



Chatham Chatter

Chatham Citadel Corps
Corps Officer Major Ian F Payne

ian.payne@salvationarmy.org.uk 07813949773 Corps website: www.chathamsa.org.uk



13TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Hello and welcome to our weekly Chatham Chatter. I do hope that you find this way of communication useful as I send it out each week and hope that it is read and used in many ways; for prayer, thought and instruction, but I never know.

MY THANKS go to Majors Mark and Linda Herbert, our Divisional Leaders, who led us last week in worship. Thank you both for your preparation and thoughts - how is your Soul? Whilst you are reading! Judith and I had a lovely time in South Wales with two of our grandchildren (we allowed their parents to come along as well). It was good to be with family and have time to share, play, pray, laugh - it was fantastic.

Also, I wish to thank the band members who commenced outdoor ministry last week at two of the Corps members' homes. They were well received. I spoke with a resident, with tears in her eyes, thanking us for the blessing we were giving over their streets. It is a great ministry. Well done band. May God continue to bless your efforts.

This week I am thinking about 'Clear Vision'. What do you see? Are you caught up in the circumstance and missing what God wants to show you? Life is so different and we are finding new ways to communicate and share. That includes our relationship with God. Blind Bartimaeus. His life changed because of his encounter with Jesus. He continued to live in the circumstances but with a new hope and future, because he asked and saw beyond his limitations. What is God asking you today, in your circumstances? What are you asking of him.

God bless us all as we engage with Him this weekend, may we again know his abiding presence in us all.

PRAYER REQUESTS



Please pray this prayer:

Father God, I pray for my church today, that you will fill each of us with your joy and peace, and that, in our worship online and at home, our fellowship and mission, we will overflow with hope, by the power of your Holy Spirit, in the name of your

Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Times are still difficult as we are not meeting up to worship and it is easy to forget what is happening to our friends. Whilst we have no detailed information to share, please, in your prayers, think of those who are struggling with health problems who have been mentioned individually in previous notices. We all need encouragement to make the most of every day and to live the life that God inspires us to live.

Please continue to remember in your prayers Jenny and Adam (Collins) at the Promotion to Glory of Jenny's Father, Ron Lawrence. Rosemary, (Jenny's mum) values the support of prayers at this difficult time.

Pray for all children who are going back to school with great excitement and some in trepidation. Also pray for the teachers, classroom assistants and all those involved in childrens' education.

Pray too for students going to 6th form colleges and to universities. In this important stage of their lives they need our supportive prayers especially as the Covid19 crisis has caused so much tension.

Bless each one of you who is receiving this Chatham Chatter, our worldwide Salvation Army and the volunteers who are serving communities in all parts of the world.

Please let Jean know of any urgent prayer requests for the supportive prayers of the Prayer Chain. Email her on jeanmjones86@yahoo.co.uk or text on 07787718273.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school is back – please ask Tracy for details to join in.

BIBLE READING FOR THIS SUNDAY

To help with your thoughts and to be able to have pre-knowledge of the reading this Sunday, we will be reading from Mark 10:46-52, selected verses from Psalm 51 & 91 and dipping into Luke 19:1-10.

THQ

To keep up with The Salvation Army throughout the territory - click the link;

<https://www.youtube.com/user/salvationarmyvideo>

The Salvation Army Youtube Channel

<https://youtu.be/Nv4OsGF8Ah4>



VIDEO MESSAGE FROM THE TERRITORIAL COMMANDER

Commissioner Anthony Cotterill reflects on worship as a daily sacrifice of our lives. Watch on

YouTube <https://youtu.be/RCJ8O6MDySY>

GENERAL BRIAN PEDDLE

General Brian Peddle is on Facebook and Twitter and gives very encouraging updates daily of what is going on around the SA world including thoughts and prayers. Facebook & Twitter @GeneralBPeddle
Also Twitter @SalvArmyIHQ



A CALL OUT TO CREATIVE FEMALE SALVATIONISTS

Calling all young women and girls aged 6 to 25 who are connected to The Salvation Army. You are invited to take part in this year's celebration of the United Nations International Day of the Girl 11 October.

The Salvation Army's International Social Justice Commission (ISJC) is asking women and girls to create a video of spoken word, song, dance, poetry, drama, TikTok or a musical item (individual or group) that reflect this year's UN theme: 'Be Bold: From Equality to Equity for Girls.' Submissions will also be shared with the United Nations and shown in an online virtual event hosted by the ISJC.

How to enter Upload creative submissions by 11 September to YouTube and email the YouTube link to the ISC ihq-isjc@salvationarmy.org for the attention of Major Victoria Edmonds. (Please copy in the Youth & Children's Ministries team at <https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/youth-and-children>.)

CORPS OFFERINGS, DONATIONS

Don't forget the Just-Giving page to enable you to give your weekly collections and donations

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/chatham-citadel>

If members of the public, your neighbours, friends etc. wish to donate to the Corps please direct them to this link or they can send in donations using a cheque and posting to the Hall for the attention of the CO.

CORPS TREASURER

If you have outstanding cartridges, collections, donations etc: please send a cheque (cheques should be made payable to The Salvation Army) and posted to the hall (Church Street, Chatham, ME4 4BT). Please remember to write your cartridge number on the reverse of the cheque. We apologise that present circumstances mean there is a delay in presenting cheques to the bank.

'BAGS OF HOPE' AND MEALS

We continue this much needed service on Monday & Friday giving out Bags of Hope. We are grateful to the Medway Sunlight Rotary Club who give us referrals and help with delivery for those unable to leave the house due to shielding, age or infirmity. **Can you think of someone who could do with a Bag of Hope?** Also our weekly meals continue from the front door of the hall, giving support to the most vulnerable of our society.

INFORMATION FROM MEDWAY COUNCIL

Please be advised that as per previous years, Medway Council run car parks in the town centres will offer free parking in the run up to Christmas.

This year, there will be 4 free Christmas parking days running from 17th December to 20th December 2020.

MOBILITY SCOOTER

Gillian Hopkins (Monday Café) has a mobility scooter that she is selling. If you can think of anyone that is looking for one, it is in excellent working condition and licensed to go on the road, please contact Gill for details gillian.hopkins1@talktalk.net, she will be pleased to hear from you – you can also pass this information on to anyone interested

LOOK AHEAD TO INTERFAITH WEEK: 8-15 NOVEMBER

At this time of Covid-19, Interfaith Week is ever more important, helping people to continue to come together; make new links and friendships; educate against prejudice and hatred; and volunteer together to help others. You will find ideas for socially distanced and online activities at www.interfaithweek.org/resources/ideas and these can be modified for your use.

Territorial Welcome
2020

Saturday 26th September

**Livestreamed at 3pm
from William Booth College**

<https://youtube.com/salvationarmyvideo>

Led by Commissioners Anthony & Gillian Cotterill
with Colonels Lee & Deborah Graves

  

Also available on:
www.facebook.com/wbc1929

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*Messengers of
Reconciliation*

ON YOUR DAILY JOURNEY

As part of your daily devotions let's pray the **A to Z prayer**. Each day I will give you a letter from the alphabet. Please use this letter to pray for members of the Corps with this initial, friends, family and neighbours and why not let them know that they have been prayed for, an email, note through the door or letter. Let's make a difference by praying for each other. Can you imagine the difference that will make.

Monday Ephesians 4:8

You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Before and after -- that's the story of grace. "I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see." If we could only fully grasp what we so easily sing then life

would be filled with more grace and our churches with more confident servants of God.

A - MY PRAYER...

Lord God Almighty, by your grace I know today that I stand before you welcomed into your presence and received as a beloved child. Thank you for rescuing me from all the traps of the darkness and bringing me into your light. Guide my heart and my feet so they will walk your path and show forth your light. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

Tuesday Philippians 2:3-4

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interest of others.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Do you remember one of the earliest questions in the Bible? "Where is your brother Abel?" To which Cain responded: "Am I my brother's keeper?" Paul's answer is a clear and undeniable yes! We must look to the interest of others and not just our own.

B - MY PRAYER...

Father, teach me to love your family as you do. I get so caught up and distracted with my own world and my own problems that I forget to notice those who are hurting. Help me to grow more aware and more attune to those needs so you may minister through me. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

Wednesday Ephesians 4:29

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

The goal in Christian communication is not merely clarity, but encouragement based on what the needs of the other person are.

C - MY PRAYER...

Tender Shepherd, give me a heart that is pure so that my words may be pure. Give me a heart that is kind so that my words may be kind. Give me a heart that is full of joy and encouragement so that I may share these with those you bring to my path and with whom I share conversation. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

Thursday Joel 2:23

Rejoice in the Lord your God, for he has given you the autumn rains in righteousness. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

"The prayers go up and the blessings come down..." The words to this children's song are only half right, because God sends his blessings many times even when we don't pray. But with the special smell that comes with a drought-breaking rain, God loves the aroma of his children's joy, especially when he is the source of its delight!

D - MY PRAYER...

Holy God and Tender Father, you are my great delight. When all others fail, you are still God. You are a rock and fortress, you are a tender shepherd, and you are a solid mountain that cannot be shaken. Your blessings and grace shower upon me and fill me with joy. I can't wait for the day I get to see you face to face and delight in your presence. Until then, I will see you faith to face and rejoice in anticipation. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

Friday 2 Corinthians 13:14

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

I have a friend in Jesus who has taught me the power of blessings. I can't think of a better one! Grace, love and fellowship rooted in the eternal, sacrificial, and gracious nature of our God, and we share it with God's children all around the world.

E - MY PRAYER...

Father, I am thinking of several precious friends who need the richness of this blessing to fall upon them. Please bless them. In Jesus name. Amen.

Saturday Romans 15:7

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

I hate racism and exclusivity. But my loathing does not even approach God's revulsion at these things. On the other hand, we can anticipate the choir of heaven if we will accept one another in Jesus and not let race, language, culture, or suspicion keep us from loving each other as we have already been loved by the Saviour.

F - MY PRAYER...

Holy and Righteous Father, I pray that we will let your Spirit and your grace help us tear down any wall that divides your people based on race, culture, or privilege. Teach us, teach me, to love all people the way you do. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

Sunday Romans 5:3-4

We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

I remember the old Corrie ten Boom line, "Thank God for the fleas." The fleas kept the German soldiers out of the barracks in the concentration camp where she was imprisoned. This allowed her to minister and visit with those who were being persecuted. There she could show and share Jesus.

G - MY PRAYER...

Mighty God, I confess that I get impatient and frustrated with difficulty, pain, and suffering. Please give me more compassion and a better listening ear, so that I may bless those who need love and grace. Through Jesus I ask it. Amen.

God bless you all - Please be safe.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ian F Payne".

Ian F Payne – Major