

**Dedication of
The Children's Memorial Stone**

**Service conducted by
The Reverend Charles Royden**

**Foster Hill Road
Bedford
Saturday June 22 1996
11.00am**

We are grateful to Arnolds Funeral Service
for the kind donation of the memorial

Order of Service

Please join in with the words in bold type

Peace be to this place - **From God our heavenly Father**

Peace be to this place - **From the Son who is our peace**

Peace be to this place - **From the Holy Spirit who is our comforter**

The Lord's Prayer

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

We remember those who have died. Lord God you are the lover of all which you have made, what you give you do not take away, for what is yours is ours also if we are yours. Life is eternal and love is immortal. Death is only a horizon and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight. Lift us up strong Son of God, that we may see further; cleanse our eyes that we may see more clearly. Draw us closer to yourself that we may know ourselves to be nearer to our loved ones who are with you. Prepare a place for us, and prepare us also we pray for that happy place, that where you are we may be also, for ever and ever. Amen.

A time of silence will be kept for one minute

The minister

I sign this place with the sign of the cross. May the power of Christ

consecrate it, drive away evil and protect you when you draw near. Be present Father with all who draw near to this place. Enrich them with grace in their earthly lives and receive them with mercy at their departing. Comfort the sorrowing, strengthen the weak and restore the penitent.

We do not fix this stone today because you forgotten for surely you can never forget that which is still so much a part of your life. We do not establish for it a place because these children whom we remember have no place of their own, for surely they are safe in the loving arms of God their heavenly father.

It will stand as an encouragement to all who come here for in placing this memorial we affirm our faith in the loving arms of God's mercy who loves us with an everlasting love and who offers to each one of us life in his presence.

In those times when our hearts are low it will reassure us and serve to remind us that we are not alone but that there are others who share our grief. In those times when our eyes are filled with tears it will comfort us for it is established in God's name with His blessing so that we will know that he cares for us and the lives of those whom we have committed to him.

We pour oil on this stone and anoint it. We set it apart and establish it as a witness to the lives of these children whom we remember today. It needs no house other than the firmament of the skies which our God has established over it. God will send the

wind to caress it, the rain to wash it and the sun to keep it warm.
We pray you Lord to watch over it for it reminds us of those who
are dear to us.

And so I dedicate this stone in the name of the Father, and of the
Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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