

## Memorial Tile Activity Worksheet

At the entrance to St Paul's Cathedral, just inside the Great West Doors, you will see a large marble tile, laid into the black and white patterned floor.

Look at the photo of the floor, taken from the viewing point high above the main doors.

The tile was placed here in the 1950s as a tribute to the men and women of the St Paul's Watch who volunteered their time, and put themselves in danger, protecting the Cathedral during the Blitz.

Their main role was to put out the fires caused by incendiary bombs and to report any damage made to the Cathedral as they kept watch over it each night during the Blitz. They came from all walks of life; they were architects and academics, civil servants and clergy. There were over 25 women in the St Paul's Watch, many of whom were First Aiders with the St John's Ambulance.

The members of the St Paul's Watch had two things in common: their love for the Cathedral and their desire to do something to help.

They were ordinary people doing extraordinary things in a time of crisis.

### **Look at the photographs of the Watch.**

The tile is here to give thanks for their sacrifice and bravery, without which the Cathedral would have been lost. No matter who comes in, even the Queen, this commemoration to the St Paul's Watch is the first thing they encounter. This is also called a memorial.

**Read** the words of the memorial and think about what each one means.

**Look** at the length and think about how it tells us so much in such a short sentence.

**Think** about how the memorial makes us feel and what images it makes us imagine.

**Find** the cross symbol and the numbers and think about what information that gives us.

**Reflect** on people who are important to you, people providing services that we couldn't go without, or people that are brave, kind or inspiring.



**Create:** using the template, make your own tile of thanksgiving or remembrance to someone who you think is important, who has been fearless and generous in the face of challenge.

