

Helping the homeless in our city

These strange days continue to change the way that we are all leading our lives but we are keen to keep going with our work not just now to support the people who need our help and love but also with planning for the future direction of Gloucester City Mission.

The great news is that Paula has now rejoined us and we are now back working at The George Whitefield Centre.

This week we have been planning and sorting the centre for outreach work that will involve supporting clients with clothing and toiletries. Although people are being well looked after in hotels and temporary accommodation with a roof and meals, we have been talking to many of our clients and found that they still need help with many of the daily things that we might all take for granted. We are grateful to HaVinG who have given us an emergency grant to go towards supporting this outreach work. We also received a grant from the Police and Crime Commissioner to go towards our work once everything gets back to normal.

As a small independent charity we really do rely on the continued support of churches, individuals, companies, schools and funders to keep us going. Without being able to do fundraising events at the moment this source of support really is vital and continue to pray and thank God for what has been provided, an example of this is through one of our youngest supporters called Ethel, who set up some King's Kindness Kits and has been raising funds for us, this week she sent us over £700 as a donation!



Ethel came to visit us for a chat about what we do and to have a look around the centre (before Covid 19 and social distancing).

Her plan was to set up a project at school to collect clothes, sleeping bags and toiletries for us to give to clients. Once we are up and running fully again then she will restart this collection and bring in what has already been so kindly donated.

She also arranged an online donation page to fundraise for items such as tents and sleeping bags.

Please remember that the vast majority of our friends on the streets and in temporary housing have lived very chaotic lives and many have mental health issues so being in a small hotel room day in day out is particularly difficult.

Take care,
Kevin

A Extract From A Testimony of a Special Person

This is an extract of the testimony of one of our volunteers I am going to start at the beginning. A little bit about myself. I come from a very posh family but never fitted in. By the age of 13 I was an alcoholic and still I wasn't accepted so my life spiralled out of control. I was on the streets where I met my best friend and used to ask God 'why me'?

I've been beaten and stabbed several times. I lost my best friend six years ago which landed me in a mental hospital. Still I had no answers. I have been clean now for 21 years and the reason for that is I made someone a promise.

This little girl who was 6 years old put her little hand in mine and said Mummy don't die. I prayed so hard my word to her was I promise and we kept to that. Weighing 3.5 stone, covered in sores, I climbed the ladder til I could see the light.

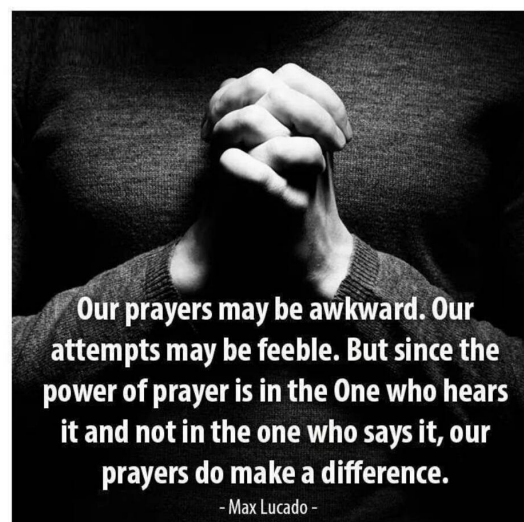
I started an Alpha course at the mission. I watched a video as though it had been sent to me. The relief I felt I can't describe. It has taken all these years but last week my prayer was answered.

This testimony is from one of our closest friend who has overcome all of the horrific things that have happened in her life. Through God she started helping us a volunteer and then we were privileged to employ her as a member of staff in the Winter Shelter.

Prayer List

As well as praying for GCM's clients, volunteers and staff please also hold these people in your prayers. To add someone to the prayer list please email
GCMprayer1@gmail.com

- Clients in emergency hotels and those who have found themselves back on the street;
- Families who we cannot be with;
- All those who have lost someone to Covid19;
- Our volunteers and friends who are isolated;
- The Homeless Healthcare Team who continue to look after clients on the frontline;
- The GCM Trustees;
- Our Church leaders and their staff;
- The NHS, Care Workers and Emergency Services who are doing such an incredible job;
- All essential and key workers in schools, shops, the Government and everyone else keeping the country running.



MONTHLY TEXT GIVING

We have set up a new Text Donate Appeal to encourage supporters to give a £1 or even a couple of pounds per month through their mobile phones. This will help us with cash flow and to keep us going in the future.

As we are sure you are aware, charities are under pressure at the moment due to Covid19 and the effect it has had on fundraising events but they still have to pay rent, wages and other costs.

Because this donation is done through your phone we hope that you might not even miss the amount that you are giving us :)

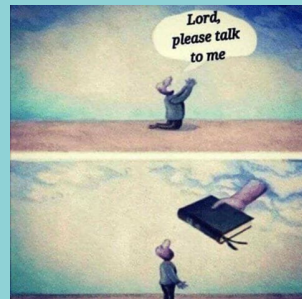
It is so easy to do, just; Text GLOSCM to 70085 to donate £3 a month
(Texts cost £3 (or the amount you donate) plus two standard rate messages)

If you would like to give another amount per month you can do this as well up to £20;

“To donate £1 a month text GLOSCM 1”

“To donate £5 a month text GLOSCM 5”“

To donate £10 a month text GLOSCM 10” etc



WWW.GLOSCITYMISSION.ORG.UK

PLEASE DONATE

£5 will pay for 3 meals

£10 will pay for fresh underwear, clothes, toiletries and a shower

£25 will pay for someone to get off the streets for a night during the winter months

Maybe you could sign up to give a monthly gift.

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Online www.virginmoneygiving.com/charities/gloscitymission

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By Text

To make a donation, text gloscitymission followed by the amount you wish to donate to 70085 (ie 'GLOSCITYMISSION 5' to 70085 to donate £5).

This costs £5 plus a std rate msg, you can opt to give any whole amount up to £20.

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To donate in Person or by post

Please make cheques payable to Gloucester City Mission and post to the address below, we also accept CAF cheques

PLEASE COME AND VISIT OUR ONLINE SHOP. YOU CAN BUY A WHOLE RANGE OF T-SHIRTS, HOODIES, PHONE CASES AND BAGS IN DIFFERENT COLOURS AND SIZES AND ALL PROFITS GO TO OUR WORK

WWW.GLOSCITYMISSION.ORG.UK/SHOP



Please take a few minutes to have a
look at our website
www.gloscitymission.org.uk
Also follow us on



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