



The Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell and Bishop of London Sarah Mullally are attending two remembrance events on Monday 27 January, to mark Holocaust Memorial Day and the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp.

On Monday morning, there will be a service at the Great Hall at Lambeth Palace, hosted by the Council of Christians and Jews. It will be introduced by Archbishop Stephen and Rabbi Wittenberg, before hearing testimonies from Holocaust survivor Dr Martin Stern and second-generation Roma survivor, Daniela Abraham. Dr Stern survived camps at both Westerbork and Theresienstadt, held there after the Nazis invaded the Netherlands.

During the service, there will be a reflection from writer and ceramicist Edmund de Waal, whose Jewish ancestors were driven out of Vienna by the Nazis in 1938. De Waal has created a candleholder especially for the ceremony, which the Bishop of London will light alongside other guests. The theme of this year's Holocaust Memorial Day is "Learn for a better future", urging people to reflect on the lessons of the Holocaust and more recent genocides.

Later that day, Archbishop Stephen and Bishop Sarah will attend a national service of remembrance at the Guildhall in London, joined by members of The Royal Family, MPs, faith leaders and survivors of the Holocaust and also the Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur genocides.

Archbishop Stephen said: "Eighty years on since the liberation of Auschwitz, we gather to mark Holocaust Memorial Day remembering the millions of people who were killed during the Second World War.

"The Holocaust is a horrifying reminder of what can happen when the world turns its head. Across their death camps, the Nazis murdered more than six million people, mostly Jews, each made lovingly in God's image. We must not ignore such crimes.

"I pray for the survivors of this sin against humanity, the majority of whom were children at the time, born into a world that wanted to kill them. Each one of them is a living testimony to the horrors of war, but also the towering resilience in the face of such unspeakable evil.

"I give thanks for them, and pray for God's protection over them as they confront again this painful part of their past, and our history.

"Evil triumphs when good men do nothing" – let us strive for peace and recognise we are of the one same humanity."

The Council of Christians and Jews was formed in 1942 and for more than 80 years has been bringing together Christians and Jews for programmes in education, dialogue and social action – for rabbis and clergy, community leaders, students, policy makers, CCJ members and those of all faiths and none.

[Read Martin Stern's story](#)

For more information on this year's theme: [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust](#)

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