

## ***Act of Remembrance***

*This act of remembrance is appropriate for an interfaith memorial observance. It may also be used on All Saints' Day, along with other prayers and readings from the Scriptures.*

*Ring a handbell three times, slowly.*

*Then, after a brief silence, read:*

No person is an island,  
entire of itself.  
Each is a piece of the continent,  
a part of the main.

With thanksgiving, we remember ...

*Slowly and contemplatively read the names of those who have died.*

*After each person's name is read, someone lights a candle; then ring the bell once.  
Be sure not to rush, and to allow time for silent reflection.*

*After all the names are read and candles are lighted, continue reading:*

Each person's death diminishes me,  
for I am involved in humankind.  
Therefore, ask not  
for whom the bell tolls;  
it tolls for you.

*Ring the handbell three more times, slowly.*

Then after a brief silence, the reading concludes:

Death: be not proud, though some have called you  
mighty and dreadful, yet you are not so,  
for those whom you think you can overthrow  
die not, poor death — nor yet can you kill me.

One short sleep past, we wake eternally,  
and death shall be no more; death, you will die.

Readings adapted from "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and "Death Be Not Proud" by John Donne, 1572-1631.