Peace Service at St Albans Cathedral

On Sunday 10th August 2025 at 3 pm about 40 members of local churches met at the St Albans Peace Obelisk in the grounds of St Albans Cathedral, to remember the dropping of atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and to pray for nuclear disarmament. This is an annual event which is held on the Sunday closest to the anniversary of the dropping of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs on the 6th and 9th of August; the 6th August is also the Feast of the Transfiguration..

The prayer service was held at St Albans Peace Obelisk which was a gift given to the Cathedral by the people of Japan in 1982 in recognition of the stance taken by Dean Thicknesse who had refused to allow the ringing of the cathedral bells to celebrate the end of the War in Japan and the East, in recognition of the terrible suffering which had been caused by the bombs.

A pupil at Loreto College produced, with the support of Catherine Stack, the school librarian, dozens of beautiful origami cranes, which were distributed at the event and were also displayed in the church with a series of prayers for peace, which were hung by the Stations of the Cross and which will remain on display until the end of Season of Creation.

<https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/news/hiroshima-day-80-years-on-we-pray-for-peace>

https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/78779769

(Mary Harber; Ss Alban and Stephen Parish, St Albans).

13th August 2025