



# Chatham Chatter



Chatham Citadel Corps  
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## 31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2021

Hello Friends and welcome to this week's Chatham Chatter.

Well, we come to the end of the month - how times flies! Firstly, thank you for the many positive messages from last week's worship together. Who would have thought that the subject of prayer would challenge so many in very different ways. I know that some of you have downloaded the Lectio 365. Just in case you did not get the details, you will find them in this Chatter.

We continue to move on in the position of lockdown, which I know is challenging to so many of you in these days. If there is anything that you may require to help you in these times please do ask as I am sure there will be an answer. Keep ringing, texting, writing a note, emailing each other as it is a great source of encouragement in these days.

On Sunday morning we will have Territorial Envoy, Tony McClure bringing us the word under the title of 'Right Place, Right Time'. Join us and be prepared for God to bless and challenge and answer those spiritual niggles in your life.

God bless you all as we continue to journey with him in these very strange times. Please all keep safe and follow the guidelines.

Ian F Payne Major

## PRAYER REMINDERS



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 will overflow with hope, by the power of your Holy Spirit, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

- Pray for our Corps, each section; the children's work, Mummy & Me, the BP sections and Youth, as well as the musical sections and community work.

- Pray for any of our Corps members who are unwell with Covid19 and for their families. Pray also for those who are suffering with other health conditions, particularly those awaiting treatments which have been delayed.

- Pray for all those working in positions where they are vulnerable to infection but each day put themselves at risk for our benefit.

- Pray for families that are struggling to keep themselves fed through loss of earnings and for the children who are missing their friends at school.

- Pray for those who have been bereaved that God will comfort them at this difficult time.

*Please let Jean know of any urgent prayer requests for the supportive prayers of the Prayer Chain. Email her on [jeanm1938@gmail.com](mailto:jeanm1938@gmail.com) or text on 07787718273.*



## Territorial Envoy Tony McClure

Greetings friends and colleagues. As I write, the UK is in the grip of cold weather. We have had a few flurries of snow, but in Medway, seem to have escaped most of the really bad weather. In these strange days of lockdown the effects of the Coronavirus are felt far and wide. Face masks or shields are the norm. No hugging allowed. Stay at home. Wait for the call inviting you to have your jab,

I worked out that I was in Tier Seven, so I should have had my vaccine jab by Easter. I know some of you have had yours. It is interesting when you realise some people are older than you thought.

I know a lot of people are worried about the future and are frightened about what life will be like when the lockdowns end...whenever that will be. I found the following in a secondhand book a friend gave me.

### Do not be afraid

Do not be afraid  
For I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by name;  
You are mine.  
When you walk through the waters,  
I'll be with you;  
You will never sink below the waves.  
When the fire is burning all around you,  
You will never be consumed by the flames.

When fear of loneliness is looming,  
Then remember I am at your side.  
When you dwell in the exile of the stranger,  
Remember you are precious in my eyes.  
You are mine, O my child;  
I am your Father,  
And I love you  
With a perfect love.

*Written by Gerard Markland*

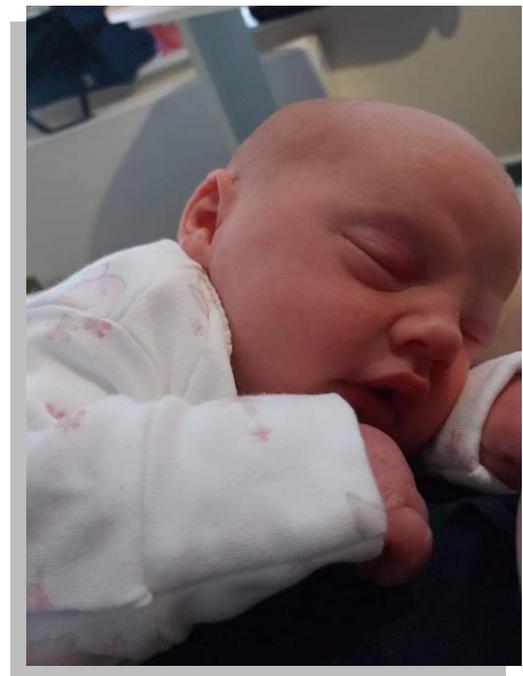
Keep the faith, stay safe and may God richly bless you all.

## WELCOME TO THE NEWSEST MEMBER OF CHATHAM CONGREGATION

**ELLA ROSE COLLINS**

**Born 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 11:29pm  
Weighing 6lbs 6oz.**

**Congratulations to Jenny, Adam &  
George and welcome to Ella.  
Mum and Ella are doing well**



## ENCOURAGEMENT

I thought I would share with you some comments I have received recently regarding our on-line worship - I felt it would encourage us

*It's been a very interesting week so far spiritually, as some of my prayer texts have been quite direct to say the least! I would like to share a few with you resulting from my prayers seeking guidance.*

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of words but of power. Which do you prefer, shall I come to you with a whip or in a spirit of love and gentleness' 1 Cor 4:20

There is one body and one Spirit, just as there is one hope to which God has called you to. Eph 4:4

Let us hold on firmly to the hope we profess, because we can trust God to keep his promises. Heb 10:23

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go: I will counsel you and watch over you always. Psalm 32:8

Rise Up! This matter is in your hands. We will support you, so take courage and do it now. Ezra 10:4

*I think that the last reading which was given today, is particularly poignant!!'*

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Thank you so much for your ministry to us today. Such a powerful message and truly the Holy Spirit came into our home and into our hearts! Amazing! Just amazing to see how God is using modern technology!

In these strange times, it is often difficult to see our way and our purpose; and yet, you reminded us that "In Christ", our pur-

pose and the plans he has for us will always be made clear. We just need to ask and listen. Prayerfully reading and finding guidance from his word.

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Thank you so much for all the blessings and challenges from worship today.

Having had Covid since just before Christmas, I am slowly recovering and so thankful to the Lord for many answered prayers on my behalf. Just having to be patient waiting for energy to return but feeling so much stronger now.

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## BIBLE READING SUNDAY 31<sup>st</sup>

Psalm 52: 1-9

'Right Place, Right Time'

## BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study this Wednesday is under the leadership of TE Tony McClure. 'Unexpected Return' with the reading 1 Peter 3:1-18. Come and join us on Zoom. We start at 8pm for one hour. The Zoom Link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5972909541?pwd=MzFlWUpEUDd0K0ErQ0ZSTWM0Z0J3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 597 290 9541 Passcode: Hope2020

## SELF-DENIAL 2021



This year's theme is 'Rebuilding Hope and resilience together' based on John 4 verses 7-21.

**Watch out for more Information.**

## **FUNERAL DETAILS - FRANKIE KEMBER**

The funeral Service for Frankie Kember will be on Tuesday 9th February, 10am at Thames View Chapel. If you wish to join in with the service please use the Link below.

<https://www.obitus.com/>

Username Miyi9781

Password 363484

God Bless the family at this time

## **CORPS FUNDRAISING DONATIONS**

Don't forget the Just-Giving page is available to enable members of the public to give 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.

## **SOUTH EAST DIVISIONAL INFO** **EBBSFLEET**

In Ebbsfleet near Gravesend there is huge development of housing emerging. God has laid it on the Division's heart to pray for this area. We are in contact with churches that are already establishing themselves on the estates and we have asked them to share with us the prayer requests and needs specific to Ebbsfleet. Our aim is also to seek God's heart for any Salvation Army involvement in the area.

A team from the Division were originally planning to prayer walk in Ebbsfleet this month. However due to lockdown restrictions we are unable to physically be on the estates and pray in this way.

Therefore a zoom prayer meeting has been set up on Fri, 29 Jan from 10.30 - 11.30 to pray for Ebbsfleet, the people that live there and the churches that are emerging. It would be great to have as many as can to join together to pray at this time. An invitation has been also been extended to the church leaders to join with us.

**Fri 29/01/2021 10:30am - 11:30am**  
**Zoom 481 071 8023 Code K587vQ**

## **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/Nv40sGF8Ah4>



## **TERRITORIAL LEADER** **VIDEO MESSAGE**

'We cast light, you see, when we align ourselves with Jesus Christ himself.' Commissioner Anthony Cotterill offers suggestions on how we can each reflect the light of God. Watch it here

<https://youtu.be/Ptc7QjYH47o>



## **INTERNATIONAL STAFF** **SONGSTERS ONLINE**

Enjoy this online worship and praise service from the International Staff Songsters prepared instead of their January visit to Letchworth Corps. The video is led by Executive Officer Lieutenant Colonel Jayne Roberts and Songster Leader Dorothy Nancekievill.

Watch here on youtube;

<https://youtu.be/KA8u3x-wC8E>

## EXPLORING LEADERSHIP DAY 21 MARCH



Explore the possibilities of spiritual leadership in this free online event which includes special guests Commissioners Lyndon and Bronwyn Buckingham from IHQ.

The purpose of Exploring Leadership Day is to do just what the title says: to help people explore different areas of leadership in its various forms.

The day provides insight into different types of leadership, the space to reflect on what God is saying and the time to respond to that. If you have never been before, then please consider attending. If you have been before then you can testify to what a great day it is, and with the theme and seminars changing every year, there is always something for everyone. More details email; [vocation@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:vocation@salvationarmy.org.uk).

## THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Here is this week's article explaining and giving information on the subject - **AFGHANISTAN**



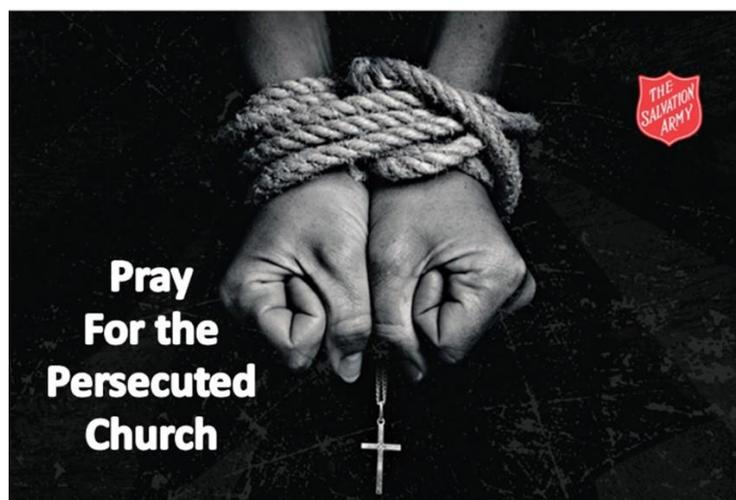
### **No 2: Afghanistan**

It is impossible to live openly as a Christian in Afghanistan. Leaving Islam is considered shameful, and Christian converts face dire consequences if their new faith is discovered. Either they have to flee the country or they will be killed. If a Christian's family discovers they have converted, their family, clan or tribe has to save its "honour" by disowning the believer, or even killing them. Christians from a Muslim background can also be detained in a psychiatric hospital, because leaving Islam is considered a sign of insanity.

Afghanistan remains the second highest country on the World Watch List, and persecution is only very slightly less oppressive than in North Korea. The Islamic State group and the Taliban continue to have a strong, violent presence in Afghanistan. Areas controlled by the Taliban are particularly oppressive, but there is no safe way to express any form of Christian faith in the country.

### **PRAYER FOR AFGHANISTAN:**

Loving Father we pray for protection for the small number of Afghani Christians. Please protect them from those looking to find them. Despite their isolation, we pray that they would be strengthened and encouraged in their faith. Please help them to find safe ways to access your word and communicate with other believers. We also pray that you would work in the hearts of Islamic extremists so that they would come to know the love of Jesus and that their lives would be turned around.



### **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 JOHN 4:24**

*God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship him in spirit and in truth.*

#### **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

Genuine worship is a gift. Since God is spirit, since he is holy, we cannot fully approach him without the gift and blessing of his Holy Spirit. As Christians who received his Spirit when we were baptized into Christ and born of God, we can now speak to him and worship him Spirit to Spirit.

#### **H - MY PRAYER...**

Abba Father, by the gift of your Spirit I come to you as your child. Thank you so much for giving me your Spirit so that I can approach you with confidence and know you hear the concerns of my heart. Please accept the worship of my heart, of my words, and of my actions. May the things I do today bring you glory. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

### **TUESDAY MARK 9:35**

*Sitting down, Jesus called the twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all."*

## **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

Last? Nobody likes to be last. We have a hard enough time settling for second place, much less last place. Jesus reverses the rank. The person who is most important to him is not the person seeking the status and notoriety. The most important person is like Jesus himself: willing to give up rank and status and importance to serve. For Jesus, last means first in service and first in the eyes of God.

### **I - MY PRAYER...**

Magnificent God my Saviour, you have made the world wonderful for me and have given your Son to redeem me. How can I ever thank you or repay you for your grace and kindness. Today help me see those you want me to serve with grace and kindness as I try to be more like you. This I pray in the name of the one who washed his disciples' feet. Amen.

## **WEDNESDAY EPHESIANS 4:2**

*Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.*

## **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

"You mean I have to put up with that!?" There are those folks in life about whom the saying is true: "They are the grit out of which we are to fashion our pearl." But our great example in this challenge is Jesus. Think of what he had to put up with in his 12 disciples. Remember how transformational his patience and gentleness with them was. Can we dare to do less?

### **J - MY PRAYER...**

Give me strength and patience, O God, that I may be as loving, gentle, and patient with others as you have been

with me. Through Jesus my Lord and hero I pray. Amen.

## **THURSDAY PSALMS 86:5**

*You are forgiving and good, O Lord, abounding in love to all who call on you.*

## **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

Forgiveness is such a sweet blessing. But God does more than forgive! He cleanses and forgets. His love is not metered out or carefully rationed. He pours it out upon us if we genuinely seek him as our God and Father.

### **K - MY PRAYER...**

O Precious Father, I call to you wanting you to know how important your love and forgiveness are in my life. Thank you for sending Jesus to show your love and pay the debt of my sin. Help me to live today as your child: may others see my joy and my passion, to your glory. Through my Saviour I pray. Amen.

## **FRIDAY DEUTERONOMY 6:4-5**

*Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.*

## **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

So many times Satan seduces us into a flat, 2 dimensional Christianity - going to church and doing good deeds. But God calls us to a three dimensional [faith](#). He wants us to love him with all of our being in all of our actions and with all of our might.

### **L - MY PRAYER...**

Dear Heavenly Father, I honour you as God Almighty. I appreciate you for all

your kindness and blessings lavished upon me. I love you because you first loved me in Jesus. My heart's desire today is to demonstrate my love for you in all I do, and love and say. Through Jesus. Amen.

### **SATURDAY 1 CORINTHIANS 2:9**

*As it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him.*

### **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

Many of the things we anticipate and dream about are much less glorious in real life than they were in our imaginations. There is one event, however, that is better than we can imagine and beyond our wildest dreams. When Jesus returns to take us home to be with our Father, it will be far better than we can ask, imagine, dream or think. Maranatha - Come Lord Jesus!

### **M - MY PRAYER...**

Abba Father, thank you for knowing me before time began. Thank you for crafting me in my mother's womb. Thank you for sending Jesus to pay the price for my sins. And thank you in advance for the day Jesus comes to take me home to be with you forever. Through my Conquering Saviour I pray. Amen.

### **SUNDAY PSALMS 59:16**

*I will sing of your strength, in the morning I will sing of your love; for you are my fortress, my refuge in times of trouble.*

### **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

So many things in our lives can be stolen away by natural disasters, ageing, and death. Satan could be appropriately called "The Thief of Always." But God is

immovable and unstealable! We can invest ourselves in him and know our spirits are secure in his care. He is a fortress and a refuge.

### **N - MY PRAYER...**

O Great Rock of my salvation, thank you for being unchangeable and faithful. Thank you for being the source of security and future in a day of chaos and change. Thank you for being God. You are my God and in you I place my life, my hopes, and my future. May you be glorified in me today. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

