

Bringing joy to others

1. Spread the joy challenge

Take a photo of yourself holding up a piece of paper with something written on it that brings you joy. Post the photo on social media and tag three people challenging them to do the same. The aim is that a whole load of joy will be spread around your contacts and beyond! Use the hashtag #SACChristmasJoy.

2. A joyful scene

Set up a Nativity scene or Christmas-themed display to help people passing by focus on the Christmas story. This could be an outside scene or a window display.

Resources needed:

How this is done will all depend on the space, tools, material and skills you have on offer! A suggestion is that you could create wooden cut-out figures and prop them up in an outdoor space. If outdoor space isn't available then an alternative display could be made using cardboard and lighting in a window. Each setting will bring up very different options so look at your space and discuss possibilities with others to help get inspired.

3. Phone call chain

Set a challenge to your corps or church to start a chain of phone calls by calling the first person for a chat, then encouraging them to call someone else for a chat, and so on. You could set out a framework to help direct the conversations with a festive feel, including sharing favourite Christmas memories, favourite carols, etc. This will be a good way of connecting with and including people that don't have online access.

Resources needed:

A phone and a list of telephone numbers that people have given permission to be shared.

4. Super-secret Santa

Create small anonymous packages to drop off to people. These could include mince pies or Christmas treats, and drink sachets / tea bags as well as suitable festive reading material such as the [Advent Prayer Matters](#).

Resources needed:

Mince pies, hot drink sachets or tea bags, reading material, chocolates, Christmas decorations - the list is endless!

5. Carol concert invitations

Send Christmas cards to your neighbours with a link to your corps/church Christmas carol concert or Christmas events.

Resources needed:

Christmas cards



6. Rainy day stones

Create [Nativity story stones](#) to help communicate the Christmas story in a creative and imaginative way. You could put the stones out around your neighbourhood to help share the Christmas story to your neighbours.

Resources needed:

Stones, marker pens and/or chalk pens

7. Support/promote your local Christmas present appeal

You can drop off presents to any locally advertised drop-off points; or if you are co-ordinating the present appeal, access all of the available resources from The Salvation Army's [website](#).

Resources needed:

[Christmas Present Appeal material](#)

8. Christmas riddles

Challenge your friends and followers online by posting a different Christmas riddle on your social media page every day. Some are available [here](#).

9. Joyful picks

Create some tear-off flyers of joyful and hope-filled messages and stick them on your door, window, or along your street. Be sure to **only** stick these up where you have permission or on your own property

Resources needed:

A tear off flyer, see an example [here](#).

10. Christmas movie watch party

Watch a Christmas movie with your friends and neighbours. If you can't all be together physically, you can use an online platform like [Teleparty](#).

Resources needed:

Netflix/Disney subscription for anyone who wants to take part, Google Chrome browser.

11. Christmas scavenger hunt

Print out a list of Christmassy things that your friends or family can hunt for around the house and local streets. You could turn this into a competition with another household either as a timed event or spread out over the lead up to Christmas by sending photos each time you spot something.

Resources needed:

There are a large range of options available if you search 'Christmas Scavenger Hunt' online - select a sheet that is most appropriate for the age and location of your household.



12. Christmas party

Hold your own Christmas party complete with a buffet, games, dancing etc! You may want to invite people from your corps you don't know to well, or perhaps some new neighbours. It's a great opportunity to make some new friends and spread some joy.

Resources needed:

A large variety of games are available [here](#). You will find lots of options and will hopefully be able to find something that is suitable for your group. You may also want to prepare some snacks and drinks or ask guests to bring something with them.

