Order of Service – laying up of an old Standard

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

During the singing of the hymn - The Standard Bearer with the Standard at the Carry, accompanied by two escorts, will move forward to within six paces of the chancel steps.

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Buglers sound: The Last Post (Standards dip)

THE EXHORTATION

The officiating clergy or a senior member of the Legion shall recite:

'They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning
We will remember them.'

Response: 'We will remember them.'

THE SILENCE

Buglers sound: Reveille (Standards return to the Carry)

The President or Chairman of the branch will step forward, take the Standard and hand it to the officiating clergy saying:
I commit this Sacred Standard of the (NAME OF BRANCH) Branch of the Royal British Legion to you as vicar of the Parish of (NAME OF PARISH) for safe keeping in this Holy Church forevermore.

**The clergy will say:** I accept the charge.

**Then shall the officiating clergy say:** May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

**To which all will respond:** And rise in Glory.

**HYMN**
Notes:

- The Union Flag should not be carried at this service.

- Authority for laying-up Standards: permission for the installation of memorial tablets or plaques, and the hanging or laying-up of Legion Standards, Regimental Colours and Battle Honours, their subsequent transfer or removal - comes under Church Faculty Law. This means that prior approval is necessary from the relevant church authorities. This approval should be sought through the local clergy. Note that Standards and flags may, with approval, be laid-up in most Protestant churches, but it is understood that this would be unusual in Roman Catholic churches which follow a different tradition in such matters.

- The advice of the Legion’s National Chaplain is that when a Legion Standard is laid-up in a church, its predecessor, if any, should have been removed in advance of the ceremony. This avoids churches being overfilled with Standards, yet maintains continuity; and since permission has already been given for the original Standard, the authority for the laying-up of its successor should be much simpler to obtain.