

SUNDAY 29th March 2026



Local ...
Lively ...
Loving

“Ride on, Ride on in majesty!”

[The Song Book of The Salvation Army, No 196]

Around about half way through the meeting today, we will (according to the meeting plan that I've seen) be singing one of those songs that can only ever be sung on a single day in the year, i.e. Palm Sunday: *“Ride on, Ride on in Majesty!”*. To my mind, this is one of the stranger hymns within the song book - it plays upon our thoughts and emotions in a way that I think is fairly unique. On the one hand, the tune is quite bright and cheery, and each verse starts with a positive affirmation of the sovereignty of Jesus. But then the rest of the verse becomes much, much darker:

... In lowly pomp ride on to die ... See the approaching sacrifice ... The last and fiercest strife is nigh ... Bow thy meek head in mortal pain ...

Jesus was fully aware of all the events that would unfold during the coming week as he entered into Jerusalem on that first Palm Sunday. Despite all the adulation of that moment, he knew that the trials, the agony and the horrific death was coming – and yet he continued forwards towards his destiny. His thoughts must have been very mixed.

So in singing this hymn, we share in the dichotomy of our Lord as he rode upon that donkey into Jerusalem. It is an emotional roller-coaster – but a ride that we must also take if we are to properly understand the triumph and glory of our risen Saviour that we will be celebrating next Sunday.

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People

We are currently supporting two families as they prepare for the funerals of their loved ones. The details of which are as follows:

- Robert Hicks, Tuesday 14th April at 11.00am at Westerleigh Crematorium
- Arthur Goulding, Thursday 16th April at 2.00pm at Westerleigh Crematorium

Please remember Robert's and Arthur's families at this sad time.

As of writing, I am only aware that Catherine R is in hospital, although there are number of people recuperating from illness, including, Steve, Bethany and Viv. Others are struggling with seasonal illnesses, whilst others are living with long-term health conditions, helping family members or coping with difficult circumstances. Please continue to pray for our fellowship at this time.

Congratulations to both Dave and Doreen & Liz and Paul who are celebrating special wedding anniversaries in the coming week. On Thursday 2nd April, Doreen and Dave will be celebrating their Diamond wedding anniversary and on Friday 3rd April, Paul and Liz will be celebrating their Golden wedding anniversary. Congratulations to both couples.

Not only is Doreen celebrating a special wedding anniversary this week, but she also celebrates her 80th birthday on Monday – so double congratulations to you!

Flowers

Our thanks to Pauline Perkins today for the flowers at the front of the hall. This is in celebration of what would have been Pauline's and Bob's 65th wedding anniversary.

Unalterable:

Reclaiming the Salvation Army's Unalterable Legacy of Women Who Lead

IHQ have produced a four-part podcast series exploring how women's roles in the Salvation Army have developed over time, and how women's ministries continue to shape it today and into the future. Produced collaboratively by the USA Southern Territory, the Canada and Bermuda Territory and Women's Ministries at IHQ the podcast features honest conversations, personal stories and thoughtful reflection.

Interested? The podcast series is available via: tsa.link/unalterable

Fire Safety Audit: Tuesday 31st March 2026

The Avon Fire and Rescue Service are undertaking a Fire Safety Audit throughout our buildings on 31st March. To help us prepare for the Audit, we would be grateful if you would tidy up any areas within our building that you have responsibility for. However, could everyone be a little more tidy when in the building, ensure that corridors are kept clear and rubbish is tidied - that would be really helpful. Thanks

Annual Statistics

It's that time of year again when we need to count the number of people who attend each of our activities. This year we are counting from Saturday 28th March until Friday 22nd May. If you are someone who counts for a particular activity, please can you give Deb your numbers each week either in person, by email or message or by writing your numbers on your log sheet ... not forgetting to split the count between adults and under 18's, if applicable. Many thanks.

No Extra Slice groups or sheet this week

This is to allow space for our Holy week activities – and catching up on *The Chosen* season 5 and the booklet available.

Also see the *Holy Week Reflections* resource below from THQ.

Holy Week Reflections in your inbox

This Holy Week sign up to receive daily prayers, Bible studies and reflections to your mailbox that draw us into the story of Jesus – God’s Kingdom breaking into our world.

Join The Salvation Army UK as we walk from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday with intentional presence and hearts set on renewed hope in Jesus.

What to expect in your mailbox:

We know your time is precious. Your attention is, too. By signing up for this Holy Week email journey, you will receive one email per day from Sunday 29th March (Palm Sunday) to Sunday 5th April (Easter Sunday). Think of it like a tap-on-the-shoulder, encouraging a posture of focus, prayer and expectation as the story of Jesus’ life, death and resurrection unfolds.

<https://www.salvationist.org.uk/faith/journey-through-holy-week>

CALLED TO SERVE

SAT 11TH APRIL 2026
6:30PM-8:30PM

**AN EVENING OF LIVE ACTS, DANCING,
FELLOWSHIP, REFRESHMENTS
AND MORE...**

SUGGESTED MINIMUM DONATION
ENTRY OF £5



DONATIONS CAN BE MADE VIA
CASH, CARD OR QR CODE

STAPLE HILL SALVATION ARMY,
BROAD STREET

**ALL FUNDS RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS
NAOMI'S OFFICERSHIP JOURNEY**



The Week Ahead



Please remember to put your clocks forward 1 hour today

TODAY - Sunday 29th March: PALM SUNDAY

10am All Age Worship *led by Majors Colin & Nicola*
11:30am-12:15pm Children's Church and Youth
4pm-6pm Easter Messy Church



Monday 30th March:

8pm CAMEO Craft Group

Tuesday 31st March: *FIRE AUDIT*

9:30am-2pm Employment Plus
10am Episode 7 of *The Chosen*
10am – 2pm Open Doors *inc. homemade soup at 12.30pm*
10am-11am Fitness Club
7pm 'Journey Through Easter'

A reflective journey from the road to Jerusalem to the empty tomb, featuring our musical groups. Free admission, refreshments afterwards.



Wednesday 1st April:

9:30am-11am Tots on the Hill
2pm-4pm & 7pm-9pm 'The Story Unlocked'

A Journey through the streets of Jerusalem, visiting the Temple, the Upper Room, Gethsemane and the Cross to gather clues to lead you to Easter Sunday. Free, refreshments included, drop in and stay for as long as you like.

The Week Ahead *[continued]*

Thursday 2nd April:

10am-12noon Open Doors
10am Episode 8 (last episode) of *The Chosen*
11:15am Easter Thursday Church
12:30pm Lunch Club - *booking essential*
7pm – 9pm Passover Festival - *please sign up on the MyChurchSuite app*



Friday 3rd April:

10am Good Friday Worship
11:30am-12noon Outreach in Fountain Square

Sunday 5th April:

8.30am-9.15am **EASTER SUNDAY**
Easter Breakfast - *please sign up on the MyChurchSuite app*
10am All Age Worship *led by Majors Colin & Nicola*
No Youth or Childrens Church this week



Dates for the Diary

Here are some other dates that are coming up soon:

Saturday 11 th April	'Called to Serve' fundraising event
Saturday 18 th April	Coffee Morning Staple Hill Community Expo
Sunday 19 th April	Pulse Youth Event at Pill
Friday 24 th – Sunday 26 th April	Growing Young Leaders
Sunday 26 th April	Messy Church
Monday 27 th April	CAMEO Craft Group