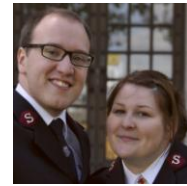


Dear God, I pray that you will bless me and my church. Send people into our fellowship,  
and protect us all. In Jesus' name. Amen

**THE SALVATION ARMY CORPS & CHURCH, HYTHE** Officers/Pastors - Lt's Callum & Berri McKenna  
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**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2017**  
**Anticipating Advent (Part Two)**  
**Come, Lord Jesus**  
**Matthew 25:1-13'**



**Tonight: Shepway Community Choir Rehearsal at 6:00pm the last before the Christmas Celebration.**

### **Good morning & welcome to worship...**

Walking around Hythe all of the signs are now in place to alert and remind us (as if we could forget...) of one fact: its coming! The busy Christmas season will soon be upon us- in fact, it hardly seems like a whole year since it came last. Maybe it fills you with joy, or perhaps dread, but whatever our feelings about it the reality is that soon Christmas will come.

Today, as we stand on the cusp of the advent season, we are reminded that as sure as Christmas will come, so too Christ will come and it's important that we make preparations too for his coming- and not just for celebrating his birthday. In the advent season- which, if we're honest, often gets squished into Christmas- we are called to not only remember that Christ came into the world as human, but we are to anticipate that he comes again. Of course, he will come again in glory but more than that during advent, as we remember his first coming, we also prepare for his coming amongst us in the here and now. We prepare for the coming of Christ into our lives, and we commit to be used by him as he comes into the world around us.

Whilst I usually have an embargo on Christmas Carols before the 1<sup>st</sup> December, perhaps it's fitting that today in our hearts we join with the prayer of Phillip Brook's carol and cry out, 'O Come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel!'

Callum



**The gift of flowers greatly enhances our worship environment. Today we thank Carol.**

### **Prayers**

Please remember in prayers Calum, Maggie, Rory, Mhari, Libby, Catrina and Sandy MacArthur. Calum's Father was promoted to glory last Sunday in North Scotland. They travelled up to Scotland for the funeral yesterday (Saturday). Sylvia Mills is in Hospital following a fall, Beryl Cripps is also far from well, and Brenda Dutton had a nasty fall on Tuesday and is having x-ray's and blood tests to assess what damage has been done.

### **This week**

Mon & Tue- Toddlers

Weds- CAMEO and Alpha (7pm)

No Youth on Friday due to Late Night Shopping

**Next Sunday: Family Carol Service at 10am** featuring the young members of our corps/church.

### **Coming events**

Carol singing in homes- For some years now we have joined with SKCC to sing carols in seven or eight homes- predominantly nursing homes- over a two night period. We are therefore looking for volunteer singers to join us on 11th and 12th of December between 5:00 and 7:30 pm. We need about 6-8 on each night, please sign up after the meeting this morning if you are available.

Sunday December 10 – Christmas Celebration, Tower Theatre, Folkestone 6pm – Ashford Sinfonia, Hythe Salvation Army Band & Songsters, Shepway Community Choir, & Steve Hawkins but MAINLY YOURSELVES! ALYSON ONLY HAS 4 tickets, the Theatre has none. Alyson can be contacted direct or via Richard, 01303 268354.

### **'Waitrose in the Community'**

We have been selected as one of Waitrose's chosen charities for the month of November, specifically to raise money for the Christmas Day meal and event. Each month they give £1000 to be split between three charities on a proportional basis, as voted for by the public...so please get a green token each time you visit Waitrose (for shopping or your free coffee!) and put it in the correct box!

### **Messy Nativity**

Last Christmas, we held our first ever 'Messy Church' in place of what was formerly the toddler carol service and it was a roaring success so we plan to do the same again this year on Sunday 17th December at 3:00pm in the afternoon. As last year, we need volunteers to make this work- perhaps staffing one of the craft tables, helping in the kitchen or helping to set up and pack away. If you're interested, please speak to Berri for more information.

Also: the Messy Church team are after the insides of Kitchen Roll holders...so please get collecting them!

**Volunteers are urgently needed please**

**The newsletter is available by email, if you would like to receive it by that means please let Richard have your email address. It is also published on [www.hythesalvationarmy.org.uk](http://www.hythesalvationarmy.org.uk)  
You can also contact Richard by email – [richardhcarroll1@gmail.com](mailto:richardhcarroll1@gmail.com)**

#### CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME (to date)

Friday December 1<sup>st</sup> – Late night shopping – High Street 6.30-8pm

Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sainsbury's 10.30am – noon

Sunday December 3<sup>rd</sup> – Family Carols 10am

Tuesday December 5 – Saltwood village green 7pm

Thursday December 7 – Homepeak (private function 7pm).

Sunday December 10<sup>th</sup> – Family Worship 10.00

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION – 6pm – Tower Theatre

Wednesday December 13 – Captains Court (private function)

Saturday December 16 – High Street – 10.30-noon

Sunday December 17 Christmas meeting 10am; 3pm Messy Church

Monday December 18<sup>th</sup> Appledore – coach to leave at 6.30

Tuesday December 19 – Lympne Castle – 7.30pm

Saturday December 23 High Street 10.30 – noon

Monday December 25 – Christmas Service 11.15

### **Christmas presents for sale!**

Most of the shops and businesses in town respond to our Christmas Appeal with monetary donations, but a few donate goods which can be viewed on the windowsill. They include a Family Membership for AMAZING GLAZE (but you still have to pay a fee); An Animal Trinket Box from Paydens; A STEPPER PEN; 2 xs glasses cases; 2 x glasses cleaning cloths; and a box of OPTINETT anti-static glasses cleaner, all from Cargill's; a 4 FRONTS 550 piece jigsaw puzzle from IDEAS; and a Simmonds Jewelers key ring.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BUY ANY OF THESE ITEMS PLEASE SEE ANNE – NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED.