

Web page extract from the Home Page published during the National Period of Mourning after the death of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Statement from the Mayor of Axminster, Cllr. Jill Farrow: 8th September 2022

Axminster Town Council joins the rest of the country in expressing its profound sorrow on the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Her service to the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, throughout her long and active life was unparalleled.

We offer our deepest condolences to her family and all those who mourn her loss.

God Save the King.

Condolence Books

This will be available at Axminster Town Council, The Guildhall, West Street, Axminster between 09.00hrs – 16.00hrs Monday – Thursday.

Further Books of Condolence will also be open at The Minster Church, County Hall Exeter (DCC) and at Blackdown House, Honiton (EDDC).

An online book of condolence can be accessed HERE (<https://www.royal.uk/send-message-condolence>)

Flowers

Please place any flowers in respect of the HM Queen Elizabeth II along the Southern wall of the Minster Church (facing the Old Courthouse).

Flowers will remain there until the day after the Funeral (D+11) at 11am.

We respectfully ask that all floral tributes laid have any plastic or cellophane removed beforehand.

Please do not lay non-floral tributes along the Minster wall such as candles, artwork, ornaments or soft toys.

Flags and Proclamations

The Town Council's Union Flag at the Guildhall is flying at half-mast currently (9th September 2022)

The Proclamation will be read in London on Saturday 10th at 11am whereupon the flag will be raised to masthead and then returned to half-mast at 13.00hrs on Sunday 11th.

A further proclamation will take place at County hall on Sunday at 13.05, and again at Blackdown House, Honiton at 10.00 on Monday 12th.

At 12 noon on the 12th September, the Mayor of Axminster, Cllr. Jill Farrow, accompanied by the Town Crier, made the following proclamation to those assembled outside the Minster Church, Axminster:

“Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to call to his mercy our late Sovereign, Lady Queen Elizabeth the Second of blessed and glorious memory, by whose decease the Crown of the United Kingdom, of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is solely, and rightfully, come to the Prince Charles Philip Arthur George.

We, therefore, the lords - spiritual and temporal - of this realm, and Members of the House of Commons, together with other members of Her late Majesty’s Privy Council, and representatives of the realms and territories, aldermen, and citizens of London and others, do now hereby, with one voice, and consent of tongue and heart, publish and proclaim that the Prince Charles Philip Arthur George, is now, by the death of our late Sovereign of happy memory, become our only lawful and rightful liege lord, Charles III, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom, of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and his other realms and territories; King, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, to whom we do acknowledge all faith and obedience with humble affection, beseeching God, by whom kings and queens do reign, to bless His Majesty with long and happy years to reign over us.”

Given at St. James’s Palace this tenth day of September in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and twenty-two.

God Save The King.

The Town Crier then led those assembled in three cheers for King Charles. There then followed a 2-minute silence in memory of her late Majesty The Queen. Finally, the Town Crier led the singing of the National Anthem - "God save the King"

There was a Service of Commemoration on Sunday 18th September at 10.30am at the Minster Church. All were welcome. Order of Service is attached as an appendix to this document.

Additionally, there was a "Moment of Reflection" at 8pm outside of the Minster that same evening to observe a minute's silence and to reflect upon the life and service of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The Town Council offices were closed on the day of the State Funeral – 19th September 2022

Statement on behalf of the Mayor of Axminster, Cllr. Jill Farrow (21st September 2022)

Axminster’s Town Mayor wishes to thank everyone in the town for their attendance at the various events marking the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and the accession to the throne of King Charles. There have been many more entries in the books of condolence in The Minster and The Guildhall than were anticipated. The Church and the Town Council have fulfilled their duties to the Crown, and we are very grateful for the public support.

The Minster Church,
Axminster

Sunday 18th September 2022 at 10.30 am



Image courtesy of the Press Association via
the Diocese of Exeter

A SPECIAL COMMEMORATION SERVICE
MARKING THE DEATH OF HER LATE MAJESTY
QUEEN ELIZABETH II

A hymn upon the death of Queen Elizabeth II:

We stand to mourn a sovereign,
a nation's guide and friend,
who through long years of tumult
was faithful to the end.

We offer our thanksgiving
for all that she instilled:
her constancy of service,
her lifetime's vow fulfilled.

Now from our world departed -
though never from our hearts -
receive her in the peace, Lord,
your love alone imparts.

And as we mark a passing
of sceptre, orb, and throne,
we'll find in her compassion
a pattern for our own:
that all who stand in mourning,
or languish now in fear,
may know again your promise
to wipe away each tear.

With her we'll join in witness,
Christ's mercies our refrain:
great Sovereign of the nations,
eternal is your reign!

Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life;
he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,
and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.

John 11.25,26

I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities,
Nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
Nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38,39

In the name of Christ, who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father,
grace, mercy and peace be with you.

We have come together in church today to remember with thanksgiving before God and one another our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, to renew our trust and confidence in Christ, and to pray that we may be given strength to follow the example of her faith, hope and love.

○ God, make speed to save us.

○ Lord, make haste to help us.

Blessed are you, Lord our God, lover of souls:
you uphold us in life and sustain us in death: to you be glory and praise for ever!
For the darkness of this age is passing away
as Christ the bright and morning star brings to his saints the light of life.
As you give light to those in darkness, who walk in the shadow of death,
so remember in your kingdom your faithful servant, Elizabeth,
that death may be for her the gate to life and to unending fellowship with you;
where with your saints you live and reign,
one in the perfect union of love, now and for ever. Amen.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

The Lord's My Shepherd (Crimond)

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; he leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness
Even for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale
Yet will I fear no ill
For thou art with me, and thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

My table thou has furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house for evermore
My dwelling-place shall be.

Reading – Micah 6 : 6 – 8 Read by Mr Alan Meade

What can we bring to the LORD?

Should we bring him burnt offerings?

Should we bow before God Most High
with offerings of yearling calves?

⁷ Should we offer him thousands of rams
and ten thousand rivers of olive oil?

Should we sacrifice our firstborn children
to pay for our sins?

⁸ No, O people, the LORD has told you what is good,
and this is what he requires of you:
to do what is right, to love mercy,
and to walk humbly with your God.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Reading - Revelation 21 : 1-7 Read by Cllr Jill Farrow, Mayor of Axminster

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

‘See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.’

And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of Heav'n to earth come down;
Fix in us thy humble dwelling;
All thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit;
Let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in Heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

The Address

The Prayers

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,
And there shall no torment touch them.

You, Lord, have delivered my soul from death,
My eyes from tears and my feet from falling.

I will walk before the Lord
In the land of the living.

Merciful Father and Lord of all life, we praise you that we are made in your image and reflect your truth and light. We thank you for the life of our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, for the love she received from you and showed among us. Above all, we rejoice at your gracious promise to all your servants, living and departed, that we shall rise again at the coming of Christ. And we ask that in due time we may share with your servant Elizabeth that clearer vision promised to us in the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer, grant us, with your servant Queen Elizabeth and all the faithful departed, the sure benefits of your Son's saving passion and glorious resurrection: that, in the last day, when you gather up all things in Christ, we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, Father of all mercies and giver of all comfort: deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn, the members of the Royal Family, this Nation and all the Nations of the Commonwealth, that casting all our care on you, we may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMENDATION

Into your hands and safekeeping loving and merciful Lord,
we commend your faithful servant, our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth.
Enlighten her with your holy grace and suffer her never to be separated from your
presence where there is fulness of joy.

May God in his mercy grant us,
with all the faithful departed, rest and peace. Amen.

O God, Our Help In Ages Past,

O God, our help in ages past
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home;

Beneath the shadow of thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

PRAYER FOR THE SOVEREIGN

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness,
bless our Sovereign Lord King Charles
and all who are in authority under him;
that they may order all things in wisdom and equity,
righteousness and peace,
to the honour of your name,
and the good of your Church and people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May God in his infinite love and mercy
bring the whole Church, living and departed,
to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom,

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

The National Anthem

God save our gracious King,
Long live our noble King,
God save the King.
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the King.

Thy choicest gifts in store
On him be pleased to pour,
Long may he reign.
May he defend our laws,
And ever give us cause,
To sing with heart and voice,
God save the King.

Go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ, Amen.

Sunday 18th SEPTEMBER 2022 – 8pm (20.00hrs)

**A Moment of Reflection on the Eve of the Funeral of
Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**

At 19.55, members of the community will gather outside Minster Church
(north door)

At 19.58, the convenor of the event will say:

Thank you all for gathering here this evening for this brief vigil on the eve
of the funeral of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

In a few moments, we will join with people across the United Kingdom in
a Moment of Silent Reflection. The start and end of the Minute here will
be marked by a whistle. During the Minute, we will have an opportunity, in
silence, to reflect on the lifetime of service which Her late Majesty devoted
to the United Kingdom, the Realms and Territories and to the
Commonwealth.

The Queen was sure in her faith and steadfast in her duty, bringing
constancy through 70 years of change. We will remember Her late Majesty
with affection and gratitude and silently give thanks in our hearts for her
unswerving devotion to us and to our Country.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is now approaching 8.00 p.m.

At 20.00 a whistle sounds

Silence will be kept for one minute

At 20.01 the whistle marks the end of the Silence

Applause

The vigil concludes with all present saying:

God Save The King

and the singing of the National Anthem

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