



Chaplaincy Prayer Letter

March 2023

Lent: a time to prepare for Easter.

The glorious message of Easter is that while we were in rebellion against God, Jesus was sent to save us from the lasting consequences of that rebellion. And it was accomplished by Jesus' death on a Roman cross. That is good news to share.

Chaplains will be doing that through cards and token gifts in the coming weeks; the response to gifts at Christmas was often appreciation that the recipient felt cared for. In the Christmas rush shop staff were under considerable pressure from workload and customers.

Generally, chaplains are out visiting and being available to talk. We hope to increase our presence at the railway station and in various places where people gather. But we are still short of people to become Chaplains to meet these opportunities to engage with people who would otherwise not connect to church or the Christian message. Please pray that people will feel called by God to see what Chaplains do and to join the team. Anyone is welcome to come and see what we do and go out on a round with a Chaplain; there is no obligation or pressure to join us.

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Chaplains in the Magistrates' Court have many meaningful conversations with clients or family members, with witnesses and with people working there. People are pointed to where they can receive help, sometimes a person is accompanied in court by a Chaplain and often we pray for people – including victims. Often a person's life has become a mess and their court case can be a means of untangling the problems. The cases often encourage us to pray for the magistrates and judges and for the police, whose work can be very stressful.

If your church would like a 5-minute presentation about the work of the Chaplaincy, with opportunity to talk to people after a service please contact us to arrange a date. We can also speak more about Chaplaincy to midweek groups.

Thank you for your support of the Chaplaincy. May you be blessed as you prepare for Easter and be thankful to God for his grace.

John

John Hayward

Chair of Trustees

Prayer Points

Give thanks for:

- God's blessings and his provision for our needs.
- the commitment of Chaplains.

Pray for:

- Chaplains in the Magistrates' Court helping people in distress.
- Chaplains meeting those who spend a lot of time on the streets.
- us to best use the opportunities we are given to engage with people.
- good listening and the right words to say when Chaplains meet people.
- good links with churches and for more chaplains.