

st . george ' s chapel

overview

At the end of the war, the Imperial War Graves Commission sent hundreds of people from Britain to start clearing the Ypres battlefield and building British cemeteries and memorials.

By the mid-1920s, this community had grown to several thousand people, and Sir John French led the campaign built a church to serve as a memorial to the British dead and as a place where bereaved relatives visiting the cemeteries could gather.

The church has its own distinctive cross reminiscent of the Cross of Sacrifice in the British cemeteries. Inside is a prominent memorial to John French, designed by Reginald Blomfield – the same man who designed the Menin Gate.

There are a number of commemorative plaques around the church installed by British schools and organisations in memory of those who died in the Ypres Salient. Most of these give their view about what these soldiers died for.



independent tasks

**Q. Which ONE plaque, in your view, has the “best” message?
Take a photograph of it and explain your choice.**

**Q. Which ONE plaque, in your view, has the “worst” message?
Take a photograph of it and explain your choice.**

Q. Complete this table AFTER looking at a selection of plaques.

Name of school / organisation	What does its plaque suggest that the soldiers were fighting/died for?
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Q. Our school will be laying a wreath at the Menin Gate. What shall we write on the dedication?

First sentence: choose one word per line, or add your own.

In [proud | grateful | sorrowful |]
[memory | honour | recognition |] of
[British | Empire | all] soldiers who died
[bravely | needlessly | tragically |]
[in the Ypres Salient | on the Western Front | in World War One | In the
World Wars]

Second sentence: complete this sentence in your own words.

They died fighting for...