

The Parish Church of St Augustine of Hippo
Edgbaston
Birmingham

ROYAL NAVY COMMANDO ASSOCIATION



**A SERVICE FOR THE LAYING UP OF THEIR
STANDARD**

11TH MAY 2003

THE LAYING UP OF THE STANDARD

HYMN 100

(during which the Standard is brought up to the Altar)

Vicar: Dear friends, we have come together in the sight of God to Lay up the Standard of The Royal Naval Commando Association. No more fitting place could be found to deposit this emblem of duty and service than this House of God.

Presenter: Reverend Sir, we commit this Standard to you for safe keeping.

Vicar: I accept the charge.

The Standard will then be delivered up and placed upon the Altar.

LESSON: Psalm 107: 23-32

Chaplain: Let us remember before God all those who laid down their lives in the service of their Country, and especially our Comrades in the Royal Navy.

Last Post
Silence
Reveille

Chaplain: Let us pray. *(the congregation joins in saying):*

The Naval Prayer

O Eternal Lord God, who alone spreadest out the heavens and rulest the raging of the sea, and hast compassed the waters with bounds till day and night come to end; be pleased to receive into thy almighty and most gracious protection all those who go down to the sea in ships and occupy their business in great waters. Preserve them from the dangers of the sea and of the air, and the violence of the enemy; that they may be a safeguard unto our most gracious sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, and her Dominions, and a security for such as pass on the seas upon their lawful occasions, that the inhabitants of our island and Commonwealth may, in peace and quietness, serve thee our God; and that they may return in safety to enjoy the blessings of the land with the fruits of their labours, and with a thankful remembrance of thy mercies, to praise and glorify thy holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

HYMN 292

MATINS

O Lord open thou our lips; And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise
O God make speed to save us; O Lord make haste to help us
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen
Praise ye the Lord; The Lord's Name be praised

PSALM 119. 89-96

O /LORD thy / word en-/ dureth for / ever in / heaven.
90 Thy truth also remaineth from one gene-/ ration-to an-/ other : thou hast laid
the foundation of the / earth and / it a-/ bideth.
91 They continue this day ac-/ cording to thine / ordinance : for / all things / serve -
/ thee.
92 If my delight had not / been in-thy / law : I should have / per-ished / in my
/ trouble.
93 I will never for-/ get thy / commandments : for with / them - / thou hast
/ quickened me.
94 I am / thine, O / save me : for / I have / sought thy com-/ mandments.
95 The ungodly laid wait for me / to de-/ stroy me : but / I will con-/ sider thy
/ testimonies.
96 I see that all things / come-to an / end : but thy com-/ mandment-is ex-/ ceed-ing
/ broad.

First Lesson. Nehemiah 8.1-6,9-12

HYMN 214

The choir sings the **Te Deum** (p 6 - Stanford in B flat)

Second Lesson. Luke 24.25-32

The choir sings the **Jubilate** (p 11 - Stanford in B flat)

The service continues with the Apostles' Creed on page 11 of the Prayer Book

ANTHEM: The strife is o'er. Henry Ley

Prayers

HYMN 99

Sermon - The Vicar

HYMN 212

Blessing

The Queen

The Royal Navy Commando Association

Patron

Countess Mountbatten of Burma

**The Royal Navy Commando was formed in 1942 as part of Combined Operations to perform three main tasks;
To establish the beach-head for a sea borne assault landing.
To control the disembarkation of troops from landing craft.
To establish radio contact with the commanding officer afloat.**

They performed difficult and dangerous duties during the first assaults on the enemy coasts at Dieppe and Madagascar and subsequently during the allied invasions of North Africa, Italy and Normandy. Hence their motto 'First In; Last Out'. They suffered many casualties and many of them were decorated.

The Association of ex members has met in Birmingham for many years and held their annual service at St Augustine's when Ray Price was our vicar and their chaplain. This is their last such meeting and their Standard will be laid up today in this church and eventually hang over the doors leading to the porch, underneath the war memorial window.

This is an honour for us and members of the Association will always be welcome if they are able to visit the church in the years to come.

Matthew Tomlinson, Vicar