

**FEATURE**  
Recipes for  
Easter leftovers

**FAITH TALK**  
My fine is paid

**MY STORY**  
A life forever  
changed

# *Humiliated for the sake of the world*

The centuries-old attraction to the message of a crucified king



# SALVOS

MAGAZINE

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**DON'T SAVE THINGS FOR  
A SPECIAL OCCASION.  
BEING ALIVE IS A  
SPECIAL OCCASION.**





## The Salvation Army is about giving hope where it's needed most.

### What is The Salvation Army?

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church.

### Vision Statement

Wherever there is hardship or injustice, Salvos will live, love and fight alongside others to transform Australia one life at a time with the love of Jesus.

### Mission Statement

The Salvation Army is a Christian movement dedicated to sharing the love of Jesus by:

- Caring for people
- Creating faith pathways
- Building healthy communities
- Working for justice

# Salvos Magazine

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**Humiliated for the sake of the world**

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**My fine is paid**

**My Story [12]**  
**A life forever changed**

## The price of freedom

The Easter season, new life, and freedom go together. They bring a hope that this tumultuous world desperately needs, both individually and collectively.

In this edition, we look at freedom in a few different ways. Mark Stephens writes about the crucifixion and why the cross – a symbol of shame and agony – brings such hope to so many suffering, vulnerable, and overlooked people. They know only God can bring true freedom, and that he willingly came to earth to pay the price of bringing that to them.

In Faith Talk, Kathleen Johansson shares an everyday story from her life in Bulgaria that helped her reflect on the Easter message – that Jesus knows us, sees us in our daily lives, and overcame all opposition to make sure the price for our freedom was paid.

In My Story, Ava shares her journey through abuse and addiction to hope, freedom, and a life that has completely turned around in ways she never dreamed possible.

To learn more about the meaning of Easter, to connect with the Salvos, or get help from Salvos Services, check out [salvationarmy.org.au/our-faith/easter/](http://salvationarmy.org.au/our-faith/easter/)

Simone Worthing **Assistant Editor**

# Humiliated for the sake of the world

Why people through the ages have been drawn to the message of a crucified king

**WORDS** Mark Stephens

“Christianity is the only major religion to have as its central event the humiliation of its God.”

That’s how the American historian Bruce Shelley opens his story of the Christian Church. It’s an arresting opening line.

Most Australians aren’t religious, at least in the practising sense. Even at Easter, only 11 per cent of us will darken a church door. Nevertheless, even secular Aussies still retain some basic expectations of religion, of what it should look like if we could be bothered. For some, we might associate churches with proper behaviour, ordered rituals, and being well dressed. Or, if we’re vaguely familiar with a modern megachurch, our expectation might be glossy brochures, espresso machines, and slick music. Either way, you expect that religion will at least try and look clean, serene, and ordered.

By this measure, the story of Easter is profoundly irreligious because the centre of the Christian faith is a person dying a degrading and violent death.

## FALSE EXPECTATIONS

This doesn’t really fit anyone’s expectation of how a god should behave. Even for those of us who think religion is merely a human invention, nobody plans a marketing campaign for a faith by suggesting, “Hey, let’s put crucifixion front and centre.”

We, of course, now live in a post-Christian moment, where the cross has been buried

under centuries of sentimentality. We put crosses on pieces of jewellery, sympathy cards, and church stationery.



But, in the ancient world, crucifixion was always ugly, dirty, and shameful. It involved the brutality of forced nudity, slow asphyxiation, and the trauma of cardiac arrest.

The Roman orator Cicero regarded the discussion of crucifixion as entirely in bad taste. The first Christians openly admitted their message was a kind of ‘foolishness’. They didn’t mean that Jesus’ crucifixion hadn’t happened. They meant they knew how strange it sounded, bordering upon mad, to construe the crucifixion as a positive event.

## WHY CRUCIFIXION?

So why did they insist on Christ crucified? Not just the death of Jesus, but his death on a cross.

From its earliest days, the Christian Church has held great attraction for nobodies. To be sure, religion has always had its fair share



of celebrities and the power-hungry. But the faithful are, for the most part, unimpressive.

If the Christian story about a crucified Jesus is true, then it means that God has come all the way down into human experience – not merely to experience our happy and delightful moments, but all the way down to our places of pain, humiliation, and abandonment.

“

**God has come all the way down into human experience ...**

”

This should not surprise anyone if the centre of the faith is a crucified Saviour.

The Jesus presented to us in the New Testament gospels is fully acquainted with the world's suffering, culminating in his own

experience of a slow and agonising death. The manner of Jesus' death is a clue to the breadth of his intended reach. As the American preacher Fleming Rutledge puts it, the crucifixion of Jesus is the death of a nobody, a death the Romans reserved for the lowest.

Perhaps that is why the last, the least, the lonely, and the lost have always found themselves drawn to this message of a murdered king. They see someone who is with them, for them – and just as important, because of what happens next in the story, someone who can actually help them.

*Dr Mark Stephens is a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Public Christianity.*

*This article first appeared in The Spectator Australia ([thespectator.com.au](https://thespectator.com.au)).*



Scan here for more on finding meaning.

# Too much chocolate?

Fun recipes for Easter leftovers

**WORDS** Alexis McKeand

This article has divided our team right down the middle – one side who cannot fathom the possibility of chocolate leftovers in any form, and the other side who are, well, hoarders, and still find little eggs in the pantry right up until Christmas.

Whichever camp you are in, if you find yourself with an abundance of treats post-Easter, this article is for you. We have put together three of our favourite leftover recipes to keep you going through the long weekend and make good use of Easter eggs and hot cross buns – see link at the end of the article for details.

## CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

This recipe is good for any season. We have suggested chopping up leftover Easter eggs and throwing them in, but really, these cookies have been known to have just about any form of chocolate in them!

## CHEESECAKE EASTER EGGS

Next, we have cheesecake served in the halves of large Easter eggs. Yes, you heard correctly – chop those big beauties in half, place cookie crumbs and smooth cheesecake filling inside, and then decorate with even more Easter-y treats. They are delicious and oh-so-decadent, but definitely worth a try (I have been known to go out and buy eggs when they are on sale a few days after Easter just to make this recipe.)

## HOT CROSS BUNS PUDDING

Lastly, what do you do with leftover hot cross buns? You know, those that are a bit stale and got lost in the bread bin? Or the ones left over when you bought extra and thought they



would all get eaten? Well, you turn them into bread-and-butter pudding, of course! You can use whatever flavour of bun you like for this recipe, and it is amazing served with some ice cream at the end of a big weekend.

There is so much you can do with leftovers – the only limit is your imagination and your ability to stop eating eggs just as they are.

However you have spent your weekend, Happy Easter from our work family to yours!

To download all these recipes, go to [bit.ly/3JQD80x](https://bit.ly/3JQD80x)

*Captain Alexis McKeand is a Policy and Social Justice Adviser for The Salvation Army Australia.*

## JOSH'S CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES



### Ingredients

- 225g unsalted butter (softened)
- 40g soft brown sugar
- 180g dark muscovado sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 large free-range eggs
- 270g plain flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp salt
- 250g chocolate chips or excess Easter eggs.

### Method

Cream butter and sugars until light and fluffy. Add vanilla and eggs one at a time, beating well between each egg.

Add the wet mixture to the combined dry ingredients. Add chocolate and mix well.

Place mixture on a length of cling wrap, form into a sausage shape, and place in fridge for 30 minutes or until hard.

Cut disc-shaped pieces of dough to desired thickness. Place well apart on a lined baking sheet. Bake in moderate oven (180°C) until golden. Cool on tray for 10 minutes before moving to wire rack.

Best served warm with ice cream!

## CHEESECAKE EASTER EGGS



### Ingredients

- 100g of your choice of biscuits
- 25g unsalted butter (melted)
- 1.5 large Easter eggs (halved to make 3 shells)
- 340g Philadelphia cream cheese
- 50g caster sugar
- Juice of half a lemon
- ½ tsp vanilla extract
- 200ml thickened cream
- Easter treats for topping (such as mini eggs, shaved Easter eggs, crème eggs).

### Method

Blitz biscuits in a food processor or put them in a ziplock bag and crush with a rolling pin.

Add butter and mix well. Place some in each half eggshell and press to smooth. Place in fridge.

Mix cream cheese and caster sugar. Pour in lemon juice and vanilla and beat together. In a separate bowl whisk the cream to form stiff peaks and then fold into cheesecake mixture.

Fill the eggs with cheesecake mixture. Put them back in the fridge for at least an hour, preferably overnight.

Decorate when ready to serve. Enjoy!

## Humanitarian aid expands in Eastern Europe

Since the conflict in Ukraine began in February, The Salvation Army has been providing humanitarian aid across Eastern Europe. Emergency response teams took immediate action, providing critical relief and emotional and spiritual care through extreme challenges and distressing conditions.



In Romania, The Salvation Army is assisting with a social services hub operated by the local government in Bucharest. The Army also continues its ministry at the Siret border crossing.

“We met a lot of people who were desperate because they were running from war and they were trying to find a safe place,” says Lieutenant Emil Ghenea, sharing about the refugees in Siret. “And we were here to be with them and help them because they needed to feel that they are not alone.”

In Moldova, the Army continues to provide accommodation, food, and other supplies to refugees as needed.

Between 24 February and 20 March, the Salvos in Eastern Europe provided:

- 6480 cooked meals
- 2750 food parcels
- 1343 water bottles
- 1285 hygiene products
- 2218 diapers
- 415 baby formula.

In addition:

- 1550 adults and 726 children were accommodated in Salvation Army buildings
- 570 people accommodated in non-Salvation Army buildings were assisted by the Salvos
- 278 people were assisted with health and medication
- 824 people volunteered with the Salvos.

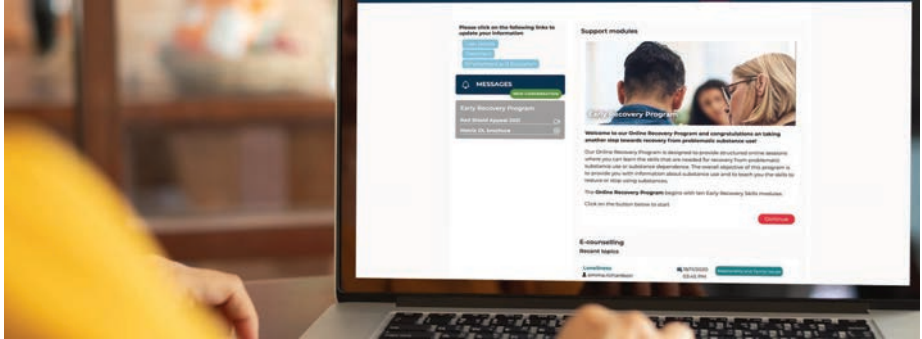


Outside of Eastern Europe, the Salvos have actively supported refugees in multiple locations in Poland, Germany, Hungary, Switzerland, Belgium, and France.

This article first appeared in the Canadian *Salvationist* magazine ([salvationist.ca](http://salvationist.ca)).



# Tasmania launches virtual AOD program



Recovery is just a click away, thanks to a free online Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) program launched by The Salvation Army in Tasmania.

With just a Wi-Fi connection and a mobile phone or a laptop, the new flexible online Early Recovery Skills Program will equip people who are unable or uncomfortable to receive treatment in person.

Funded by Public Health Tasmania, the free online service is a self-paced educational tool developed with an evidence-based approach

to build on the many programs the Salvos' AOD Services already provided.

"We know that everyone's journey is different. The Early Recovery Skills Program offers a new option in Alcohol and Other Drugs support, easily adapting to an individual's unique circumstance," said Penny Chugg, Salvation Army State Manager for AOD Services in Tasmania.

Tasmanians can access the Early Recovery Skills Program now by visiting [bridgetasmania.org.au/online-support/early-recovery-skills-program](https://bridgetasmania.org.au/online-support/early-recovery-skills-program)

## Flood appeal update

Thanks to our generous donors, volunteers and supporters, The Salvation Army has provided the following support in Queensland and NSW:

- Distributed \$4,211,967 in financial assistance and in-kind support such as food parcels, clothing and household items
- Issued 20,385 recovery grants
- Assisted 21,120 households
- Currently supporting seven recovery hubs plus providing outreach in Queensland, and two in NSW.
- Currently reactivated in four evacuation centres: Lismore, Coraki, Tweed Heads, and Lennox Head. (As of 1 April)

# My fine is paid

An incident on a Bulgarian tram reflects the Easter message

**WORDS** Kathleen Johansson

**Captain Kathleen Johansson is an Australian Salvos officer (pastor) working with a team pioneering the work of The Salvation Army in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria in Eastern Europe. This work now includes emergency aid and support to refugees fleeing Russia's invasion of Ukraine. As Easter approaches, a recent incident on a local tram prompted her to think about the sacrificial and grace-filled love of God.**

“

**He knows you, and he still wants to pay the fine. No matter what.**

”

A few days ago, I helped a young woman on a tram because the tram guards were giving her a fine for not having the correct ticket. She clearly didn't understand Bulgarian or English and was becoming more physically distressed by the second.

I stepped in and tried to say in my broken Bulgarian, "I will pay for her."

"Do you know this woman?" one of the guards questioned me in English.

"No," I replied, "but I want to pay the fine for her."

Clearly confused by my actions, the guard initially refused to let me pay the fine, which

was 30 leva (about \$AUD24). Eventually, after a lot of hassle – including telephone calls and attempts to use Google Translate – they found a way and allowed me to pay the fine. This scared young woman was eventually able to get to where she needed to go – a mosque.

I assume that I gave that tram guard something to talk about over the dinner table that night. But more importantly, his words "Do you know this woman?" kept ringing in my ears.

## UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

Jesus was ready to take my mistakes, mess, and shame and pay the price for it on my behalf. And then God the Father said, "Do you know this woman?"

And Jesus said, "Yes, I know everything about her, and I still want to pay on her behalf."



Buying a ticket to help someone out is not so easy on Bulgarian trams!



Fine paid, the young woman gratefully heads off to the mosque.

If someone like me, a timid and newly-arrived foreigner, was willing to intervene in a frightening situation and help a young woman who I did not know, then how much more is your Father in Heaven, through his son Jesus, willing to pay the price for the mistakes you've made, to clear your slate, and to pay the fine on your behalf?

He knows you, and he still wants to pay the fine. No matter what.



Scan here for more on the need for community.

# My life has completely turned around

When Ava\* formed a relationship with God and connected with a caring Salvos church community, her life changed forever.

I will say this to the day I'm not on this earth: The Salvation Army has literally saved my life. In just one year, I lost everything. I had been struggling to make life work – to make ends meet, maintain my relationship, and care for my children. But when it all began spiralling out of control, I found myself in the same cycle of addiction and violence I had grown up with – one I had sworn I would never subject my own children to.

## REPEATING THE CYCLE

I come from a family of 11. I grew up around alcoholics and domestic violence, and as soon as my siblings and I could leave home, we did. Moving out at just 14, I got a job working in a restaurant. By 16, I became pregnant with my first child and was pressured into a marriage I was not emotionally prepared for.

“

**The story of Easter is also the story of hope and new life ...**

”

We bought a house, and I fell pregnant again soon after that. I was isolated from family and pretty much stayed at home and raised the kids. Because my husband drank a lot, I was always the sober, responsible one.

We had three children together before I decided to leave. The divorce was hard,

and after that, things got even worse. My new partner introduced me to ice (crystal methamphetamine) and was controlling and financially abusive. We had a child together, and I developed postnatal depression.

Although I ended the toxic relationship, my mental health suffered. The anxiety and depression I'd battled with my whole life gave way to addiction until my brother encouraged me to go to a Salvation Army residential recovery centre.

It took about three days before I realised that I really needed to be there. I'd hit rock bottom – I lost my job, my car, my kids, my friends and family, and I didn't have any money. Everybody cut me off except one of my brothers and a sister.

## ROAD TO RECOVERY

To get clean and sober, I was told that you need to change absolutely everything, and that's exactly what I did. I went into rehab with an open mind, and I also began attending an optional Bible study at the recovery service. I downloaded the Bible app and kept going to the Bible study each week on Tuesday night. It was kind of like a church service – there was music and people getting awards, and it was fun.

When I went on to complete the 'Alpha course' [explaining Christianity], I had a powerful experience of God. It was like God was saying: "Ava, you've tried your way for so long, it doesn't work. Try something new. You're safe; this is real." At the end of the Alpha course,



PHOTO: STOCK / GETTY IMAGES

The Salvos' Alcohol and Others Drugs Services help people like Ava turn their lives around.

I got baptised, and it was just out of this world. I just can't explain it – it was amazing.

“

**It was like God was saying:  
'Ava, you've tried your way for  
so long, it doesn't work. Try  
something new.'**

”

Being of Aboriginal heritage connects me strongly and deeply to the natural world and to my ancestors. If I start feeling like my mental health is deteriorating, I visit the bush or a rain-forest or a creek. I sit on the earth, wherever it may be, talk to my ancestors – like we talk to God – and say, “I need some guidance.”

Two weeks before Christmas, I left the recovery centre and was welcomed into

such a caring community. The people in The Salvation Army church made sure that I was safe. They gave me food hampers and presents that I could give to the kids, so I didn't have to feel stressed about anything. They really were part of the foundation to start my new journey, and I'm so encouraged by the turnaround I've made.

**SPECIAL MEANING**

As Easter approaches, it's always a special time for me. The story of Easter is also the story of hope and new life – something I relate to deeply. It gives me comfort knowing that there is a God – a higher power. I know deep down within my heart that God walks with me every day. I can feel it.

*\*Name changed to protect privacy*



Scan here for more information on Salvation Army Services.

# Chicken drumstick hotpot



PHOTO: ANDREA REDFORD

## Ingredients

2 tsp olive oil, 12 peeled shallots (separate cloves), 750g small potatoes (halved), 2 cups chicken stock, juice and zest of 1 lemon, 8 chicken drumsticks, 3 tsp dried oregano, ground black pepper to taste, 2 tbs chopped fresh parsley, 1 finely sliced clove of garlic.

## Method

- Preheat oven to 200°C. Heat half the oil in a frying pan. Fry shallots and potatoes for 5 minutes until browned. Transfer to a roasting dish and pour over stock and lemon juice. Bake for 15 minutes.
- Score drumsticks with a sharp knife and rub with oregano and pepper. Add remaining oil to pan and fry chicken for 2-3 minutes.
- Remove roasting dish from oven and place chicken among potatoes. Return dish to oven and cook for 20 minutes.
- In a small bowl, combine parsley, garlic, and lemon zest. Drizzle over stew and serve straight away.

# HAVE A LAUGH

What brand of motorcycle laughs the most?  
**Yamahahaha!**

When do you take your motorcycle to the doctor?  
**When it needs a fuel injection!**



What internet web browser do motorcycle riders use?  
**Chrome!**

What do you call a pastor who rides a motorcycle?  
**Rev!**

# SIGNING IN



PHOTO: STOCK / GETTY IMAGES

# Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

	5	4			2			9
7	2					8	4	
					3			
6					4			
			9	1	7	4	2	
		1						
				7	6			4
1						9	3	7
			3					

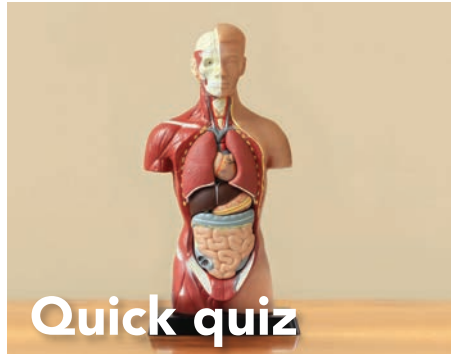


PHOTO: STOCK / GETTY IMAGES

## Quick quiz

1. What is the space between your eyebrows called?
2. What is your little toe or finger called?
3. What is the space between your nostrils called?
4. What is the space between your forefinger and your thumb called?
5. What is your big toe called?

# Tum-Tum

On which page of this week's *Salvos Magazine* is Tum-Tum hiding?



## Bible byte

Heaven and earth will disappear,  
but my words remain forever.

Matthew chapter 24, verse 35

*The Living Bible*

**Quiz answers:** 1. Columella nasi 2. Minimus 3. Columella nasi 4. Particula 5. Hallux  
Tum-Tum: is hiding behind the sign on page 14.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The rumbling of a stomach is called a wamble.

The milk in Aussie Cadbury chocolate comes mainly from Tasmania.

The sugar in Cadbury chocolate comes mainly from Qld.

For Easter each year, Cadbury produces around 477 million eggs and 14.6 million bunnies.

Aussies will spend an average of \$485 on food and drink this Easter.

2	1	9	6	1	0	0	7
7	0	0	9	2	7	1	0
9	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	2	1	1	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Have you taken care of your Will?



A gift in your Will can help The Salvation Army create a long-lasting impact in the lives of those experiencing hardship.

Together, we can give hope where it's needed most and you can start or continue your legacy of generosity.

For information or a free copy of Your Will booklet



Please contact:

salvationarmy.org.au/wills  
or scan the QR code



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