

Diocesan Church House,
George Street, Sydney.
12th May, 1939.

Reverend and Dear Sir,

In response to a request by the Prime Minister of Australia that Sunday May 21 - the Sunday nearest to Empire Day - be specially observed throughout the Commonwealth I must ask that the special Psalms, Lessons, and Prayers indicated on the accompanying form be used at the morning and evening services in your Parish.

In case the statement made by the Prime Minister should have escaped your notice I subjoin a copy of it as it appeared in the Press.

I also send a copy of a letter which I have received from the Premier of New South Wales.

Believe me,
Yours sincerely,

Howard Sydney

Statement made by the Prime Minister -

Empire Day seems to me to provide an opportunity for reflecting upon our history, a proper pride in the good things we have been able to contribute to the world, chastened penitence for our errors. But, above all we must, on these anniversary days, dedicate ourselves anew to the day of justice and the keeping of the peace. These are not only magnificent political ideals; they are among the cardinal articles of our religious faith. On behalf of the Commonwealth Government I suggest to the various Churches in Australia that on May 21, they should in their services, pay special attention to this great theme, dwelling upon the responsibilities of Empire rather than upon the glory.

Letter from the Premier of New South Wales -

I desire to inform you that arrangements are at present in train for the observance of Empire Day on Wednesday, 24th May, and I would suggest that as in previous years the various churches might hold special services on the preceding Sunday, 21st May. The co-operation of the Anglican Church in this matter is earnestly desired.