

**SERVICE OF THE  
LAYING-UP OF THE  
208(R) SQUADRON STANDARD**



**ST MIHANGEL'S CHURCH  
ROYAL AIR FORCE VALLEY**

**TUESDAY 10 MAY 2016**

## Greeting

Welcome in the name of Christ.  
God's grace, mercy, and peace be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## Opening Prayer

## Reading

## Laying-Up of the Standard

*The Chaplain says:*

It is an ancient and laudable custom to lay up in the House of God the consecrated emblems of our duty and service, there to remain for all time as a reminder of duty well done and of the strength that God supplies.

*The senior officer takes the Standard and, turning about, says to the Chaplain:*  
Reverend Sir, I ask you to receive the Standard for 208 (Reserve) Squadron for safe lodging in the House of God until such a time it shall pass to dust like those whose courage and devotion are enshrined in its history.

*The Chaplain replies:*

We receive this Standard into the safe keeping of God's House, here to hang for all time as a reminder to those who pass by of our duty to God, to our Sovereign, and to our country.

*The Standard is laid upon the altar and the Chaplain prays:*

Almighty and Everlasting God, giver of all strength and grace, and Captain of our Salvation, we offer in this your House the symbol of our faithfulness. May your blessing rest on those who have borne it unsullied through the years, and may it ever remain a sign of that unity which springs from the acceptance of your grace, who are, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

*The National Anthem is played.*

## Prayers

*Using the response:*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

## Act of Commitment

Let us pledge ourselves anew  
to the service of God and humanity:  
that we may help, encourage, and comfort others  
and support those working for the relief of the needy  
and for the peace and welfare of the nations.

**Lord God our Father,  
we pledge ourselves to serve you and all your peoples  
in the cause of peace,  
for the relief of want and suffering,  
and for the praise of your name.**

**Guide us by your Spirit:**

**give us wisdom,**

**give us courage,**

**give us hope,**

**now and always.**

**Amen.**

## Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace;  
be of good courage,  
hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the faint hearted;  
support the weak; help the afflicted;  
honour all people.

And the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**



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