

# PARRAMATTERS

SUNDAY 3 MAY 2020

Parramatta Salvation Army



We thank God that the renovation work being done by Reitsma at 426 Church Street, North Parramatta has been able to proceed through this period of restrictions due to the Coronavirus. We are looking forward to worshipping in this space later this year. Even if it may be in shifts! We will keep you updated on its development.

## YOUTH!

The youth group are staying connected via social media every Tuesday and Friday night. 426YOUTH have started their own Youtube channel where interviews, teaching and messages are being shared. We thank the Youth for being involved in Worship this coming Sunday. We are disappointed that Youth Councils was cancelled this weekend but pleased that the Youth can still gather together online.



## SELF DENIAL

### APPEAL

There is still time to donate to the Self Denial Appeal. If you would like your offering to be collected please call the office and let Karen know. If you need assistance using the online service please let us know and we can help you with that, too.

## ONLINE CORPS DIRECTORY

Our online Church Directory is up and running. To access it, go to ChurchConnect.online, and enter your email address. If your email address is in the Church Directory, a login code will be sent to your email address. Once you are logged in, you can browse the directory. If you need assistance accessing the directory, please contact us and we will assist.

## PRAYERPOINTS



We are praising God for the promising results of the recent lockdowns in reducing transmission of the coronavirus in Australia.

We pray for the families who have suffered loss due to loved ones contracting the virus; especially those connected to the Newmarch Aged Care facility in Penrith.



We pray for the safety of school students, teachers and those employed in education as the school system resumes this term and gradually returns to classroom teaching.



We pray for the vulnerable in our corps community who are anxious with the threat of the coronavirus. Particularly for those who have existing medical conditions. We pray for the safety of those who will need to be in hospital or spaces for their treatment with this increased risk.

We especially think of Julie Jurd and pray for the ongoing care she needs. Also for those who now have to wait longer for treatment.



*If you would like us to pray for you or your loved ones, contact either **Marty Bust** or **Dot Griffin** for it to be included in the newsletter.*



## REFLECT & SHINE

A lot of attention has been given to the way people are coping with the massive change imposed by the arrival of the coronavirus. A brighter spotlight has been shone on the mental health of people who now experience a greater strain on their wellbeing. I have been thinking about this and wondering if a crisis also makes us consider more how our spiritual health is. Have you thought about that? What might be the symptoms that our spiritual health is suffering? What might be the warning signs that tell us we are no longer doing the things to help us stay connected to God and maintain a healthy spiritual diet? Do these difficult times require us to invest in our discipleship in new ways?

The great thing about our relationship with God is that we don't have to worry about social distancing and obeying all the regulations that are now in place. Sure, we may no longer be meeting in person every Sunday or attending bible study or rehearsals or fellowship groups during the week; but we are still in community with each other and in relationship with God. His abiding presence is not restricted or limited by the pandemic. He is still reaching out to us in love and inviting us into his boundless salvation.

I have started following the Henri Nouwen Instagram page and have been appreciating the quotes that are posted on that site. [See left.] These words of insight and wisdom have been a source of comfort for me. They have reminded me of God's

goodness and presence when I am feeling concerned. They help me lift my eyes above the anxiety of this current situation. So I want to encourage you to seek out ways that will help you remember God's love for you; especially if you are feeling the strain of the current social restrictions.

*Love Sharon*

### PRAYER FOR PEACE & CALM

May today there be peace within. May you trust your highest power that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance. It is there for each and every one of you. Amen.

*Teresa of Avila*

**READ  
LAMENTATIONS  
3:22-23**

If you would like to give to the kingdom building activities in and through our Corps by transfer please use the following details: **BSB 032078; Account No. 000810288; Account Name - The Salvation Army, Parramatta.** Please include an applicable reference on the transfer so we can accurately record the gift.

If you would like to receive the newsletter by email please send your details to [parramatta.corps@gmail.com](mailto:parramatta.corps@gmail.com)

### CORPS OFFICERS:

Grant & Sharon Sandercock-Brown

OFFICE: Shop 1, 426 Church Street,  
North Parramatta 2151

PHONE: [02] 9635 6870

### POSTAL ADDRESS:

PO Box 2697, North Parramatta 1750

WEBSITE: [www.salvos.org.au/parramatta](http://www.salvos.org.au/parramatta)

EMAIL: [parramatta2.corps@aue.salvationarmy.org](mailto:parramatta2.corps@aue.salvationarmy.org)



Check out our  
Parramatta Corps  
Facebook Pages:  
Parramatta Salvos,  
Children's & Youth  
Ministries