

CHALK FARM CORPS SUNDAY NEWSLETTER



An Epiphany!

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. (Matthew 2: 11, NIV)

I find choosing gifts difficult. For Christmas Lorraine agreed to purchase what she wanted in order for me to give those gifts back to her – a wise man move! Unfortunately wishing to add a surprise gift of my own I searched for the most popular gifts recommended on a well known internet site and yes, you guessed it, my purchase was not a good choice and I fear may end up at a jumble sale later this year!

January's news edition includes various articles around our busy Christmas programme and our wonderful supporters. After all this busyness we now we enter the season of Epiphany. Epiphany derives from the Greek word 'to reveal' and Christians traditionally consider the Magi visiting Jesus as the revealed messianic king of the Jews – even more than that the Son of God.

Those Magi were certainly not Jewish and yet Christ was revealed to them. As far back as Genesis 49: 10 we read a prophesy; 'All the nations of the world shall in the future bring a gift to the Son of David'.

The Magi came bearing their gifts of; gold for Jesus as King; frankincense, for Jesus as divine since it was used in religious worship and myrrh, for Jesus' dying since it was used in embalming (John 19: 39).

All three gifts would have been expensive, aside from the precious gold, the frankincense and myrrh are aromatic gum resins not native to Palestine and at the time had religious and medical use. The magi indeed chose their gifts wisely.

Just One Request

Dear Master for this coming year
Just one request I bring:
I do not pray for happiness,
Or any earthly thing—
I do not ask to understand
The way Thou ledest me,
But this I ask: Teach me to do
The thing that pleaseth Thee.
I want to know Thy guiding voice,
To walk with Thee each day.
Dear Master make me swift to hear
And ready to obey.
And thus the year I now begin
A happy year will be—
If I am seeking just to do
The thing that pleaseth Thee.

Unknown Author

Source: www.learnreligions.com

I wonder if we might have a fresh revelation or epiphany of Jesus in 2022 and what gifts we might bring to Him?

I personally am challenged to again bring the gift of my faith, hope and love to Jesus questioning if I bring true devotion, adoration and praise? I wish to take time in Epiphany to bring myself not just the crib of a baby born over 2000 years ago but to the throne of Christ my King who lives and reigns today.

May we all embrace a personal epiphany in our journey through this new year 2022.
God bless you,
Captain Michael J Kinnear, Commanding Officer

Covenant Sunday 2022

9th January marked The Salvation Army's Covenant & Vision Sunday. The UK with Ireland Territory were called to consider the greatest commandment to love God and love others. Covenant cards were signed and if you would like to receive one please contact Captain Michael directly.

Prayer matters

We uphold BM Richard Brown and the family in our prayers upon the Promotion to Glory of his grandfather on 22nd December.

We uphold those with health concerns:

- Judith Chironga, Nyasha's mother who is suffering from COVID – we uphold Nyasha and the family as they nurse Judith
- Vivienne Abberley who had a cataract operation just before Christmas
- David St. George following hospital treatment just before Christmas
- John Cameron Nixon who continues to recover following dental operations and removal of infection.
- BM Michael Clack and Pat Clack who continue to be unable to attend due to health concerns

Corps community programme

Our community programme was able to start back on 10th January with continued COVID mitigation measures in place.

In a new initiative, Faith Ojambo, a Salvation Army professional advisor, attends Chalk Farm Corps each Tuesday morning from 10 am – 12 noon to provide employment, tenancy and benefits advice.

Corps reunion

A Corps reunion event to mark the tail end of the corps' 140th anniversary and the 140th anniversary of the band is planned for Sunday 16 October 2022 (the day following the proposed 2022 National Brass Band Championship Finals at the Royal Albert Hall).



The Christmas tree in the worship hall, decorated by Bill Butler (Lunch Club) and J (Drop-in). The ribbon around the tree has the words of the Christmas story from Luke 2.



Morrisons Community Champion, Charlie-Ann Perry, presents Christmas gift bags for the homeless and boxes of chocolates for our work with older people.

Parcelforce deliver presents donated by staff for the Christmas Present Appeal.



Florence helps to prepare parcels for the Christmas Present Appeal.

This year we were able to distribute 175 toy parcels and food hampers to local families in need.



Our thanks go to everyone who supported our charitable work this Christmas:

- Claudine and the Hampstead Women's Club for their large donation of toys
- Elsa, who decided to support our appeal by inviting her birthday party guests to donate a toy in lieu of gifts to her
- Bouygues UK, who donated sleeping bags and other essential items for the homeless
- Pupils at Holy Trinity and St. Silas Primary School who prepared homeless care packs
- Pupils at Hampstead Hill School who, organised by one of the 6th form students, donated gifts for the Christmas Present Appeal
- Northolt Lodge, Cressfield and Woodyard Close TRA, and many private donors for their support

Our Christmas Carolling efforts this year raised a total of £3,969.70.

Special thanks to Chalk Farm Band, William Booth College Cadets Band, Regent Brass Band, and our valiant collectors.



A passing artist sketched the Cadets' Band with Captain Michael playing at St. Pancras Station.



Former CO Captain Ian Standley leads a group of Cadets from William Booth College in carolling at St. Pancras Station in aid of Chalk Farm Corps.



Our Carol Concert featured Chalk Farm Salvation Army Band, Regent Brass Band, and the young musicians of Camden Music Brass Band.

Haverstock School kindly gifted us their venue.

Thanks go to everyone who helped make this event a success.

