overcome our own short-sightedness.

Make us listen to your Gospel and let it sink into our hearts,
Your Word, that was brought to us through Jesus Christ, your Son and a human being just like us. Amen

Liturgy of the word

Reader:

First Reading (Sir. 3, 17-18.20.28-29)

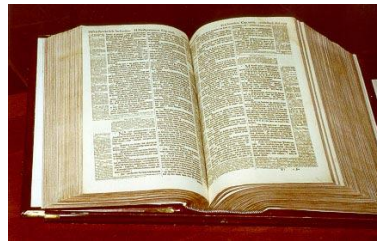
Reading from the Book Ecclesiasticus

My child, be gentle in carrying out your business,
and you will be better loved
than a lavish giver.

The greater you are,
the more humbly you should behave,
and then you will find favour with the Lord;
for great though the power of the Lord is,
he accepts the homage of the humble.
For the disease of the proud there is no cure,
since an evil growth has taken root there.
The heart of the sensible will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is
the sage's dream.
This is the Word of the Lord

♪ **Choir** : *Vrede voor jou (Peace be with you)*

♪ **Choir**: Acclamation **Halleluia**



Gospel

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Priest: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

All: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel (Luke, 14, 1.7-14)

Priest:

Now it happened that on a Sabbath day he had gone to share a meal in the house of one of the leading Pharisees;
and they watched him closely.

He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this,
'when someone invites you to a wedding feast,
do not take your seat in the place of honour.

A more distinguished person than you
may have been invited,

and the person who invited you both may come and say,
"Give up your place to this man."

And then, to your embarrassment, you will have to go and take
the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the

lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher."

Then, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured.

For everyone who raises himself up will be humbled,
and the one who humbles himself will be raised up.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner,
do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relations or rich
neighbours,

in case they invite you back and so repay you.

No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the
lame, the blind;

then you will be blessed, for they have no means to repay you and
so you will be repaid when the upright rise again.'

♪**Choir** : *Acclamation Halleluia*

Homily:

Intercessions

Priest:

Brothers and Sisters ,

In our despair and sorrow, with our irreparable faults but also in
faith and confidence, we pray to God who is Mother and Father
of all mankind.

Reader:

Let us pray for all the victims of war and violence.

May the death of so many soldiers, civilians, men, women, children
and elderly people not have been in vain.

Today especially we remember Sergeant Neville Charles
Holdaway, Sergeant Keith Lash Mathews and Flight Sergeant Harry
Thompson.

We also remember the two soldiers who survived the terrible crash
but who, later in war, lost their lives in a concentration camp. We
will never forget. Sergeant Lesley S. Magenis, navigator, who died
on March the third of 1945 and was buried in Berlin, and sergeant
Basil Harry Glasse, bomber, who died on March 9th of 1945 and
whose burial place remained unknown.

May the sacrifice of their lives open our eyes and make us wish
that there would be no more war but always peace. Let us pray.

♪**Choir**: *Waar mensen samen vrede bouwen (where men work
together for peace)*

Reader:

Lord bless those who even today suffer in prison or prison camps.
Provide them with courage and strength to keep on going.
Let us pray.

♪Choir:**Reader:**

Dear Lord, we thank you for all your people who have risked and sacrificed much to provide us with all the benefits and comforts of our modern life. Help us to encourage our young people to follow their examples and to build on their legacies so that future generations may enjoy continued progress.
Let us pray.

♪Choir:**Reader:**

Lord, bless the parents, brothers, sisters, family and friends of our men in combat. May they never forget their sacrifice. Let them continue to cherish the precious moments and the deep and intimate bond which binds them.
Let us pray.

♪Choir:**Priest:**

Our Lord is there where love and peace reign. May we direct our prayers in this sense.
Lord Jesus, you call upon us to proclaim your Word and bring peace to the world.
Provide us with your Love, that unifies what was ruptured and softens what had become hard. May there be everlasting peace.

Amen

Liturgy of the Eucharist**Presentation of the Gifts**

♪Band : music performed by the band

Preparation of the Altar

Priest:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

Priest:

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All:

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands,
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Prayer over the Gifts

Priest :

Lord, this bread and this wine are symbols of our gifts to you. Accept them and make them into Body and Blood, and make them into heavenly food, a token of our unity with You. Give us the strength to live as Jesus Christ, your Son and our Saviour. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: It is right and just.

Priest :

It is truly right and just, our duty and salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Father most holy, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, your Word through whom you made all things, whom you sent as our Saviour and Redeemer, incarnate by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin. Fulfilling your will and gaining for you a holy people, he stretched out his hands as he endured his Passion, so as to break the bonds of death and manifest the resurrection. And so, with the Angels and all the Saints we declare your glory, as with one voice we acclaim:

♫ **Choir : Sanctus**

Priest :

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, and all you have created rightly gives you praise, for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, by the power and working of the Holy Spirit, you give life to all things and make them holy, and you never cease to gather all people to yourself, so that from the rising of the sun to its setting a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.

(please rise) Standard bearers move forward

For when about to give his life to set us free, as he reclined at supper, he himself took bread into his hands, and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,

FOR THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, on that same evening, he took the chalice of blessing in his hands, confessing your mercy, and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,

FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,

THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,

WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY

FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.

DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

Band plays “Te Velde”



Priest :

The mystery of faith:

Choir : We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Priest :

Therefore, O Lord, we pray: may this same Holy Spirit graciously sanctify these offerings, that they may become the Body + and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for the celebration of this great mystery, which he himself left us as an eternal covenant.

Therefore, Father most merciful, we ask that you send forth your Holy Spirit to sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may become for us the Body and + Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord, remember your Church throughout the world; make us grow in love, together with Franciscus our Pope, Joseph, our bishop, and all the clergy.

Remember our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again, especially the crew of the English Wellington Bll of the 150th squadron; bring them and all the departed into the light

of your presence. Have mercy on us all; make us worthy to share eternal life with Mary, the virgin Mother of God, with the apostles, and with all the saints who have done your will throughout the ages. May we praise you in union with them, and give you glory through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Then, in your kingdom, we shall sing your glory with every creature through Christ our Lord, through whom you give us everything that is good.

All :

Through him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer.

Priest :

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Saviour gave us.

♫ **Choir : Our Father**

Sign of Peace.

Priest :

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Priest : The peace of the Lord will be with you always.

All : And also with you

Priest : Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

Priest : Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

All : have mercy on us.

Priest : Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

All : have mercy on us.

Priest : Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

All : grant us peace.

Communion

(those who wish to can receive communion)

Priest :

May I invite you to the Lord's table, He who has said : I am the Living Bread. When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

During communion music will be played followed by the communion song.

♪The band will play during communion

Concluding rite

Priest :

God , you are the source of all life. We commemorate our dearly departed. They continue to live in our heart and are part of our daily life. We hope that they are also kept safe in your heart and that you don't forget them.

Together with them we ask you to inspire us to remember the life of the departed believing that love is much stronger than death. Ease our sorrow and provide us with the strength to choose for your path, now and every day forward.

Priest :

Let us all rise for the national anthem

♪The Belgium anthem will be performed and sung by the choir

Communications

Reader:

The celebration is coming to its end. May we ask you to let the standard-bearers leave the church first. They will be followed by our esteemed guests, the mayor and aldermen and the veterans. We kindly invite you all to accompany us to the graveyard so as to proceed with this commemoration.

Thank you for your cooperation

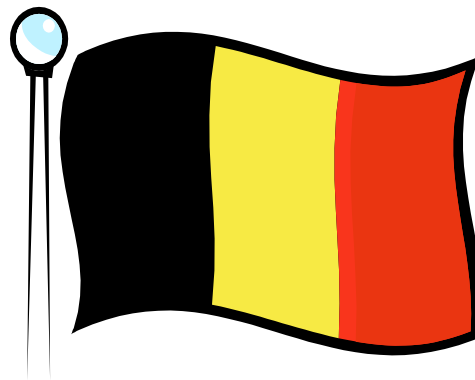
Blessing and dismissal

Priest:

Loving one another generates Joy, true joy. Together we can change the world. This is our mission. May the Lord bless you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Closing Song: *Heer dank je wel dat je hier bij ons wil zijn. (Lord thank you for being with us)*



We thank:

All those who were present and who through their true effort have contributed to the worthy realization of this remembrance celebration. This is the way to keep our gratitude and thankful memory towards our victims alive.

Thank you

Our special thanks to Reverend Jan Vander Velpen, Anny and Johnny and the choirs of Ransberg accompanied on organ by Ria Jacobs. We also thank the brass band of Hoeleden.

Thank you to all those who have helped to realize this celebration

Please excuse us for the translation errors that might have slipped in this booklet.