



KINDLE

**Newsletter of the Romford
United Reformed Church at
Western Road**

March 2024

Ministers' Letter

Dear Friends

We are now into the second week of Lent, how is your Lenten journey going? Mine started rather shakily as I was laid low by one of the many bugs that is going round, unable to talk for coughing I kept away from people and felt pretty rough. I'm still coughing now but am feeling much better.

Have you managed to keep your resolve to give up chocolate/biscuits whatever? Have you been able to fulfil the extra discipline you choose if you did?

Being ill at least meant that I had time to read and reflect, I have maintained my Lent book discipline and am finding very interesting *The Art of Lent* by Sister Wendy Beckett.

Lent can be a time for reflection on our lives, on our journey with God and on the world. At the moment the first two for me are relatively straightforward, but reflecting on the world is much harder. I want to ignore all the cruelty and hardship that exists, but I can't, it breaks my heart hearing stories of the daily suffering in Gaza, Ukraine and other places. I don't want to hear politicians and others refusing to answer honest questions or stirring up divisions, but if I don't listen how I can be informed about the issues and make up my mind about where I stand. And in all this where does faith come in and what, if any, part does it play?

It is because of my faith that I must reflect on the world, God's world and that faith inspires action. Action that sometimes seem passive, holding the world with all its hardship and suffering before God in prayer is very important, joining with all the payers of other people of faith for a different reality. Action that seeks to show everyone that God created humanity in God's image to live in harmony, peace respecting all whatever their ethnicity etc.

Lenten reflection leads to Easter hope for me, as the Easter message in the resurrection of Jesus is about love defeating hatred, eternal life after death, the new possibilities for God's world as humanity can be changed to reflect more truly God's image.

I wish you all an happy Easter and finish with those wonderful Easter acclamations, Christ is risen, He is risen indeed Alleluia.

Alison

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:22-23

What's Happening

Easter Services

Palm Sunday	24th March 10am - All age service
Maundy Thursday	28th March 7pm - Communion Please sign up for catering purposes if you are planning on attending.
Good Friday	29th March 10am Service at Western Road 11am Open air service in the Market Place
Easter Sunday	31st March 8.00am Easter Breakfast 10.00am Easter Communion – once again we will be “greening” the cross outside the church please bring flowers /greenery.



Rainham Hall Easter Events

Hall Easter events – Thursday 28th March 2024- Monday 1st April 11:00-3:30pm -Set of nature activities suitable for families round the garden. £3 per participant doing the activities. Booking not required.

See website for update at

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/london/rainham-hall/events>

and our Facebook page at: Rainham Hall National Trust page for information about events at Rainham Hall. I will put the poster for Easter activities on Church WhatsApp.

Article written by *Andrew*.

Easter Art for Everyone Project Terms and Conditions

The theme of the Exhibition is:

Life's Journey – HOPE.

The venue will be confirmed as soon as possible and is dependent on the number of potential exhibits. It will be within Romford Town Centre and most likely situated within the Liberty Mall.

Please 'like' the facebook group 'Easter Art for Everyone' Exhibition to stay up to date with developments.

- Deadline for applications is 22nd March 2023
- You will be responsible for transporting your piece to and from the venue.
- Pieces must be delivered in a form ready for exhibition. Photographs must be mounted.
- Final deadline for delivery of piece - the exhibit will grow during the week, but if you can get your piece to the venue before Monday 25th March, that would be great!
- Collection can be arranged when you drop your item off.
- *If you fail to collect the piece, it will be placed on display at the Salvation Army in Romford and 'auctioned' to raise funds for the Salvation Army. After that, any items remaining will be destroyed.*
- The Exhibition will be open to all people of all ages, faiths and none.
- Exhibits will be 'family friendly' respectful of all people and while they might represent difficult thoughts and emotions, will not be offensive – the organisers will make the final decision and pieces may be rejected on that basis.
- The exhibits will remain the responsibility of the exhibitors.
The venue insurance will not cover the exhibits; any exhibitor requiring insurance must arrange their own cover.
- If you wish to exhibit more than one piece, be aware that the number of entries per individual exhibitor may be limited depending on available space.

Selling Pieces:

If you wish for your piece to be available for sale during the exhibition, you will be responsible for the negotiations and sale yourself – the exhibition organiser will not act as brokers. Please email mike.stannett@salvationarmy.org.uk for guidance

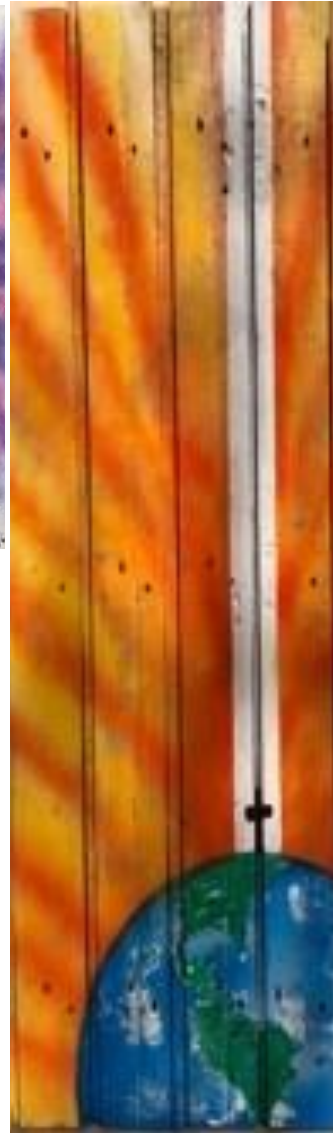
GDPR Statement

The Salvation Army in Romford will hold your information in our legitimate interests to manage the exhibition. We will not share this information with any other organisations and will keep it until your item has been collected, sold, auctioned or disposed of. You have a right to a copy of information we hold about you and, in some circumstances, to have it amended or deleted. For this, and to raise any issues on how your information is handled, please contact Head of Privacy and Data Protection at data.protection@salvationarmy.org.uk or the address below. If you are still not happy you may raise concerns with the Information Commissioner's Office.

The Salvation Army Registered Charity No.214779 and in Scotland SC009359; Social Trust Registered Charity No. 215174 and in Scotland SC037691
Republic of Ireland Registered Charity No. CHY6399; Guernsey Registered Charity No. CH318; Jersey NPO0840; Isle of Man Registered Charity No. 267
The Salvation Army Trustee Company, registered number 00259322 (England and Wales). Registered office: **101 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BN**

General: Lyndon Buckingham

Territorial Commander for the United Kingdom with the Republic of Ireland: Commissioner Paul Main



Easter Art for Everyone 2024

Holy Week 25th March – 1st April

Romford Town Centre

For more details and application info find us
on facebook here

'Easter Art for Everyone 2024'



ord Salvation Army Church
Community Centre

Easter Art for Everyone Exhibitor Application

Please read Terms and Conditions at the end of the form.

Name

Are you representing yourself or a group/school/ team/ class etc? Please give details

-

How can we contact you? i.e phone, address

-

Item to display

**Painting/ Drawing/
Print**

Description/ Title

-

Size of Piece ___ cm x ___cm

Medium

- Canvas
- Paper
- Cardboard
- Other – please provide detail
-

How do you see the piece being displayed? i.e wall, floor, shelf, lighting etc

Be aware that your vision will be a guideline for the organisers. We may not be able to fulfil all your requirements

-

There is a plan to curate a soundtrack to enrich the exhibition. If this is possible, which piece of music would you choose to accompany your piece?

-

**Mounted
Photograph**

Description/ Title

-

Size of Piece ___ cm x ___cm

How do you see the piece being displayed? i.e. wall, floor, shelf, lighting etc

Be aware that your vision will be a guideline for the organisers. We may not be able to fulfil all your requirements

-

There is a plan to curate a soundtrack to enrich the exhibition. If this is possible, which piece of music would you choose to accompany your piece?

-

<p>Other e.g. digital media Please give details:</p>	<p>Description/ Title</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>Size of Piece ___ cm x ___cm</p>
<p>How do you see the piece being displayed? i.e. wall, floor, shelf, lighting etc <i>Be aware that your vision will be a guideline for the organisers. We may not be able to fulfil all your requirements</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>There is a plan to curate a soundtrack to enrich the exhibition. If this is possible, which piece of music would you choose to accompany your piece?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	
<p>Craft Items For example, carving, sculpture, pottery, banner, mixed media.</p>	<p>Description/ Title</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>Size of Piece ___ cm x ___cm</p>
<p>How do you see the piece being displayed? i.e. wall, floor, shelf, lighting etc <i>Be aware that your vision will be a guideline for the organisers. We may not be able to fulfil all your requirements</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>There is a plan to curate a soundtrack to enrich the exhibition. If this is possible, which piece of music would you choose to accompany your piece?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	
<p>Music</p>	<p>Description/ Title</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>How long will your track be? __ minutes</p>
<p>Could your item be sold? (see terms and conditions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	
<p>I sign/ indicate to confirm that I have read the terms and conditions below . Signature</p>	
<p>Please return completed form to liz.hall@salvationarmy.org.uk - thank you</p>	

Mali
World Watch List 2024 – 15



Christians are a tiny minority in Algeria, comprising 144,000 (0.3 per cent) of the country's total population of just over 46 million. The major drivers of persecution in Algeria are society and extremist Islamic teachers who exert influence over state authorities. This means Christian's experience persecution from their families, their communities and from the government.

Most Algerian Christians are converts from Islam. They face harassment and discrimination in their daily lives, and their families and community may try to force them to continue to adhere to Islamic norms and practices. They also face pressure – from both the government and their surrounding communities – to renounce their faith in Jesus and return to Islam. Many choose to keep their faith secret.

Additionally, state pressure has increased on Protestant Christians to a level not seen in decades. Previously closed church buildings are still shut down, and many other churches were ordered to close. The government threatened to prosecute some church leaders if their churches continued to meet. Algeria has laws restricting non-Muslim worship, including rules that prohibit anything that would 'shake the faith of a Muslim' or could be used as a 'means of seduction intending to convert a Muslim to another religion'. These vague laws can be used to pressure Christians to keep their faith quiet and to beat down anything.

The majority of Christians live in the north of Algeria – an environment that has allowed Christian community to develop, although pressure from both government and society remains strong. But in other parts of the country, especially in the south, circumstances are difficult for Christians, with a very low number of available churches. While violent Islamic militants don't have a wide support base among the general population, radical Muslim teachers exert an increasing influence over Algerian government.

Algeria has risen four places on the World Watch List. There have been increases in pressure in national life and church life – but it was the rise in violence score which had most influence on the overall rise. This was mainly caused by an increased number of churches being closed or forced to cease all activity. At the same time, a greater number of houses and businesses of Christians were raided, with the increased pressure forcing many to relocate both inside and outside the country.

Please keep praying for your brothers and sisters in Algeria. Your prayers make an enormous difference to those following Jesus no matter the cost.

Open Doors works with local partners and churches in North Africa to provide leadership and discipleship training, livelihood support, legal aid, trauma counselling, Bibles and pastoral care.



Minister
Rev'd Alison Davis 01708 727955
davisallison7@gmail.com

Church Secretary Western Road
Western Road
Vacant

Kindle
robinmorrison21@outlook.com
Copy for the next issue 27th March 2024

