




Love God
Love Others

Ramsgate Salvation Army Sunday 11th February 2024

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.

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 Web page
www.salvationarmy.org.uk/ramsgate

Lent.
a season of spiritual preparation

I am always ready to learn although I do not always like
being taught.

Winston Churchill

What is your attitude to learning more this Lent?



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What's happening at Ramsgate Salvation Army?

Sunday 11th February 10.00 Prayers
10.30 Sunday worship – The love of Lent
11.45 Coffee and Discussion
4.30pm Café Church with
Lieut.-Colonel Margaret Wickings

Monday to Friday (6.30am-9am) Breakfast Drop-in

Most of our activities are postponed this week for holiday.

Monday (9.30 am – 11.30 am) No Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler group)
No ACES (new course starts soon)
No Alpha 5.30pm

Tuesday No Prayer Meeting 9.30am (Upper Room)
No Food Parcel preparation
No The Well 10.30 – 12
No Light Lunch 12 noon
No Ukrainian Community Hub 12 noon
No Bible study 1pm
No ZOOM bible study 7pm (8651865167)

Wednesday (from 11 am) No Friendship club and Lunch club
(Speak-Up using community Hall from 10am)
No Kids Club Music Lessons
No Adult Music Practices (7pm-9pm)

Thursday Forward Trust & Drumming Workshop

Friday (10am - 12 noon) No Food Bank
Ukrainian Language Class 1.30pm

No Kids Club 5.30 to 7.00pm,
No Youth Fellowship from 7.30pm

Saturday 17th February Ukrainian Drop-In (11 – 1)

Sunday 18th Sunday worship and Sunday School
Youth Event QRBC

Saturday 24th Mini Market 10am -1pm

Advance Notice Central Southern Area Fellowship Band (Ken Clark) and
Ladies Chorus (Karen Todd) 11/12 May 2024



Thanks to XXX for the flowers.

CAN YOU OFFER TO PROVIDE FLOWERS?

Birthdays

Sharon Cairns	Sunday 11-Feb
Jennifer Smith	Monday 12-Feb
Hollie Freeston	Friday 16-Feb
Jasper Barrett	Saturday 17-Feb

Pray for Debbie as she prepares herself for her scan on Monday 12th February. We ask that God would give her courage as she both waits for, and then undergoes this important procedure.

We bring before you Amie (a good friend of Ellie's) who is 22 weeks pregnant and has found out that her baby has a cyst. She is being monitored and has been referred to a foetal medical clinic. Lord we pray for the health of mother and baby.

We pray for Matthew Baldwin a friend of Bridget, who underwent major heart surgery at St Thomas Hospital several weeks weeks ago.

We bring before the Lord, Michael son of Muriel Beckett, - who has been diagnosed with a brain tumour. We thank God that Muriel was back with us this week.

We pray for Doreen, who has still not been for tests to determine what care she needs and now has to wait even longer because her appointment was cancelled.

We continue to uphold Pauline's daughter Rebecca who was hit recently by a car and is still in pain and has not yet recovered. We seek your healing and grace for Pauline's daughter Karen, as she lives with her recent cancer diagnosis. And now we pray for Karen's newly married friend's husband Nick, who has been given six months to live. Lord heal. We pray also for Pauline's sister Doreen who is experiencing undiagnosed health concerns. Finally for Douglas who has not been in the best of health these last few weeks.

Remember Carol Pratt who is suffering at this time. And a friend of Kate experiencing tragedy.

We do not forget prayers for Janet's brother Graham, her son Richard and Janet herself. For Natasha's and for Nick's father, John. We continue to ask protection and hope for Jess as she has had to move out of area. Meet her needs Lord.

Pray for Nicole's mum Hadda and dad Ali and also her brother Abdel who is very poorly following two back surgeries' complications and serious respiratory problems.

Finally we pray for Babak, arrested for his Christian faith, in prison in Iran. We ask that he might soon be free. We thank the Lord that Somayyeh and Barad, his wife and son have been provided with emergency housing and pray you will place loving Christians in their path.

We continue to ask you Lord that peace would come.

In the Parable of ‘the ten Bridesmaids’ (Mat 25:1-13) remember only five came prepared, and five did not. They would later try to borrow oil from the others, but their lamps went out. The crux of this story is that the Groom, Jesus was coming, and half the church (half the brides) were unprepared! “When the Groom comes, “Will you shout with happiness, or shout with hopelessness?” The way in which you answer that question will depend on your preparation.

The disciples were asked to “prepare” for the Passover meal. They ask “Where do you want us to prepare the meal?” And Jesus instructs them, and they go to “prepare”. Another translation for the Greek word “hetoimazo” (het-oy-mad-zo) is to “make ready”.

To make ready for the Passover meal. To make ready for the coming of Christ. John the Baptist declared “Make ready (prepare) the way of the Lord, make His paths straight” (Mat 3:3) Paul wrote to the Corinthians “But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread, and drink of that cup”. (1 Cor 11:28)

The outward observations of Lent, the giving up of sweets, or meat, have come to define the 40 day period in the minds of many, but **really it is far more** than this.

Giving up and Taking up – as we prepare our selves during Lent

There is preparation needed for Wednesday – **act today**.

And secondly – get **ready** to start a Lent journal

Each day in Lent write in your journal (its doesn't need to be a fancy book but that's nice if you can get one)

Here are some of the things you can write.

- Praise and Gratitude for things in your life.
- Bible verses you have read and love.
- Lessons you learned from different forms of media.
- How God spoke to you in churchand throughout the week
- Prayer requests.
- Answered prayers.
- Truths about God
- Truths about how God feels about you.
- and **very importantly** what you are learning during this Lent

Wednesday 14 th	On this St Valentines' day you will (hopefully) have sent card(s) to people who you care for – and people who need to know they are loved. Pray for them today.
Thursday 15 th	Forgive yourself – and forgive someone who has hurt you.
Friday 16 th	Spend the day singing you favourite worship songs. Write them in your journal.
Saturday 18 th	Write down 5 things you are grateful for – in your journal is you are using one.
Sunday 19 th	Be ready to share good news in Church today to encourage each other.

Ask people in the church if they use a journal – learn from them – and encourage each other to start this Lent.

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The Christian Way is, as Christ said, the Way of the Cross, and 'taking up one's cross' requires prior preparation — self-denial — a period of spiritual preparation and spiritual formation, generally treated under the one heading of spiritual asceticism. The forty day period reflects Christ's own preparations in the wilderness prior to the commencement of his ministry.

Most people today flinch at the idea of self-denial, under any other terms than the kind of thing necessary to get what they want. The idea of surrendering one's 'autonomy' and 'freedom' to a doctrine seems unnatural. It does not occur that the 'freedom' and 'autonomy' they cherish is neither realm nor meaningful in the first place.

The Way of the Cross need not, however, be seen as an impossible sacrifice

"Take up my yoke upon you, and learn of me, because I am meek, and humble of heart: and you shall find rest to your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden light."

Lent isn't about denial; it is about transformation. It is the season in which we prepare to encounter Christ's sacrifice by endeavouring to **become more Christ like ourselves**.

Transformation is about letting ourselves be filled with God's presence so that we can be shaped by God's grace.

Our acts of kenosis — denying ourselves in order to empty ourselves enough to allow God to fill us — are means to an end.

They are disciplines that prepare us to be transformed. We deny ourselves so that we can be reborn as new creations — to live more fully as the kingdom citizens God desires us to be.

What the bible says about temptation.

Matthew 6:13	And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
Jeremiah 17:10	“I the LORD search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.”
1 Thessalonians 5:22	Abstain from every form of evil
Luke 11:4	And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation
Luke 22:31 -32	And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail
1 Peter 5:8	Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour:
Psalms 119:67	Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept your word.
James 1:12	Blessed is the man that endures temptation: for when he is tried, he shall

	receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to them that love him.
Galatians 6:1	Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.
1 Timothy 6:11-12	But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.
Romans 8:37	But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.
1 Timothy 6:9	But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

No person knows how bad they are till they have tried very hard to be good. A silly idea is current that good people do not know what temptation means. This is an obvious lie. Only those who try to resist temptation know how strong it is. A person who gives in to temptation after five minutes simply does not know what it would have been like an hour later.

That is why bad people, in one sense, know very little about badness. They have lived a sheltered life by always giving in. **We never find out the strength of the evil impulse inside us until we try to fight it.**

(C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity)