

Dear Prayer Matters readers

Welcome to November's edition of *Prayer Matters*.

As autumn turns towards winter and the shops fill with Christmas, we continue praying our heartbeat rhythm of prayer for the mission and ministry of The Salvation Army, knowing that, as it says in James's epistle, 'The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." (James 5:16). And before you begin to wonder whether 'righteous' could be an accurate description for you. be reassured that the righteousness comes from Jesus himself

Our Sunday Sabbath Prayers this month are all to do with remembrance and praying for peace. The prayers for the four Sundays can be joined together into one prayer and used on Remembrance Sunday. You can find the whole prayer, plus other resources for remembrance, on the Resource Centre page found at salvationist.org.uk/resources.

In our Justice and Reconciliation focus, we are praying for the Army's Financial Inclusion and Debt Advice Service, and our Care for Creation prayers help us to intercede for the COP29 Climate Conference, which begins at the end of November

We're also praying for International Men's Day; Core Recovery; the SA Worship Conference; and the South East and North West and Isle of Man Divisions

Thank you for joining us in this incredibly important work of prayer, and may you know God's Spirit renewing you as you pray.

Blessings,

Lyndall Bywater on behalf of the UKI Prayer Team

NOVEMBER



FRIDAY 1 NOVEMBER: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION Financial Inclusion and Debt Advice Service - Resilience

The Salvation Army's Financial Inclusion Team offer a not-for-profit debt advice service, supporting people who find themselves burdened with debt. Pray for the staff who run this service, many of whom go above and beyond, as the demand for the service increases. Pray for them to find time to work in God's strength and not their own, and to be able to detach themselves emotionally from all that they hear.

(Steve Wright, Quality Manager for the Debt Advice Service, Scotland and Northern Ireland)



SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER: CARE FOR CREATIONPraying for COP29 (30 Nov to 12 Dec) - Repentance

Forgive us, Lord, for the damage caused to the Earth which we have been party to, whether knowingly or unknowingly; for not protecting our world from greed and exploitation; and for the impact these actions have had on the most vulnerable. May the voices of those who have suffered most be heard in COP29.

(Major Heather Poxon, Territorial Environmental Officer)



SUNDAY 3 NOVEMBER: SABBATH PRAYERPraying for Peace

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, God in perfect unity, we long for an end to strife: strife between nations, and strife in our local communities. Teach us to pray for peace, to work for peace, to live in peace, as we look forward to that day you have promised, when you will cause wars to cease to the ends of the earth. Lord, in your mercy, heal and restore.

(Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team)





MONDAY 4 NOVEMBER: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS North West and Isle of Man Division - Children's Ministry

We would greatly appreciate prayer for the team which leads our children's ministry. We gather children from across the division regularly to share in the good news of the gospel, as we support and encourage children's leaders, and as we seek to hand on the good news to new and rising generations of young people.

(Major David Taylor, Divisional Leader, North West and Isle of Man Division)



TUESDAY 5 NOVEMBER: SERVING AND CARINGSouth East Division - Emerging Leaders

Pray for all those who have made enquiries regarding spiritual leadership. Some of these are in the initial stages and others are already applicants progressing towards assessment conference. Pray for wisdom and discernment for them, and for the Divisional Candidates Officer journeying with them.

(Major Sue Pegram, Divisional Personnel Officer, South East Division)



WEDNESDAY 6 NOVEMBER: GROWING IN FAITH Holy Spirit guidance

'Though the Lord gave you adversity for food and suffering for drink, he will still be with you to teach you. You will see your teacher with your own eyes. Your own ears will hear him. Right behind you a voice will say, "This is the way you should go," whether to the right or to the left.' (Isaiah 30:20-21 *NLT*)

Dear Lord Jesus, whatever my situation, help me always to make time to listen for what the Holy Spirit is saying. Thank you for the Spirit's presence to guide me. I pray for anyone who needs to know Holy Spirit guidance today, that they will hear his voice too.

(Captain Cor Van der Woude, Bury Corps)



THURSDAY 7 NOVEMBER: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY - France and Belgium Territory

William and Catherine Booth's oldest daughter, Catherine, is known in France as 'La Maréchale' (The Marshal). Catherine led the first Salvation Army meeting in Paris in March 1881, and since then, God has touched countless lives through the Army's work in France, Belgium and also in Africa. In France, the Army exists legally as two separate bodies, one being the worship and evangelism entity and the other the social work entity.

We pray that, by the power of the Spirit, they will be able to operate as one Army, in spite of the legal constraints. We pray for the territorial leadership team of Colonels Jacques and Claude-Evelyne Donzé and Lieut-Colonels Joël and Karen Etcheverry.

(Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team)



FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION Financial Inclusion and Debt Advice Service - Direction and provision

Pray for Lorraine Cook (Financial Inclusion Development Manager) and her team as they manage the way forward. More and more divisions are interested in the work of our service, and they need wisdom and discernment to hear God's voice as to when we should go forward into new things and when to stay and consolidate what we are already doing. Pray too that we will have the resources we need, both in terms of cash and people, and that we will know God's grace and favour over the work we do.

(Steve Wright, Quality Manager for the Debt Advice Service, Scotland and Northern Ireland)



SATURDAY 9 NOVEMBER: CARE FOR CREATIONPraying for COP29 (30 Nov to 12 Dec) - Justice

We pray for those around the world who experience droughts and floods, wildfires, failed crops and unbearable heat. As they fight to survive and build their resilience, Lord, guide us as we seek to bring about your justice and deep change to their circumstances.

(Major Heather Poxon, Territorial Environmental Officer)



SUNDAY 10 NOVEMBER: SABBATH PRAYER Praying for peace - Remembrance Sunday

God of all comfort, we remember in humble gratitude all those who have given their lives in war, and we pray for all who still live with the physical and mental scars of combat. We pray for places around the world where war is still a daily reality. Draw near to all who mourn lost loved ones, and strengthen all who work for peace. Lord, in your mercy, heal and restore.

(Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team)



MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS North West and Isle of Man Division - Youth and student outreach

In accord with our goal in the division to 'grow younger', we ask for prayer for our youth team, and in particular our two new youth and student outreach workers, as we seek to support, bear witness to and disciple young people and students within our great cities in the North West of England.

(Major David Taylor, Divisional Leader, North West and Isle of Man Division)



TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER: SERVING AND CARINGSouth East Division - Corps without officers

Pray for corps who are without full time leadership. Thank God for committed and gifted local leaders, and pray that they will sense the leading of the Holy Spirit guiding and equipping them in these days of challenge and opportunity.

(Major Sue Pegram, Divisional Personnel Officer, South East Division)



WEDNESDAY 13 NOVEMBER: GROWING IN FAITH The lifeline of prayer

'I looked, and between the throne and the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders stood a Lamb who appeared to have been slaughtered. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes (the eyes are the seven Spirits of God sent out over all the earth). The Lamb came and took the scroll from the right hand of the One seated upon the throne. And when He took it, the four living creatures and twenty-four elders fell

prostrate before the Lamb. They worshipped Him, and each one held a harp and golden bowls filled with incense (the prayers of God's holy people).' (Revelation 5:6-8. *The Voice*)

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you that none of our prayers are lost. I pray that I will never stop praying to you, and that I will never stop listening to you, realising daily that prayer is my lifeline with you.

(Captain Cor Van der Woude, Bury Corps)



THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY - Middle East Region

The region comprises Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and the United Arab Emirates. There are eight corps in total, with individual Salvationists also supported via social media in Qatar and Saudi Arabia. As well as the usual church ministries, regional ministry includes community outreach, food security and other practical support, assistance with access to legal advice, and care and support to vulnerable and abused domestic workers, as well as those trafficked or tricked into the region.

We pray for the territorial leadership team of Majors Douglas and Janet Newman and Majors Paul and AmyJo Ferguson as they seek to bring wisdom and reassurance at a time when tensions run high in the Middle East

(Adapted from https://salvationarmy.org/ihq/middle-east-region)



FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION - Wales 150 Celebration

This year we celebrate 150 years of The Salvation Army in Wales. The division has committed to 150 days of prayer, which finishes with a celebration this evening at Merthyr Tydfil, led by the Wales divisional team and the UKI Boiler Room Team. In our looking back, may we find wonder and gratitude. In our looking forward, may we find hope and vision. In our being together, may we find unity and joy. In the years to come, may The Salvation Army in Wales be a vibrant, growing community, building God's Kingdom wherever it goes.

(Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team)



SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER: CARE FOR CREATION Praying for COP29 (30 Nov to 12 Dec) - Finance

Lord, money is so powerful – for good and evil. Challenge us, and those in power, to use finance wisely; to pay for the damage we have caused and to support the communities who have been damaged. May they receive all that they need to rebuild healthy, strong communities for themselves and the generations to follow.

(Major Heather Poxon, Territorial Environmental Officer)



SUNDAY 17 NOVEMBER: SABBATH PRAYER Praying for peace - Remembrance Sunday

Jesus Christ, friend and companion, we pray for all who have had to flee their homes because of conflict and who find themselves adrift in a land that isn't home. We dream of a safer, kinder world: where every displaced person will find refuge and where communities destroyed by war will thrive again. Lord, in your mercy, heal and restore.

(Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team)



MONDAY 18 NOVEMBER: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS South East Division - Youth Cell Group (24 Nov)

Pray for the young people of the South East Division, particularly for the Divisional Youth Cell at Staines this coming Sunday. Pray for our divisional youth specialist, the youth development worker and the youth apprentices as they come alongside, encourage and disciple the young people.

(Major Sue Pegram, Divisional Personnel Officer, South East Division)



TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER: SERVING AND CARING International Men's Day

King Jesus, on this International Men's Day, we pray that you will teach us to help our corps communities become places where men can grow more like you; where men can live out the encouragement the Apostle Paul gave to the leaders of the church in Corinth: 'Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.' (1 Corinthians 16:13-14, *ESV*).

(Captain Tim Swansbury, Rotherham Corps)



WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER: GROWING IN FAITH SA Worship Conference (23-24 November at William Booth College)

This is an opportunity for those who are passionate about contemporary sung worship in The Salvation Army to take time to develop their skills, cultivate a deeper connection to God through worship, and share in community with others. Pray that hearts and minds will be drawn deeper into God's presence, and that people will come away with a deeper understanding of what it means to worship God. Pray that these experiences will be a catalyst for wider change as people return to their home corps/church.

(Nik King, Assistant Director of Music and Creative Arts)



THURSDAY 21 NOVEMBER: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY - The Philippines Territory

We pray for the work and worship of The Salvation Army in the Philippines. We pray for boldness to share the gospel and for compassion in caring for those in need. We pray that God's Spirit will energise the territorial leadership team, Colonels David and Elsa Oalang and Lieut-Colonels Rodolfo and Josalie Salcedo.

(Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team)



FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION - Financial Inclusion and Debt Advice Service - Policy

Please pray that decision-makers in our governments will treat poverty and debt as 'Kingdom' issues – responding to them not just as fiscal exercises but with a real determination to bring about justice for all. Pray that The Salvation Army will use its voice to speak up for those whose lives are affected by these issues.

(Steve Wright, Quality Manager for the Debt Advice Service, Scotland and Northern Ireland)



SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER: CARE FOR CREATIONPraying for COP29 (30 Nov to 12 Dec) - Action

Lord, you call your Army, your disciples, to stand up, speak out and challenge injustice. You call us to a ministry of reconciliation, restoring relationships between people and you and this beautiful creation. Give us the courage to play our part and to respond to your calling.

(Major Heather Poxon, Territorial Environmental Officer)





SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER: SABBATH PRAYER Praying for peace - Remembrance Sunday

Holy Spirit, breath of life, we lament the way in which war damages this beautiful Earth you have created, ravaging landscapes, destroying ecosystems and preventing crops from flourishing. Brood over the chaos again, we pray. Bring order and balance, and birth new life in barren places. Lord, in your mercy, heal and restore.

(Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Team)



MONDAY 28 NOVEMBER: SHARING THE GOOD NEWSCore Recovery - Pilgrimage resource

The Core Recovery Team have been exploring how pilgrimage can help people and communities to encounter God. We have begun to develop a Pilgrimage Package that any corps, centre or Lifehouse can use, with booklets, prayers and discussion points to guide groups through the process of organising and then leading a pilgrimage in their own area. Pray that this fresh approach will help many people to discover the good news of Jesus

(Major Jill Miller, officer in retirement and member of the Core Recovery Team)



TUESDAY 26 NOVEMBER: SERVING AND CARINGCore Recovery - Pilgrims together

Loving Father, thank you for your guidance as the Core Recovery Team recently shared in a pilgrimage together. In our quest to move towards you as pilgrims on this earth, we praise you that, as we continue our spiritual walk, we find ways to encounter your Spirit through nature and conversation, through sharing and silence, through prayer and celebration. As we develop a pilgrim resource for our Core Recovery communities, we ask your blessing on all who commit to sharing in pilgrimage in the future, and pray that these journeys together will draw us closer to one another and to you.

(Major Jill Miller, officer in retirement and member of the Core Recovery Team)



WEDNESDAY 27 NOVEMBER: GROWING IN FAITH South East Division - Divisional Advent Retreat (29 November)

Pray for the Divisional Advent Retreat taking place tomorrow at Roffey Park. This will be a time of worship, fellowship, prayer and teaching for spiritual leaders in the South East Division. This will be led by London Divisional Leaders Majors Mandy and Steve White. We pray for the anointing of the Holy Spirit, and for restoration and empowering.

(Major Sue Pegram, Divisional Personnel Officer, South East Division)



THURSDAY 28 NOVEMBER: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY - Zimbabwe and Botswana Territory

We give thanks for the vibrant witness of The Salvation Army in Zimbabwe and Botswana: for the passion and dedication of Salvationists preaching the gospel, serving local communities and discipling children and young people. We pray for the word of God to be planted and for new expressions of the Army to spring up, that more and more people may come to know the saving power of Jesus Christ.

We pray blessing on the territorial leadership team, Commissioners Daniel and Tracey Kasuso and Colonels Tineyi and Rumbidzayi Mambo.

(Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team)



FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION - Financial Inclusion and Debt Advice Service - Freedom and life

Pray for all those caught in the trap of the circle of debt, that their fears, embarrassment and especially their 'aloneness' will be removed; that our Debt Advice Teams will bring them hope; that our corps will bring them friendship; and that Father God will bring them freedom and life, life in abundance.

(Steve Wright, Quality Manager for the Debt Advice Service, Scotland and Northern Ireland)



We pray for those in power as they deliberate together at COP29. May they have courage of steel to say and do what is right and just. Give them clarity of vision, and help them take the responsibility that comes with the power they hold, whatever the opposition.

(Major Heather Poxon, Territorial Environmental Officer)

NOTES



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