

Ramsgate Salvation Army

Sunday 5th December 2021

A warm welcome as we gather as the family of God today, especially if you are not normally with us on a Sunday. May we all feel the welcome of God and each other.



THE SALVATION ARMY

Christmas 2021

Christmas Worship
Every Sunday 10am

Corps Carol Service
Sunday 12th December 4pm

Christingle Coffee Morning
Friday 17th 10-12 with bacon rolls

Christingle Service
KidzClub
Friday 17th December 5:40pm

Carols at Ellington Park
Sunday 19th December 6pm

Christmas Day Service
Saturday 25th December 10am

CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER
Please sign up early to secure your place

Make room for Jesus LUKE 2:1-7

Salvation Army 167 High Street CT11 9TT www.salvationarmy.org.uk/ramsgate 07900497326

Week 1	Make room for Expectation
Week 2	Make room for His Plan
Week 3	Make room for Good News
Week 4	Make room for Worship
Christmas day	Make room for Jesus

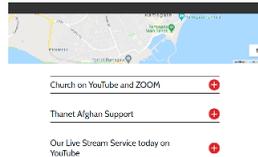
We meet at The Salvation Army Hall Sunday 10.30 am.

Also Sunday worship is livestreamed on  **YouTube**

You can find a link on the Ramsgate Salvation Army page

www.salvationarmy.org.uk/ramsgate

click on the plus icon and it will take you to a link for today's service



Or go to the Ramsgate Salvation Army YouTube page and click on the “live” link on the channel content. You can watch again at any time.

What's happening at Ramsgate Salvation Army?

Sunday 5th (10.30 am)
Sunday afternoon

Sunday (5pm)

Monday to Friday (6.30am-9am)

Monday (9.30 am – 11.30 am)

Monday (6pm)

Tuesday (9am to 12 noon)

Tuesday (12 noon)

Tuesday (12.30 pm)

Tuesday (1 pm)

Tuesday (6.45pm)

Wednesday (11 am)

Wednesday (Opens at 6pm.

Band Plays from 7pm)

Sunday Worship and Sunday School

Thanet District Reform Synagogue

Hannukah Celebration

TOAST – Youth Fellowship

Breakfast Drop-in (street homeless only)

Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler group)

ACE Overcomers

Food Parcel Preparation

Light Lunch

Prayers at hall.

Bible Study at hall – Advent week 2

Bible Study & Prayers by ZOOM (8651865167)

Friendship Club &

Luncheon Club

Counselling at hall

(2pm – 5pm)

ADVENT DOORS at
our Hall



Thursday

Friday (10am - 12 noon)

Friday (10am - 12 noon)

Friday (5.30pm)

Saturday 11th

Sunday 12th (10.30 am)

Sunday 12th 4pm

Forward Trust using hall.

War Cry Ministry Ramsgate

Food Bank

KIDS Club –

CAROLLING Broadstairs HIGH STREET

Sunday Worship – 3rd Sunday in ADVENT

CAROL SERVICE



Don't forget the Flower List for 2022

Birthdays

Natasha Atkins	Wednesday 8 th December
Sheila Parfitt	Wednesday 8 th December
Vena Styles	Thursday 9 th December

Prayers please for

Nora's daughter **Katrina** who died tragically on Tuesday at the age of 46.

For **Val**, transferred to Ashford from QEQM for further care. Also pray for Val's sister **Julie** who is gravely ill. We pray for Julie and for Val, Alice and Shirley her sisters.

For Natasha's sister Tamara whose husband **Kevin** died at the age of 53 leaving his wife and three young children.

For **Archie** who continues to suffer from poor health – and waiting further tests.

For **David Miles, Jan Penfold** and **John McCairn** all waiting for medical treatment.

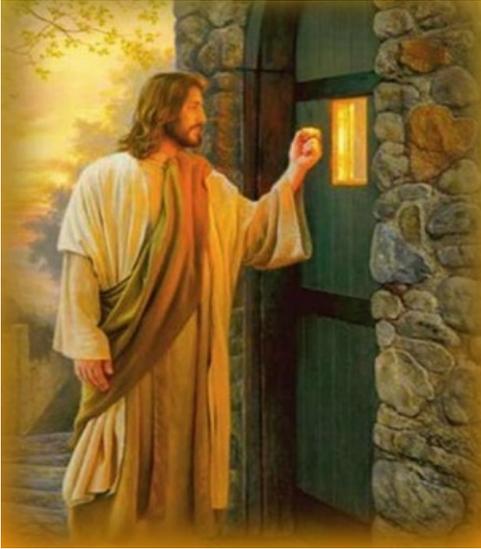
For **Sue Layton** who is unwell at this time

For Sheila's friend **Marilyn** who is struggling with infirmity and unable to move .

For **Paul**, friend of Douglas, diagnosed with a terminal illness. And for another friend of Douglas very unwell at this time.

For Sue Layton's relation **Barry** battling with MND, continued prayers for **Paul** and **Sue Taylor** and for **Paul Wales**.

For all those suffering from **Long Covid** – which include some in our church family.



*If Jesus came to
your house to spend
a day or two, If He
came unexpectedly,
and just dropped in on
you....*

If Jesus came to your house to spend a day or two -

If He came unexpectedly, and just dropped in on you.

Oh, I know you'd give your nicest room to such an honoured guest,

And all the food you'd serve to Him would be the very best,

And you would keep assuring Him you're glad to have him there -

That serving Him in your own home is joy beyond compare.

But when you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door

With arms outstretched in welcome to your heavenly visitor?

Or would you have to change your clothes before you let Him in?

Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been?

Would you turn off the TV and hope He hadn't heard?

And wish you hadn't uttered that last, loud, hasty word?

Would you hide your worldly music and put some hymn books out?

Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?

And I wonder - if the Saviour spent a day or two with you,

Would you go right on doing the things you always do?

Would you go right on saying the things you always say?

Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?

Would your family conversation keep up it's usual pace?
And would you find it hard each meal to say a table grace?
Would you sing the songs you always sing, and read the books you read,
And let Him know the things on which your mind and spirit feed?
Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you'd planned to go?
Or would you, maybe, change your plans for just a day or so?

Would you be glad to have Him meet your very closest friends?
Or would you hope they'd stay away until His visit ends?
Would you be glad to have Him stay forever on and on?
Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last was gone?
It might be interesting to know the things that you would do
If Jesus Christ in person came to spend some time with you.

Lois Blanchard Eades



Ben Wildflower

Read the song, called the “**Magnificat**,” that Mary sings. (Luke 1:37-56)

Are the first verses familiar to you?
“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my saviour.”

Same for the next few lines about Mary being overwhelmed at the goodness of God looking upon a humble girl, that God is mighty and has done great things, that he is holy and will bless those who fear him.

But then comes this:

“He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.
He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.”

Here, Mary comes across less like a scared and obedient 15-year-old and more like a rebel intent on reorienting unjust systems.

Throughout history, poor and oppressed people had often identified with this song — the longest set of words spoken by a woman in the New Testament (and a poor, young, unmarried pregnant woman at that!).

William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, warned his missionaries to India never to read the Magnificat in public. Christians were already suspect in that country and they were cautioned against reading verses so inflammatory. Oscar Romero, priest and martyr, drew a comparison between Mary and the poor and powerless people in his own community. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German pastor and theologian who was executed by the Nazis, called the Magnificat “the most passionate, the wildest, one might even say the most revolutionary hymn ever sung.”

Revolutionaries, the poor and the oppressed, all loved Mary and they emphasized her glorious song. But the Magnificat has been viewed as dangerous by people in power. Some countries — such as India, Guatemala, and Argentina — have outright banned the Magnificat from being recited in liturgy or in public.

The artist Ben Wildflower grew up evangelical, reading the Bible over and over. Yet he never heard the song of Mary emphasized in church until he started attending an Anglican congregation. There, the Magnificat was a part of the evening prayer in the Book of Common Prayer, and Wildflower found it beautiful and profound. One day he picked up a piece of wood outside of a construction site and crafted an image of Mary that was different from all the sweet pictures of her staring up into heaven. He drew her with her fist raised to the sky, and her foot stepping on a snake. It is now his most popular image.

“She’s a young woman singing a song about toppling rulers from their thrones. She’s a radical who exists within the confines of institutionalized religion,” he said. Some Christians took issue with the political nature of his image, until Wildflower wrote a post explaining the revolutionary text came from the Bible.

Theologian Warren Carter writes that in the time of Jesus, 2 to 3 percent of the population was rich, while the majority lived a subsistence-level existence. “Mary articulates an end to economic structures that are exploitative and unjust. She speaks of a time when all will enjoy the good things given by God.”

This year, will you read the Magnificat as it was meant to be read? As Gustavo Gutierrez, a Dominican priest, once wrote, we will miss the meaning of the text with any “attempts to tone down what Mary’s song tells us about the preferential love of God for the lowly and the abused.”

It might not feel like good news to you, exactly, as someone who is neither hungry nor poor. But Mary and her song are good news for our neighbours, both locally and globally, who continue to be crushed under a world that thrives on exploitation and injustice. And as someone who is trying to take the Bible seriously, you know that loving your neighbour is the No. 1 way you can love God in our world.

Mary, no longer just a silent member of the nativity, or a holy womb for God, or an obedient and compliant girl, has become the focal point for how I, and many other Christians, celebrate Christmas while living in the reality of waiting for true justice to come. She has helped me understand the true magnificence of how much God cares about our political, economic and social realities. (Adapted from the writings of D. L. Mayfield.)



The Salvation Army. 167 High Street **Ramsgate** Kent CT11 9TT

Corps Leaders Carl Whitewood 07900497326 Heather Whitewood 07747 004950

Carl.whitewood@salvationarmy.org.uk Heather.whitewood@salvationarmy.org.uk

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