



Flower Festival to commemorate the ending of the First World War

The Porch

A depiction of the grim conditions in the trenches, with exploding bombs, death & isolation of the surrounding area.

Bannister

People from a number of different faiths served in the First World War and the poppies displayed, reflect this.

Photographs

The open area as you walk into the church: A display of photographs of service men/woman who served in the First World War. Their relatives have kindly given details of their background during the war.

The Font

Journeys End

The arrangement represents the men who lost their lives during the war and others who came through to a new beginning. The butterflies depict endurance, change & hope.

The Windows

1) Small Windows (south side & north side)
Flowers in remembrance of Armistice Day

2) Moses & St. Francis

All Nations

The wide variety of flowers in this arrangement reminds us that people from many different countries served in the First World War.

3) St. David & St. Christopher

Loss of Life

Lt. Gilbert William Morris 1891-1916

Lt Gilbert William Morris was born in Hampstead in 1891. By 1911 he was living in Orpington area, working as a clerk.

Scouting was started by Lord Baden Powell in 1908 for boys. Gilbert was obviously The Scoutmaster of the Farnborough Scouts as his memorial stone in the churchyard reveals the Scouts gave tribute to their Scoutmaster.

Another local Scoutmaster who died of his wounds as a result of the war was given a tribute by his group “he helped to make us men”, maybe Gilbert did the same.

4) St. Augustin & St. Clare

War & Hope

Central to this window are the ‘Tommies’ with poppies at their feet representing all who served in the First World War 1914-1918 either carrying arms or as medics or padres. We remember with love and gratitude their service & their sacrifice.

Behind them the burnt wood, brown flowers and thorns depict the dark past of destruction and the desolation, death & grief caused by war. In front of them we see light, new life, growth and hope for the future.

5) St. Peter & St. Paul (north side)

Women of the First World War

In wars prior to the Great War Men had gone off to battle, often in distance places with exotic names. This war was the first in which the fight affected the home front. Women from all social levels, who had not been thought capable of great physical strength or responsible thought, were now being asked to take up men’s roles as postmen, street cleaners, farm labourers, factory workers and nurses. The country could not have survived without them and rewarded them after the war with the vote (but only for lady land owners) and some acceptance of their new position. Life was never the same after that.

6) Martyrs Ridley & Fisher

Grave of the unknown Warrior

The phenomenon of MIAs became particularly notable during World War 1 where the mechanized nature of modern warfare meant that a single battle could cause astounding numbers of casualties.

For example, in 1916, over 300,000 Allied & German combatants were killed in the Battle of the Somme. The Thiepval 'Memorial to the Missing of the Somme' in France bears the name of 72,090 British & Commonwealth combatants, all of who went missing in action during the Battle of the Somme. They were never found and have no known grave.

The small table in front of the Altar represents all types of creatures that helped in the First World War. This has been organized by the Sunday school.

All other displays & arrangements in the church represent Remembrance Sunday.