

The Salvation Army
Canada and Bermuda

Territorial Monthly Prayer Focus

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December 2017 Territorial Prayer Focus

Isaiah is one of the most quoted Old Testament books in the New Testament. Among its treasures you can find these prophetic words, “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given... and he will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (9:6). Isaiah hinted at the birth of this world-transforming child earlier when he announced that “the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel” (7:14), which means “God with us.” What the prophet Isaiah could only see as an outline we now see in full colour. This child who is born, this son who is given, is none other than Jesus of Nazareth. He is God’s wonderful counsellor. He is God’s wisdom incarnate. He is the embodiment of God’s saving plans for the world.

This month we pray that the message of Jesus’ birth will be faithfully declared, “She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21). Jesus, born to save people from sin, born to save from Satan’s power, born that men (women, children) no more may die, born to give us second birth. These profound truths will be repeated in carols and meditations. Pray for opened ears and hearts that all who hear may receive Jesus.

December 10th, is the annual day commemorating the signing (in 1948) of the universal declaration of human rights. The Salvation Army works to be a transforming influence in the world. This requires a continued affirmation of “the inherent dignity and equal rights of all members of the human family.” We therefore prayerfully teach and promote respect and dignity.

Read the universal declaration of human rights and ask God to help us deliver service with dignity and respect - www.ohchr.org/EN/UDHR/Documents/UDHR_Translations/eng.pdf: Let us prayerfully reflect on all 30 articles...1. We Are All Born Free & Equal, 2. Don’t Discriminate, 3. The Right to Life, 4. No Slavery, 5. No Torture, 6. You Have Rights No Matter Where You Go...

This month The Salvation Army will go to hospitals, prisons, nursing homes, daycares, shopping malls, government buildings, and more. We will deliver gifts, music and messages to the ‘whosoever.’ We go, in the name of Jesus, with the conviction that all are loved by God and we have been called to represent His love; “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). Pray that our presence and messages are delivered with dignity and respect and received as an extension of God’s love.

Pray for all Salvationists, employees, volunteers who will be engaged in Christmas ministries; kettles, hampers, worship services, concerts, social events... May all know “the Joy of the Lord is our strength” (Nehemiah 8:10). Joy to the world the Lord is come!

