

The Rainbow and The Salvation Army

How The Salvation Army helped people during the pandemic

There was a time when we wore masks,
And everyone kept their distance.
A virus had come; made some people sick
Because we had no resistance.

We stayed at home, no school, no work;
Put teddies in our window.
But many found this life too hard,
So we also put up a rainbow.

*A rainbow is bright, a rainbow is light,
A rainbow is a message of hope.
If we're kind to each other, and love one another,
We are a message of hope.*

The Salvation Army believes in God
And helping people in need.
But keeping working in this new world
Was a mammoth challenge indeed.

So here, inspired by rainbow colours,
Is the story of what we did:
Of helping people around us,
Loving others, like Jesus said.

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Red - rough sleepers and runners.

Rough sleepers had no place to go;
They live their life outside.
So on the streets hot meals we gave;
And worked to bring them inside.

Runners who'd run the marathon
Who wanted to fundraise,
Ran at home, in streets, alone.
Giving money in new ways.



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Orange - online support and online church.

From young to old and in-between
We connected all online.
And so our clubs and services
Kept going - all was fine!

Our church connected virtually,
We sang and gave God praise.
We prayed for help and guidance
For us all in these days.

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Yellow - young people.

Our church was helping lots of kids
With breakfasts every day,
And clothing, games and spare laptops
For schoolwork and for play.

We helped young people to meet up
In our clubs - all online,
Plus training, and time to chat,
To check that they were fine.

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Green - giving.

People gave us lots of things
So we could pass them on:
Food parcels, clothes - and furniture!
The list goes on and on.

And when it came to Christmas time,
Our toy appeal went wild!
For families who were struggling,
A toy for every child.

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Blue - brews and beating the blues.

Our vans cheer people in emergencies
With chats and tea - a brew.
It helped keep people's spirits up,
Like NHS workers too.

We reached out to the vulnerable -
People alone all day.
And sent out hopeful messages:
'We can do it, you'll be OK.'

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Indigo - international.

Our church is international,
Our work is worldwide too.
With schools, and clinics and hospitals,
Our work just grew and grew.



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How The Salvation Army helped people during the pandemic

We made sure people round the world
Had the facts that they'd all need
To keep them safe, plus masks and soap;
Giving supplies at speed.

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Violet - volunteers and vaccine.

With so much work that must be done,
Our volunteer numbers grew.
So many hands to cook and help,
We're grateful to them - thank you!

And finally the vaccine came;
You could get it at our church.
We made sure no one in our communities
Was left out in the lurch.

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When you help each other, like a family,
Putting others at the front of your mind,
You make a difference in the world
By being thoughtful and kind.

We all need some hope and help
So life is good and true.
So what can **you do** to help others?
Can **you** be a rainbow too?

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