Washington National Cathedral welcomes Rolling Thunder members and friends.

The Blessing of the Bikes takes place at 5:15 pm in the courtyard in front of the Cathedral. We invite you to come inside, refresh yourself, and explore the Cathedral after the blessing concludes.
From everyone at Washington National Cathedral, welcome to Rolling Thunder this Memorial Day weekend.

Outreach to veterans is a vital part of the cathedral’s ministry. Our ongoing veterans initiative seeks to recognize and pay tribute to veterans; to offer a sacred space for spiritual healing; and to educate the civilian public about the experience of veterans and the challenges they and their families face when returning home.

The Cathedral also advocates for veterans and their families, and seeks to highlight the special gifts and talents that veterans can offer to their churches and communities.

Rolling Thunder reminds us all that paying tribute to our veterans also means honoring those who have been lost. We are grateful for the years of dedicated service that Rolling Thunder has offered by bearing witness to the thousands of our POW or MIA brothers and sisters. Your commitment to never forget is honored here and across America as we hold you and them in prayer on behalf of a grateful nation.

Thank you for your work and for sharing your witness with us this weekend. This Cathedral is a house of prayer for all people—including you!—and it is our privilege to welcome you home.

—Cathedral Dean Randy Hollerith
WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL is a house of prayer for all people. It is a national treasure and a place of beauty meant to inspire. The Cathedral hosts gatherings of national importance such as the Presidential Inaugural Prayer Service and state funerals. Construction began in 1907 and was completed in 1990.

To learn more, visit www.cathedral.org.

WHILE YOU ARE HERE . . .

A Explore the Cathedral—guides are stationed around the Cathedral to offer information and answer your questions.

B Enroll in the National Roll of Honor, which commemorates the lives and courage of those who have served—and those who are still serving—our country. All are invited to enroll into this registry family and friends who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

C Enjoy refreshments. Special thanks to members of the Washington Committee for providing refreshments.

D Visit War Memorial Chapel (on map).

E Light a candle to remember a POW, MIA, or others who are in need of prayer.

The Blessing of the Bikes takes place at 5:15 pm in the courtyard in front of the Cathedral.
Visit the Pilgrim Observation Gallery for a great view of the city. Elevators near the entrance take you to the seventh floor.

Don’t miss a photo-op! The lawn in front of the Cathedral is a great place for photos.

And please come back! The Cathedral offers a special welcome to Rolling Thunder during the Memorial Day holiday weekend. While you’re here, check with Cathedral staff about tour times and opportunities, or visit www.cathedral.org.

CATHEDRAL HIGHLIGHTS

1. **THE “SPACE WINDOW”** commemorates the Apollo 11 mission to the moon. In the middle of the large red sphere, representing the moon, is a lunar rock brought back by the Apollo 11 crew.

2. **THE “WINGS OF COURAGE” WINDOW** was given in memory of Gen. Thomas Dresser White, fourth chief of staff of the Air Force. In the side panels, fiery red wings symbolize courage of all who fly to defend the country. The center panel is a tree coming into flower representing warriors’ renewal after war. The cinquefoil at the top of the window is a representation of the U.S. Air Force Academy Chapel.

3. **THE TOMB OF WOODROW WILSON**, the 28th U.S. president and only president buried in Washington, D.C., is located on the outer aisle. Wilson served as commander-in-chief during World War I.

4. **ST. JOHN’S CHAPEL** features the tomb of Norman Prince, one of the first Americans to volunteer for service as an aviator in France during WWI. His record won him numerous military awards. He died in a crash returning from an encounter with the enemy.

5. **ST. MARY’S CHAPEL** features the Anderson Tomb. Larz Anderson served in several diplomatic positions including U.S. Ambassador to Japan. His wife Isabel was one of the first American women to undertake war work during WWI. Their Washington, D.C., home is now the headquarters of the Society of Cincinnati, which was established in 1783 and is dedicated to the memory of the heroes who secured the independence of the United States.

6. **WAR MEMORIAL CHAPEL** This chapel recognizes the suffering of war and honors the men and women who have dedicated their lives to the country through service and sacrifice. President Eisenhower and Queen Elizabeth II dedicated this chapel as a gift from the British for U.S. assistance in World War II. Prayer candles are available outside of War Memorial Chapel. You are invited to remember a POW, MIA or others who are in need of prayer.
WAR MEMORIAL CHAPEL HIGHLIGHTS

• **THE HEAD OF JESUS CHRIST** (above altar) is crowned with a halo of brass and aluminum shapes evoking cannon shells, shrapnel, and bayonets.

• **ARMED FORCES BANNER** The enormous needlepoint hanging depicts the biblical symbol of the Tree of Life. Emblems of the Armed Forces (the U.S. Army appears as the War Office) and the Seal of the United States surround the tree, along with the seals of each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia appear in the order they joined the Union. White crosses at the bottom honor those who have died in battle.

• **THE PENTAGON MEMORIAL CROSS** is made from the rubble of the Pentagon after the 9/11 attacks. It was a gift to the Cathedral from the Army Chief of Chaplains “in recognition that we are united in memory, united in freedom, and united in faith, hope, and love for God, our nation, and all humankind.”

• **STAINED GLASS WINDOWS** (above altar) Jesus Christ on the Cross is the central figure in this, the “Sacrifice for Freedom” window. Beneath the image of the crucifixion is a group of men and women from the chief branches of the Armed Forces, as well as an image of a military cemetery. On the left a woman with young children represents all mothers who sacrifice their children to war. On the right is a young soldier looking up at Jesus after he kills in combat for the first time. Also depicted is the well-known story of the “Four Chaplains” who served and died on the troopship Dorchester in WWII.

(in side wall) The two “Freedom” windows dominate the side wall of the chapel. These windows seek to put ancient truths in a modern perspective, showing historic events in the struggle for freedom including images from American history and from WWII, chosen to represent “all wars.” Look for such recognizable figures as Paul Revere, George Washington, and Abraham Lincoln, as well as such iconic images as the flag raising at Iwo Jima.

• **ST. GEORGE** Carved on the altar rail is a small statue of St. George, a patron saint of soldiers.
BLESSING OF THE BIKES

We invite and encourage your participation. The people’s responses are in bold.

WELCOME AND REMARKS

The Rt. Rev. Carl Walter Wright

GATHERING ACCLAMATION

The Rev. Canon Leslie Nuñez Steffensen

Blessed be God: who creates and redeems and sustains our lives. This I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: the steadfast love of God never ceases. God’s mercies never come to an end: they are new every morning.

We lift up thankful hearts.

PRAYER OF COMMEMORATION

The Rev. Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan

Loving God, in whose hands are the living and the dead; we give you thanks for all those, your servants, who have laid down their lives in the services of our country. Grant to them your mercy and the light of your presence, and the assurance of your peace. Amen. (NAVY CHAPLAINS CORPS, 1985)

READING

Isaiah 61:1–3

read by the Rev. Anthony Carpenter, CAPT, CHC, USN, (RET.)

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
  because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
  to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
  and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor,
  and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
  to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
  the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
  the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.
PSALM 121
led by the Rev. Donna Weddle, CH, (COL), USA, (RET)

The people’s responses are in bold.

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

My help comes from God, the maker of heaven and earth.

God will not let your foot be moved; the One who watches over you will not fall asleep.

Behold, the One who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep;

The Holy One watches over you and is your shade at your right hand, So that the sun shall not strike you be day, nor the moon by night.

God shall preserve you from all evil, and is the One who shall keep you safe.

God shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth and forevermore. (ST. HELENA PSALTER)

PRAYERS

Eternal God, we commend to your care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be. Amen. (BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER)

Good and gracious God, whose vision for creation has been and remains the Peaceable Dominion; we lift up those who have borne the weight of the world’s brokenness, in the service of liberty, justice, and peace. Renew in us that once and future vision of an endless age when swords and spears become plowshares and pruning hooks, and nations learn war no more. In your most holy Name we pray. Amen. (DAVID THAMES, ADAPTED)

REMARKS AND ROLLING THUNDER MISSION

Lee Stalsworth

DEDICATION AND BLESSING

The Rt. Rev. Carl Walter Wright

God of grace, accept these bikes we offer to you in thanksgiving. We dedicate them to your service. Bless those who ride with safety and your constant protection. Bless their mission: to remember those who made the great sacrifice, those who were left behind in prison, and those who remain classified as missing. Remembering them,
THE TWO BELL CEREMONY

Offered in memory of those lost to us, those missing in action, and in honor of those who continue to serve.

THE TWO BELLS

led by Mac MacDonald, Rolling Thunder; Capt. Sal Aguilera, USN; and by the Rev. Canon Stuart Kenworthy, CH (MAJ) ARNG

In remembrance of those who made the great sacrifice, at the tolling of the bell, we stand before the mystery of life and death. (*The bell is rung.*)

Remind us of the reverence, O God, we owe to those who lost their lives in service to their country. Let us never forget those who are still missing. (*The bell is rung.*)

Remind us of those who guard the honor of our beloved nation upon and under the seas, in the air, and upon foreign soil. (*The bell is rung.*)

Let none who gather here forget our obligation to remember their sacrifice and to long for peace. We pray for those too soon absent from us. (*The bell is rung and concludes the ceremony.*)

A period of silence follows.

CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

The Rt. Rev. Carl Walter Wright

O God, we ask your strength, that we might dedicate ourselves to perfecting your kingdom of peace and justice among nations. Let us give thanks for the many blessings of freedom which we possess, purchased at the cost of many lives and sacrifices. Fill us with courage to fulfill our tasks and in no way break faith with the fallen. We commend these fallen to your mercy and ask that you give them eternal rest. This we ask and pray in your name. *Amen.* (Theodore W. Edwards, Jr.)

*After the ceremony, all are invited into the Cathedral for refreshments and to explore the Cathedral.*
SERVICE PARTICIPANTS (ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

• Capt. Sal Aguilera, USN, Department Chief, Department of Pastoral Care, Walter Reed Military Medical Center (Bethesda, Md.)
• The Rev. Cassandra Burton, Rector, Christ Episcopal Church (Clinton, Md.)
• The Rev. Anthony Carpenter, CAPT, CHC, USN (Ret.), Transitional/Interim Minister with the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church In America
• The Rev. Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan, Canon for Worship, Washington National Cathedral
• The Rev. Nan Hildebrand, Assisting Clergy, Washington National Cathedral
• The Rev. Canon Stuart A. Kenworthy, CH (MAJ) ARNG, Interim Rector, St. David’s Episcopal Church (Washington, D.C.)
• Mac MacDonald, President of Virginia Chapter (3), Rolling Thunder, Inc.
• The Rev. Sarah E. Slater, Chaplain to the Lower and Intermediary Schools, St. Andrew’s Episcopal School (Potomac, Md.)
• The Rev. Canon Leslie Nuñez Steffensen, Canon to the Episcopal Bishop of Armed Services and Federal Ministries
• Lee Stalsworth, Virginia, Maryland & West Virginia State Liaison, Rolling Thunder, Inc.®, National
• The Rev. Donna Weddle, CH, (COL), USA, (Ret.), Clergy Colleague, First Presbyterian Church (Arlington, Va.)
• The Right Rev. Carl Walter Wright, Bishop Suffragan for Armed Services and Federal Ministries, The Episcopal Church
CONTINUE YOUR RELATIONSHIP

Thank you for visiting Washington National Cathedral. We hope you enjoyed your visit today and invite you to return whenever you can. We hope you’ll continue to learn more about the building, programs, events, services and the ministry of this spiritual home for the nation.

In addition to special observances on Veterans Day and patriotic tours (offered by appointment, 202.537.5628), the Cathedral is building on its commitment to those who have served and continue to serve our country. The Cathedral's deepening veterans initiative strives to honor the fallen through the National Roll of Honor and remembrances, while serving as a place of spiritual healing and support for veterans and their families.

Please visit cathedral.org/veterans to view video from last year’s Veterans Day concert, explore iconography in the Cathedral and enroll yourself or loved ones in our National Roll of Honor. The Cathedral receives no funds for operations from the government or any national church body. We are blessed to have friends from across the country who make all things possible through your support.

Become a member of the National Cathedral Association today, and help carry on the traditions that make this your Cathedral. Benefits begin with a gift of $60 and include free admission and a discount in our Cathedral Store. Learn more at www.cathedral.org/donate.