



Ramsgate Salvation Army

Sunday 18th October 2026

Love God
Love Others

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

*Tell us if you DO NOT want to be seen in the live stream broadcast.

Homelessness Sunday



Homelessness Sunday 2026



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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What's happening this week at Ramsgate Salvation Army?

9.38 – Daily Prayer Challenge –The harvest is plentiful –pray for workers

Sunday 18th October



Daily (M-F)

Monday 19th

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday 24th

Sunday 25th October

Worship service (10.30am) – Homelessness Sunday

Coffee (and tea) fellowship

United Prayer

Margate Salvation Army

6.30pm

Homeless Breakfast 6.30am to 8.30am

Little Fishes (9.30 am – 11.30 am)

Carl leading Harvest Assembly (am)

Music lessons (from 3.30pm)

Week 5 of Alpha 6pm

Prayers (from 10am)

Carl and Heather at DHQ until 2pm

Ukrainian Drop-In (from 12 noon)

Music lesson & youth band (from 4pm)

Cell groups are under re-evaluation. The visit from HQ has started the process to evaluate how we can improve holistic small groups.

Friendship club & Lunch club (from 11am)

Carl at HMD planning (11am)

The Hive (Ukrainian activity club from 3pm)

Carl at TDC (2pm)

Singing group practice (7.30pm)

Forward Trust (from 9am) Drumming Workshop (5.30pm)

Carl and Heather Sabbath Day

No Food bank this week (10am to 12 noon)

English classes (12.30pm)

Children/Youth activities (from 5.30pm)

Ukrainian School (11am)

Ukrainian Drop-In (11am to 1pm)

Sunday Worship All Age Ministry (10.30am)

Shelley Gallagher DHQ

We pray for Hayden who has been unable to worship for several weeks. Please Lord. We pray for **Averil** Job who is recovering at home after her time in QEQM. We pray for **Sean** Johnson who is still struggling with health issues and is in the QEQM hospital at the moment. **Bill** Winsbury who is suffering greatly at the moment. Pray for complete healing. **Sheila** Parfitt, **Josie** Harrington and **Mike** Gasparro who have been unwell recently. Remember **John** and **Ibi** in prayer following deaths in each of the families. Uphold **Jules** and **Bill** at this time. Our prayers for **Lance** (Pat's son) must continue as his improvements have stalled. Prayers for Peter's brother **Simon** who is now receiving end of life care. We keep **Kate** and her family in our prayers. We pray that the new treatment will bring a pathway to healing. And we do not forget **Maggie** and we long to see her worshipping again with us soon.

We remember each other on our **birthdays**

Bridget Lyons	18-Oct
Wendy Wilkening	21-Oct
Mark Leighton	22-Oct
Peter Borrough	24-Oct

Volunteer Helpers

Will you be a Ray of Hope?

Ray is taking a few months away from helping us and we need to find someone who will come at **11.30am on**

Monday and help tidy after Toddlers and at **21.00 on**

Friday to clean up after Kids Club and Youth Group. Is that you?

Cleaning

We have some incredible people who help with cleaning. But the task is huge. Will you join?

Transport

There are some people who would love to come to our activities and Sunday services but cannot. Could you provide transport?

Setup and Pack Down

Can you help setting up and setting down after activities? If you have a few hours that you can regularly commit to supporting in this way, please let Carl know.

Collecting Donations -Simply that.

For all volunteering roles there will be **training** given before you can start

Pray that God will reveal what new roles you might undertake in His church



Praying for an End to Homelessness

This can feel like a complex issue to address, but the following words are designed to equip you to pray in a meaningful and transformative way.

What is homelessness?

When we hear the word ‘homelessness’, we rightly picture rough sleeping. Yet homelessness can include:

- Temporary accommodation
- Sofa surfing
- Families living in insecure housing
- Threatened eviction
- Unsuitable accommodation
- Refuge accommodation
- Hidden homelessness

What causes homelessness?

- Homelessness is rarely caused by a single event. The Salvation Army recognises that people can experience homelessness for many interconnected reasons, including poverty, a shortage of affordable housing, relationship or family breakdown, domestic abuse, poor physical or mental health, addiction, unemployment, leaving institutions such as care, prison or hospital, and other forms of social exclusion and disadvantage.
- The Salvation Army also highlights that homelessness is often linked to trauma, isolation and systemic injustice rather than personal failure.
- People experiencing homelessness have strengths, skills, hopes and potential, and many have shown remarkable resilience in the face of significant adversity.
- A trauma-informed approach to homelessness recognises the impact that difficult life experiences can have on housing

stability, whilst focusing on safety, choice, dignity and empowerment.

- The Salvation Army believes that homelessness can be prevented and overcome when people have access to safe and affordable housing, supportive relationships, opportunities to belong, and compassionate, person-centred support that helps them build on their strengths and achieve their goals.

Things to consider when praying about homelessness

Please be aware that the subject matter may be painful or personal for some people. Let participants know that they can step back from the prayers at any point. If appropriate, signpost people to pastoral support afterwards.

If you are praying alongside someone who has experienced homelessness

- Always ask for consent before praying and respect a person's choice if they decline.
- Do not make assumptions about someone's faith, circumstances, needs or relationship with God.
- Be non-judgemental and compassionate, recognising that homelessness is often connected to complex experiences such as trauma, poverty, relationship breakdown, ill health and social exclusion.
- Some people have had negative experiences with institutions, including the Church.
- Recognise people's agency and spirituality. Some may welcome you coming alongside them in prayer, while others may prefer to pray themselves or in their own way.
- Treat people experiencing homelessness as you would anyone else - with dignity, respect, compassion, humility, and recognition of their inherent worth and sacred value.

The following prayers have been ordered in a sequence that would work well for gathered worship and/or small groups. You might want to use two, three, or almost all the suggestions. The prayers are also designed to work individually, and they could easily be adapted for prayer spaces.

A Prayer of Lament

This simple prayer laments the injustice of homelessness.

Lord,

We lament that in a world of abundance, many still lack security.

We lament empty homes and full waiting lists.

We lament policies that fail the vulnerable.

We lament prejudice and misunderstanding.

We lament moments when your Church has looked away.

Receive our sorrow.

Transform it into compassion.

Transform our compassion into justice.

Amen.

Praying for Those Currently Experiencing Homelessness

God of compassion,

We pray for those sleeping rough tonight.

For those sheltering in doorways, cars, tents, temporary accommodation, hostels or unsafe environments.

For those who feel forgotten.

For those carrying fear, trauma, loneliness, addiction, poor mental health or grief.

May they know your presence.

Provide safety, support, friendship, opportunity and hope.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Amen.

Praying for Home

Read this poem slowly, and reflect on what it reveals about home.

‘The Doorway’

A doorway is more than bricks.

It is safety.

A key.

A familiar chair.

The smell of tea.

A place to return.

For some, a doorway is somewhere to shelter from rain; somewhere to stay unseen.

Christ, who had nowhere to lay his head, stands beside every doorway.

Not judging.

Not passing by.

But waiting.

Waiting for his people to see him there.

Waiting for his people to make room.

Waiting for his people to build a world where everyone belongs.

Praying for Systemic Change

God of justice, we pray not only for individual lives but also for systems and structures that shape those lives:

For housing policies, planning decisions, welfare systems, mental health provision, employment opportunities and support services.

Response: Lord, bring justice and hope.

For national and local leaders,

Response: Lord, bring wisdom and courage.

For housing associations, charities, churches and community organisations,

Response: Lord, strengthen their work.

For those trapped in cycles of poverty,

Response: Lord, make a way forward.

For communities where housing is scarce and insecurity is growing,

Response: Lord, bring restoration.

For a society where everyone has a safe place to call home,

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Amen.