

People & Places

Q4 2025

CHURCH ARMY
:ORG

HELLO!

Welcome to the final edition of our magazine for 2025. As we reflect on the year, we are filled with immense gratitude for your partnership in our shared mission. Your support is the bedrock of our work, enabling us to ignite faith and restore lives in communities across the UK and Ireland.

In this issue, we're delighted to introduce you to the dedicated individuals who have just begun their training journey with us. You can read the inspiring stories of some of our new Evangelists-in-Training and Pioneers-in-Training, people called to serve and share the gospel in diverse and challenging contexts. Their commitment is a powerful reminder of how God continues to call people to his work.

You will also hear from our CEO, Matt Barlow, and be invited to reflect on what the Bible says about evangelism, grounding our mission in the timeless truth of scripture. There's an invitation to join us for a prayer breakfast, too, and stories of transformation and how God is working through us to encourage new believers.

You are part of every story you will read here. Thank you for your unwavering commitment and generosity, and I hope this issue leaves you feeling encouraged and inspired by what we can achieve together through faith. I look forward to connecting with you in 2026, and wish you every blessing for the remainder of the year.



Sarah Waller
Editor

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MATT'S MESSAGE: REFLECTION, RENEWAL AND HOPE

Matt Barlow, Church Army CEO, reflects on his first year with Church Army, and shares his hopes for 2026.

Over the summer, I managed to take some time to rest and recharge. As well as enjoying time with family and some lovely sunshine, I also had the privilege of visiting Ephesus, Laodicea and Hierapolis. I was transported back almost 2,000 years as I got to walk in the footsteps of St Paul and visit the tomb of St Philip the martyred apostle. In the midst of a lovely break, it reminded me afresh of the sacrifice so many have made to share Jesus with a broken and hurting world.

I've had the privilege of leading the sacrificial, Jesus-sharing movement that is Church Army for almost a year now. And at the beginning of 2025, we started the difficult process of reshaping. The Lord led us to begin a significant pruning exercise, to prepare Church Army for a new season and a re-focus.

We are stepping away from running some of our largest and most expensive projects – such as the Marylebone Project – and reducing the number of our Centres of Mission.

We've also made some hard but necessary decisions. These include selling the Wilson Carlile Centre in Sheffield and making significant changes to our staff structure.

These have not been easy decisions, and we acknowledge that some actions might have come sooner. That's why the board is commissioning an external review later this year – to listen, to learn, and to help us move forward.



Challenges remain, and there is still some grief and pain to walk through. But I am deeply encouraged by the support we've received from people like you, the resilience and flexibility of our staff and volunteers, the wider Church Army community, and the enduring promise of scripture that God goes before us and is with us.

So, what's next?

We're returning to the foundation laid by our founder, Wilson Carlile, nearly 150 years ago. His vision was simple but radical: to empower ordinary men and women, often from less privileged backgrounds, to share the good news of Jesus in word and deed – especially with those the church struggled to reach.

We are an army of hope, commissioning evangelists from all walks of life to be a light and presence for Jesus: in prisons, on estates, alongside those facing addiction, with families navigating the care system, many different places of great need.

As we look ahead, we are simplifying. By stepping away from managing large-scale projects, we can give our full attention to the heart of our calling – equipping people to take hope to the margins.

We still believe in a church that shows up where life is hardest. And we want to work in partnership with others to be the ones helping people go – with courage, compassion and conviction.

This has been a painful season. It has involved letting go of things we care deeply about. And yet, we have stayed true to our calling.

We believe new growth comes after pruning. And we believe that the best way to honour our past is to walk with faith into the future. Thank you for standing with us – through challenge, through change, and into what comes next.

Together, let's continue to ignite faith, bring hope and share Jesus for the glory of God.

Matt Barlow, CEO

WELCOME TO THE NEW CLASS

We're delighted to welcome our newest cohort of trainees beginning their transformative three-year journey with us. This September brought some remarkable Evangelists-in-Training – individuals who have felt God's call and are ready to step boldly into their purpose. We're also welcoming five passionate Pioneers-in-Training through our flourishing partnership with the Church of Ireland.

This group represents the beautiful diversity of God's calling – different backgrounds, places, ages and experiences, yet people united by their shared passion to serve others and spread hope where it's needed most.

We're really delighted to have four Evangelists-in-Training and five Pioneers-in-Training starting their journeys with us this year. We call them Evangelists-or Pioneers-in-Training, as we believe it's God who calls and equips them, while we help them deepen their understanding of pioneering mission and evangelism. These remarkable people are starting three years of learning about their vocation, including how to create new Christian communities, how to be leaders in the church, and how to pioneer new initiatives to bring people to faith. We can't wait to share the journey with them. Some of our training community have discerned a call to be Church Army Evangelists, and some to be Church of Ireland Pioneers; some love writing essays, and some won't feel confident about learning again. Most of them will be from different backgrounds and contexts, but what they all have in common is a passion to share Jesus' love with their communities!



Elli Wort
Head of Training & Equipping

Each of the nine extraordinary people starting their training adventure brings their own unique story, gifts and calling to our community. Over the coming months and years, you will be an integral part of their journey as we share their training progress and ask you to pray for them. Through our

updates, you'll witness how your meaningful support alongside our training will see them grow, discover, and develop as they discern God's plans for their lives and ministry. We are overjoyed to introduce you to some of them here.

Meet Temi

Originally from Nigeria, now living in South London, Temi Adeloye is beginning her journey with Church Army as an Evangelist-in-Training. She can't wait to be part of the family and see what God has in store for her.

"Growing up in a Nigerian village where my father served as a priest, I watched people – especially children – discover Christ for the first time. Those experiences became my evangelism training ground."

As a student, I led our Scripture Union programme, sharing the gospel and witnessing many give their lives to Christ. Later, I married a priest, working alongside him in women's and children's ministries. There's nothing like seeing someone's face light up when they encounter God's love.

Moving to the UK, I trained as a nurse – now my full-time job – and found our church home in South London. I naturally gravitated toward children's ministry, bringing interactive Bible stories to life.

When my husband brought home Church Army leaflets from a vocations weekend, something stirred within me. After calling to learn more and attending an evening session, I had a dream of a bishop laying hands on me in blessing. I explored ordination, but it didn't resonate. When Church Army came up again at another vocations event, something inside me lit up. This was my calling.

I'm excited to start this training, placing myself completely in the Holy Spirit's hands! God has prepared me through diverse experiences – from teaching to nursing – and what captivates me about Church Army is their holistic approach, caring for the whole person. I can't wait to see what's next in my journey."



Meet Jonny



Nestled along Northern Ireland's stunning coastline, the town of Portrush is home to Jonny Diamond. Jonny is embarking on his transformative adventure as a Pioneer-in-Training with Church Army, made possible through our wonderful partnership with the Church of Ireland.

"My faith journey began at 15, when I had a profound revelation: the same God who created the universe loves and cares for me personally. While my family were not regular churchgoers, I embraced my faith; it became a core part of who I am."

After studying theology, I fulfilled my dream of working for the Christian organisation that first inspired me, Exodus. However, God placed a different calling on my heart – to reach families with no faith background. I noticed that traditional church wasn't meeting the needs of young families in our area, which led me to an exciting opportunity with Gather.

Gather is a ground breaking partnership between seven local churches, taking church beyond its walls to meet our community's spiritual needs. Our name comes from Matthew 18:20: 'For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.' This collaborative approach is new for our area, giving us a chance to reach families in ways that work for them.

I'm excited to begin my Pioneers-in-Training course with Church Army, not just to learn from tutors, but also from the shared experiences of others. There's something special about seeking transformation together, and I believe real change happens in community, with God at the centre."

We can't wait to introduce you to the other trainees and share their stories with you as they unfold. You'll be part of this incredible journey every step of the way.

Do you feel called to explore evangelism? Perhaps you're feeling a stirring in your own heart about stepping into ministry. We'd love to hear from you and explore how God might be calling you to join our mission of bringing hope and transformation to communities that need it most.



PRAYER INFOCUS

- Pray that Temi, Jonny and each of the new trainees will feel welcomed and encouraged.
- Pray for those continuing their training journey to feel strengthened and excited about the new academic year and all they will learn.
- Pray for the staff and tutors supporting those in training, that they will feel refreshed, encouraged and filled with the Holy Spirit.

YOU'RE INVITED!

In September, we were delighted to launch our very first Church Army Online Prayer Breakfast. Thank you to everyone who attended and made it such a special occasion. We're thrilled to continue this meaningful event in the new year, and we'd love you to be part of it.

There's something profoundly powerful about Christians coming together in prayer. As Jonny (Pioneer-in-Training) highlighted on page 8, the promise of Jesus, we know that "Where two or three gather in my name, there I am with them" (Matthew 18:20). When believers unite their hearts, extraordinary things happen. The early church understood this; they devoted themselves to prayer, and God moved powerfully through their unity.

Designed with you in mind, our online Prayer Breakfast is a place where you can connect with each other and us from the comfort of your own home. It's a heartfelt opportunity for you to learn more about our vital work and hear about the profound impact your support creates in communities across the UK and Ireland. It is also a chance for us to thank God for you, our faithful supporters, and to seek his wisdom and blessing over the entire Church Army



family.

Your prayers and encouragement are essential. They fuel this transformative work and make a tangible difference in the lives of the people we serve. When we pray together, we join in that beautiful tradition of asking God to continue his work of transformation in lives and communities that desperately need hope. We will be confirming the date and time for our first 2026 Prayer Breakfast very soon. If you'd like to attend or be kept informed about future events, please email us at onlineevents@churcharmy.org or call **0300 131 9200**. We'll be delighted to save you a place.

Why not take this opportunity to explore your own evangelism by inviting friends or family to join you for our Prayer Breakfast? It's a wonderful chance to share a cuppa and enjoy meaningful fellowship.

If joining online feels daunting, consider asking someone who is tech-savvy for help. They could even join in too.

We can't wait to see you there!



EVANGELISM - THE BEATING HEART OF GOD?

If I asked you to think about what the Bible says about sharing our faith, many of you may turn to the end of Matthew's Gospel. Jesus' instructions to "make disciples of all nations, baptising in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit" make this a stand out passage.

Or you might look to the farewell part of John's gospel, that the disciples should "go and bear fruit", as part of their connectedness to the life of Jesus.



Focusing solely on these verses, however, could give the impression that evangelism was a new idea that emerged through Jesus' teachings. In reality, there is a much older call on believers to share the good news of faith, one that is deeply rooted to the call on followers of God.

Throughout the Old Testament, we read about the call on God's chosen people to be a light to the nations, showing them what it means to live in connection with the creator of all. Perhaps the most moving expression of this is found in the book of Isaiah, where the prophet shares a vision of nations streaming to the mountain of God to worship. This worship is not simply what we might think of as

a religious act, but it is a call on their whole life. They are to put aside conflict and selfishness, and instead step into a life lived in relationship with God.

Isaiah 52:7 tells us that “beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, ‘Your God Reigns’.” This verse highlights that evangelism isn’t a new task; it is part of a special vocation for God’s followers. And this image must have been in Paul’s mind when he wrote about the armour of God, that we should have “feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.”

From the beginning, God has been calling out to those who do not yet know him, through the life, actions and words of his people. When we step into this calling, we are joining with the work of millennia of believers, who recognise that relationship with God is the foundation for a better way to be human.

It is to live in step with the heartbeat of God.



Jonny Price
Church Resource Officer

THIS CHRISTMAS, WILL YOU GIVE THE GIFT OF JESUS?



'...the people living in darkness have seen a great light...'
Matthew 4:16

"Church Army helped me understand I am a child of God. Because they helped me, I know they can help others..." Dave, Dundee

Dave's words remind us what Christmas is truly about: God's love breaking into people's lives with light and hope.

From the streets, to young people, to canal boats, to prisons, Church Army is there - taking the good news of Jesus where others may not go.

This Christmas, we are asking you - and your church - to go with us in that calling. Together, we can bring hope where there is despair, light where there is darkness, and love where there is loneliness. Find out more about how your church can get involved in our Christmas appeal today by contacting supportercare@churcharmy.org or call 0300 131 9200.

Ways To Give

Online

Visit churcharmy.org/donate to:

- Set up a monthly direct debit
- Make a card donation

Post

Cheques can be made payable to 'Church Army' and sent to:

Church Army, Wilson Carlile Centre, 50 Cavendish Street, Sheffield, S3 7RZ

Phone

Call **0300 131 9200** to speak to us in person and make a donation by card over the phone

Major Gifts

If you feel called to make a significant donation please call Ally Wenham, Key Relationships Lead on **0114 2521653**

Bank Transfer or Standing Order

Bank: Barclays

Account Name: The Church Army

Sort Code: 20-49-81

Account No. 80255459

Donating from Ireland

Bank: Bank of Ireland

Account Name: The Church Army

NSC: 900033 Account No. 59292933

IBAN: IE34 BOFI 9000 3359 2929 33

SWIFTBIC: BOFI IE2D

If you're making a donation via bank transfer, we'd be so grateful if you could include your unique supporter reference. This allows us to know who made the generous contribution, and it gives us the chance to personally thank you for your support.

Not sure about your supporter reference? Don't worry—we're here to help! You can give us a call at **0300 131 9200** or send us an email at fundraising@churcharmy.org

Through our partnership with expert will writers, Octopus Legacy, you can write or update a simple will for **FREE** or receive a discount on more complex wills. While many people who use this service choose to leave a donation to Church Army in their will, there is no obligation to do so. To find out more call: **0204 525 3605**

LIFE ON THE WATER

Waterways Chaplains bring Christ's love to one of Britain's most overlooked communities – those who live on the water. These dedicated volunteers serve people who often live off-grid, away from traditional support networks; offering emergency assistance, providing urgent supplies, celebrating life's precious moments with waterways families, or simply sharing a coffee and a conversation at a lock. These chaplains reach souls where traditional church outreach rarely goes. They bring connection where there is isolation, offering pastoral care, practical support and spiritual guidance to those who need it most – proving that God's love flows wherever his people go.

Chris and Diana Poore felt called to step into roles as Waterways Chaplains in Staffordshire. Drawing on years of boating experience and their deep Christian faith, they bring hope and practical support directly to those who call the waterways home. For many living on the water, life presents unique challenges. Chris and Diana understand these struggles firsthand, which makes their ministry particularly meaningful.

Walking the towpath or sailing their own boat, filled with compassion and expertise, they offer more than just a friendly chat. They provide genuine connection and God's love to a community that often feels overlooked. Through their work, those facing difficult circumstances find, not just support, but people who truly understand their world.

Meet Chris and Diana

"It is a privilege for us to be Waterways Chaplains. We feel this is our faith in action, taking church beyond the four walls to meet people exactly where they are.

Life on the water can be profoundly isolating. We met a boater simply by chance, and our chat developed into a more meaningful conversation where he confided in us that he was contemplating suicide. Another gentleman was referred to us after a hospital discharge following an overdose. His boat had multiple problems, he had no fuel, no power, no food, no money, and his relationship had ended along with his job. Complete despair had taken hold. We rallied our network – chaplains and boaters alike – to provide fuel, food and the loan of a generator. Today, he has a job, stability and



hope. In both of these desperate situations, the suicide awareness training we had received through the chaplaincy prepared us and gave us the skills to support both of these chaps.

It is vital that people like us are here to serve the people on the water, especially those struggling. This is God's love made tangible.

Being boaters ourselves, we know these waters, understand this lifestyle, and can connect with people who've chosen life afloat. The Waterways Chaplaincy is an incredible community of people, and we all lean on one another for support. If we come across someone who needs something specific that maybe we can't help with, you can guarantee that someone in the chaplaincy can. It really is remarkable. We feel so blessed to be involved with this ministry; it is not only vital, but it is something really special."

Taking on the elements

This summer, as Storm Floris battered the UK with torrential rain and winds up to 80mph, Revd Chris Upton, National Lead for Waterways Chaplaincy, faced the storm head on. He cycled an incredible 127 miles along the Liverpool-Leeds canal towpath to raise vital funds for this remarkable ministry.

Despite brutal weather, Chris powered through 12 hours in the saddle on his inspiring solo cross-country ride, embodying the very spirit of perseverance and dedication that defines the work of Waterways Chaplaincy.

"The Waterways Chaplaincy is about coming alongside those who live on the water", says Chris. "Some are there out of necessity, and, if your life is on the canal, you've got to survive the worst of the weather – the winter, the storms – you can't just opt out. So doing it during the storm brought a kind of solidarity with the boaters, the people we aim to care for."

A heartfelt congratulations and thank you to Chris for his extraordinary resilience and dedication.

Could this be your calling? Volunteer chaplains are urgently needed, particularly in London, Manchester and Liverpool. No previous boating experience is necessary, just a heart for serving others and sharing God's love in practical ways. Prayer and financial support are equally needed. Every donation helps chaplains provide emergency assistance, maintain vital equipment, and extend Christ's compassion to waterways communities across the nation.

Discover how you can join God's work on the water by visiting www.waterwayschaplaincy.org.uk



FROM COMMUNITY TO CHRIST WITH MYCN

The Missional Youth Church Network (MYCN) has an inspiring vision to bring faith to life for young people across the UK and Ireland.

By partnering with parishes and dioceses as part of the Church Army family, MYCN helps local churches rethink how they connect with young people in their area. Whether it's through schools, sports teams, or simply meeting young people where they are, the focus is always on building genuine, lasting relationships.

From these relationships, vibrant communities are formed. It's here that the team creatively shares the story of Jesus, forming small discipleship groups and, eventually, new expressions of worship. It's a journey from connection to community, and from community to Christ.

MYCN's expertise is making a real impact, with Missional Youth Churches flourishing up and down the country. Their approach isn't scary or one-size-fits-all. Instead, they create bespoke, easy-to-engage programmes that are nuanced for different contexts, from urban centres to rural villages. The team has particular expertise in working with young people in deprived areas. In all these places, a new generation is discovering faith and coming into relationship with God.

The ultimate goal of MYCN is to see these young people become leaders of tomorrow, ready to run with these churches and even plant new ones.



A Story of Growth : St John's Church, Hinckley

St John's Church in Hinckley, Leicestershire, is a shining example of MYCN's work in action. Eager to engage more effectively with local young people, they partnered with MYCN. Through MYCN's brand new course 'Ignite', their youth leadership team has grown in confidence, and it shows!

Most beautifully, they recently celebrated the baptism of four young people, two of whom have grown in their faith through the new Ignite course.

Meet Morgana

"I'm 16, and the MYCN course has been amazing for helping me understand what Jesus and Christianity are really about. It breaks down all the meanings behind what's said in the Bible in a way that actually makes sense. I've brought three of my mates along because it's been so much fun. We can have a laugh while learning about Jesus and what the Bible teaches us.

What's really helped me is being able to ask questions I'd never have the courage to ask in church normally. I can listen to other people's views too – people my own age who might think like I do. Even though I've been coming to church my whole life, MYCN helped me understand what faith actually means for me personally. It's helped me make the decision to get baptised and understand what that really means. The course has properly helped me work out what I believe and what I can do with God in my life."



Meet Corey

“Before doing this MYCN course I wasn't sure what my religion was. I wasn't completely religious, I wasn't completely atheist. So doing the course helped me to learn where my faith stands and where I stand within faith. The vibe of the group has been very open, everyone is very happy to share their own feelings. When we first started, we were all a bit quiet; but towards the end, everyone knew that we were comfortable, and [we were] willing to be open with each other.

It has really taught me about faith and how to communicate with others, and about how faith works within family and friendships. A standout moment for me was when we were all talking about what our faith was to us at the very start, and I was able to sit and think about what it actually was and what it meant to me. That moment had an impact on me and I found out that what I believed was actually faith, a faith I didn't know I had until that point. It has been amazing.”



Meet Lily

"I'm 14 and I decided to be baptised whilst I was doing the MYCN course. Through this course, my faith has really developed. It has really made me think about things I never thought about before. And because we get to discuss things together in a group, it gives me different perspectives. It opens up new ideas about different things... like when we did about treasure, and we spoke about what that could mean in terms of treasuring God's kingdom. We looked at different what that could mean.



ideas of

We are often loud and laugh a lot, but it is so much fun. I felt like getting baptised was my next step in my faith, because I haven't been a Christian all my life, and I wasn't baptised as a baby. So I had that choice myself, and MYCN has helped me to understand and sort of find my faith myself."

MYCN is ready to help your church connect with young people in your area. Why not contact them and see how you can help new believers and young leaders flourish?

www.mycn.org.uk

**PRAYER
INFOCUS**

- Pray MYCN will continue to make vital connections with Christian communities and engage with local young people across the UK and Ireland.
- Lift up Morgana, Corey and Lily. Pray that more young people will be transformed and renewed by the love of God, and that each new believer will be supported and encouraged in meaningful ways.

JOIN OUR EDITORIAL PANEL

Do you have ideas about what you would like to read about in the Church Army magazine?

Do you have suggestions about how we can make our magazine more engaging?

If so, you might be just who we need!

We're looking for ways to make our supporter magazine even better – more inspiring, more relevant and more reflective of our amazing Church Army community. That's why we're inviting people to join our Editorial Panel.

This is an exciting opportunity to help shape the future of our magazine, and we would love you to get involved.

This panel is a focus group of supporters who will help guide the future format of the magazine. You'll have the opportunity to share your thoughts, ideas and feedback – helping us ensure our magazine is truly shaped by the voices that matter most: yours!

Your opinion is incredibly valuable, and we want to listen, learn and grow alongside you, our wonderful supporters.

As a member of the panel, you'll be invited to:

- Complete surveys to share your views and preferences
- Join occasional online focus group meetings to explore ideas together
- Chat with us by phone from time to time, so we can hear your thoughts directly

If joining the Editorial Panel sounds like something you would like to do, please email us at hello@churcharmy.org. There's no long-term commitment, just a chance to share your views and help us make something special.



Isaiah

40:28-31

“Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can
fathom.

29 He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.

30 Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;

31 but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.”

JUMPING IN TO SUPPORT THE RUBY PROJECT

Friends of the Ruby Project recently took on an extraordinary challenge – bouncing, climbing and sliding across a massive 5-kilometer inflatable obstacle course. Their mission? To raise funds for women facing far greater obstacles in their daily lives.

The Ruby Project transforms lives by offering women a pathway beyond sexual exploitation. Ruby provides more than just services; they offer genuine alternatives to survival strategies like sex work, which often arise from trauma, addiction, or desperate circumstances.

With love, compassion, and steadfast hope – and without judgment – Ruby walks alongside women as they rebuild their lives and heal. This ministry embodies Christ's call to serve the most vulnerable and overlooked in our communities.

Without the Ruby Project, people like Bea* would lack the support they desperately need. With no family or any kind of guidance, Bea* was just a 15-year-old child when the sex industry became her only means of survival. But with support from The Ruby Project, she has been able to transform her life.



Meet Bea*

"I grew up in care, without family, without support, and that kind of isolation can break you down. I was introduced to the sex industry at 15. It wasn't something I wanted, but circumstances pushed me there, and I had nobody. I heard about the Ruby Project from other girls. I had no one else, and I needed help. They were kind and caring in a way I hadn't known before. I felt like I could talk to them, open up about things I had kept hidden for so long, and I wasn't used to that. I wasn't used to feeling safe enough to share. Now my life has changed. They've helped me get clean, and I've been off the streets for nearly six years. The Ruby Project saved me, and I hope you keep doing what you're doing. The streets need you, and the girls need you even more."

In Matthew 22:27-30, Jesus teaches us to love God with all our heart and love our neighbour as ourselves. This calling is at the heart of The Ruby Project. Even facing adversity, we continue to love unconditionally.

'Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

Your support makes it possible for Church Army to continue this vital work, reaching women like Bea*, and providing life-changing care, hope, restoration and renewed purpose.

*Name changed to protect identity

- Pray for all those impacted by the sex industry, that they may find the support they need and discover the unwavering love of God.
- Pray for the staff and volunteers of the Ruby Project, that they will feel strengthened, encouraged and supported.

**PRAYER
INFOCUS**

IGNITING FAITH AND RESTORING HOPE: *A Legacy of Love*

As Christians, we're called to be stewards of God's blessings, not just for today but for the generations to come. Your life is a testament to your faith, and your will can be a powerful final chapter in that story. By leaving a legacy gift to Church Army, you can ensure that your commitment to sharing the gospel and serving those in need continues long after you are gone.

Church Army and the work we do had a profound impact on the life of the late Revd Audrey Shilling. Revd Shilling decided to leave a legacy gift in her will to Church Army, in recognition of the significant influence her training with Church Army had on her life and ministry. Revd Shilling shared some words about her experiences before her passing, and we are delighted to be able to share some of this with you, in loving memory of her and all she did throughout her wonderful life of dedicated service to God.

"My career path from housing manager to ordained minister reflects Church Army's profound influence on my life of service. After witnessing harsh living conditions in Liverpool and feeling called to evangelism, I found my vocation within Church Army. This proved transformative, providing a foundation for decades of meaningful work, including at Oxford House in Bethnal Green, where I developed the skills that would define my ministry.

Church Army's impact continued well beyond my active service. The training and values from my Church Army years enabled me to become one of the first thirty-two women ordained as priests in the Diocese of Rochester in 1994. I went on to establish vital community services, including support for asylum seekers in Rochester.

My later work with a local Racial Equality Council, prison chaplaincy, and various community initiatives all reflect Church Army's core mission of serving overlooked communities. My years of service show how one organisation's influence can create lasting change across generations and countless lives.

It is because of this lasting impact that I will be leaving a gift in my will to Church Army.”

A gift in your will, no matter the size, is a profound act of worship. It is an investment in the future of the church and a promise to continue Christ’s work on Earth. Your legacy will empower our evangelists to reach the most vulnerable communities, provide shelter for the homeless, and bring hope to the lost. It enables us to plan for the future, confident that we can continue to meet the needs of a changing world.

Consider how your faith can echo through eternity. A legacy gift is more than a donation; it is a lasting declaration of your hope in Jesus, planting seeds of faith that will blossom for years to come.

Send an email to legacy@churcharmy.org or call **0300 131 9200** to find out how you can leave a gift to ignite faith for the generations to come.





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