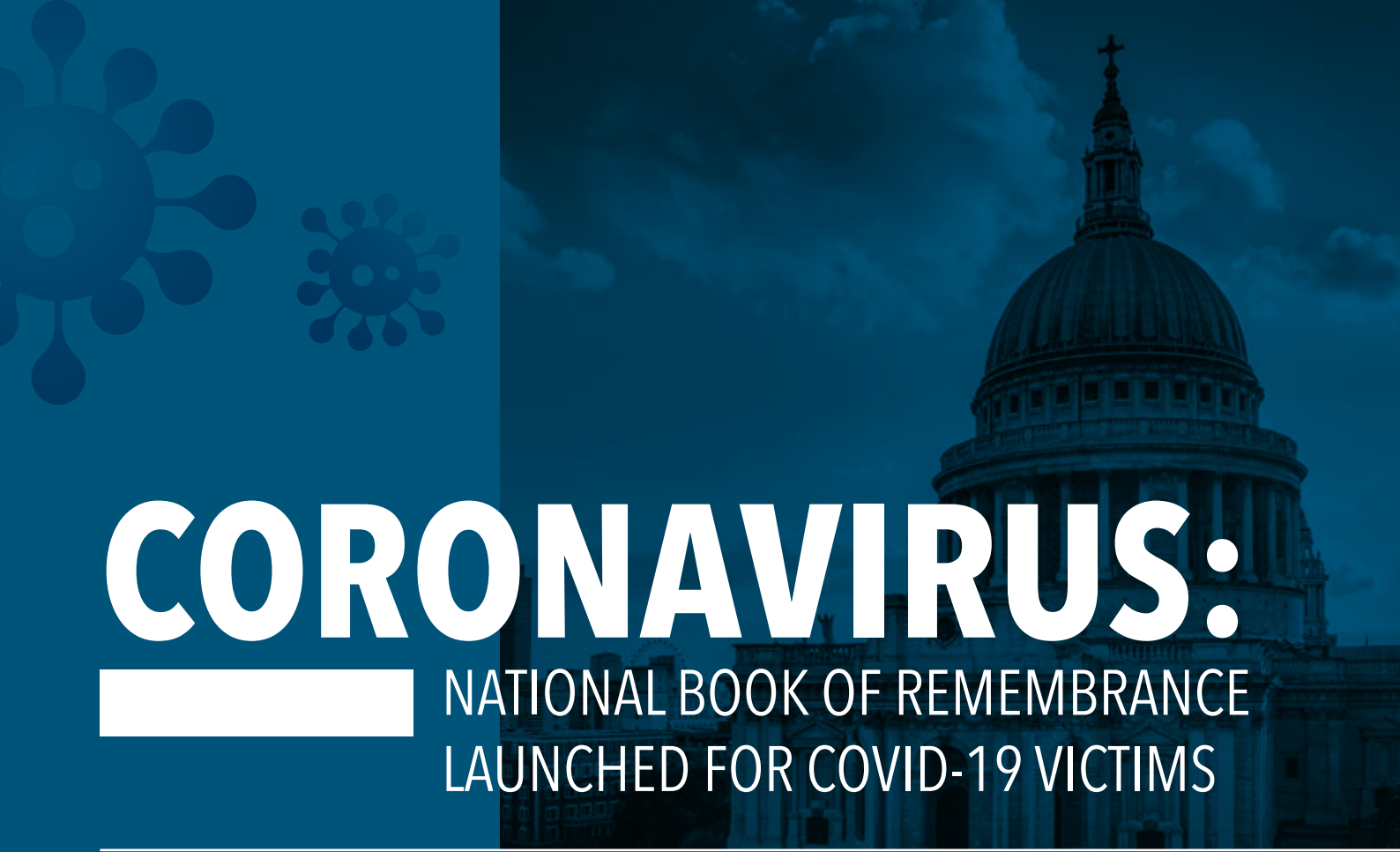




CORONAVIRUS:

NATIONAL BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE LAUNCHED FOR COVID-19 VICTIMS

St Paul's Cathedral has launched *Remember Me*, an online book of remembrance for all those living in the UK who died as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. People of all faiths, beliefs, or none, are invited to contribute to *Remember Me*.

HRH The Prince of Wales has recorded a video message in support of the project. His Royal Highness said: "This virtual book of remembrance is here to help us remember; not just to recall our loss and sorrow, but also to be thankful for everything good that those we have loved brought into our lives, and all that they have given to others."

From 22 May 2020, family, friends and carers of those who have died have been able to submit, free of charge, the name, photograph and a short message in honour of a deceased person via the *Remember Me* website. The deceased person must have been living in the UK. *Remember Me* will be open for entries for as long as needed.

Members of the public can register details of their family member or friend on

Remember Me: A book of remembrance for the UK via:
www.rememberme2020.uk

To launch the project, the choristers of St Paul's Cathedral recorded a special piece of music to serve as an anthem for the book of remembrance.

It is intended that the *Remember Me* site will become a physical memorial at the Cathedral.

Designs have been approved for a new inner porch in the North transept and, subject to funding, this will serve as a fitting memorial for all who have died as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Dean of St Paul's Cathedral, the Very Reverend David Ison, said: "For centuries, St Paul's Cathedral has been a place to remember the personal and national impact of great tragedies, from the losses of war to the devastation of the Grenfell Tower fire. We have heard so many sad stories of those affected by the pandemic, and all our thoughts and prayers are with them. Every person is valued and worthy of remembrance.

"We are all experiencing the devastating impacts of COVID-19 across the country and beyond. *Remember Me* is an opportunity to mourn every person we have lost to the effects of this terrible disease, an encouragement to offer compassion and support to those left behind, and an ongoing recognition of the impact of the pandemic on the UK."