

Salvation Army Ceremonies

Module 2 Membership and Enrolments



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OFFICER FORMATION STREAM



Overview of module

Membership and enrolments

- purpose of the ceremony
- before the ceremony
- the ceremony
- after the ceremony
- resources
- paperwork

Acknowledgement of Country

Through our commitment to reconciliation, The Salvation Army acknowledges the First Nations peoples of Australia as the traditional custodians of this land. We further acknowledge and pay our respects to past and present Elders, giving thanks for their wisdom that has sustained their people since the beginning of time, and we pledge to support emerging and future generations.

Those undertaking this module of learning are located on country all around Australia. We encourage you to take a moment to consider the land on which you live, work and play.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this module, participants will be able to:

- Know how to plan for and conduct dedication and enrolment ceremonies in line with Salvation Army protocols and guidelines;
- Identify and locate the various resources (books, guidelines, preparatory material, badges) as well as supporting documentation (rolls, certificates, paperwork, O&Rs) associated with such ceremonies.

Officer Readiness Profile

This module addresses the following elements of the Officer Readiness Profile:

- 13. Responds to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of people.
- 14. Appropriately cares for people across a broad range of life's circumstances and seasons.
- 17. Plans and leads creative expressions of worship appropriate to the context.

Membership and enrolments

Purpose of the ceremony

Who is it for? What is it not?

Before the ceremony

Preparation, classes, visits, logistics

The ceremony

What happens

After the ceremony

Follow up, ongoing pastoral care, ongoing support, ongoing discipleship

Resources

Paperwork

Dedications

Purpose of the ceremony

- Parental commitment/covenant on behalf of the child
- Not necessary for salvation/entry to heaven

Before the ceremony

- Visit the family
- See checklist of things to cover in the visit
- Clarify whether a Dedication or Thanksgiving ceremony (particularly for non-salvos make clear that it is not a christening or baptism and no water is used)

Dedications

The ceremony

- Content of ceremony (Dedication or Thanksgiving) - see Ceremonies Book
- People involved - parents, child, other children?, godparents?, flag bearer, "First Steps"/Cradle Roll Sergeant or similar, congregation
- Certificates ready (pre-fill names)
- Pen/s that work
- Special considerations?

After the ceremony

- Rolls/register
- "First Steps" or similar
- Ongoing pastoral care/connection with family

Dedications

Resources

- Ceremonies Book
- Certificates

Paperwork

- Dedication Register
- Certificates
- Roll



Junior Soldier enrolments

Purpose of the ceremony

- Child expression of faith and "membership" of The Salvation Army
- Generally 7-12 for enrolment
- A promise not a program

Before the ceremony

- Child must have completed preparation classes
- Child chooses Big Bud/Prayer Pal in consultation with Junior Soldier leader
- Big Bud/Prayer Pal knows what the commitment is and must have completed Safeguarding training
- Ensure certificates/badges/uniforms etc ordered well in time

Junior Soldier enrolments

The ceremony

- Content of ceremony - see Ceremonies Book
- Usually includes recitation or reading of Junior Soldier promise by Junior Soldier to be enrolled (but may be by all JS present or whole congregation)
- People involved - Junior Soldier, Junior Soldier Sergeant, Big Bud/Prayer Pal, flag bearer, congregation
- Certificates ready (pre-fill names)
- Pen/s that work
- Special considerations?

Junior Soldier enrolments

After the ceremony

- Rolls
- Junior Soldier classes (program) as a discipleship tool for ages 7-12
- Annual opportunity for renewal of promise (usually August)
- Photos to Kidzone? (ensure permissions)

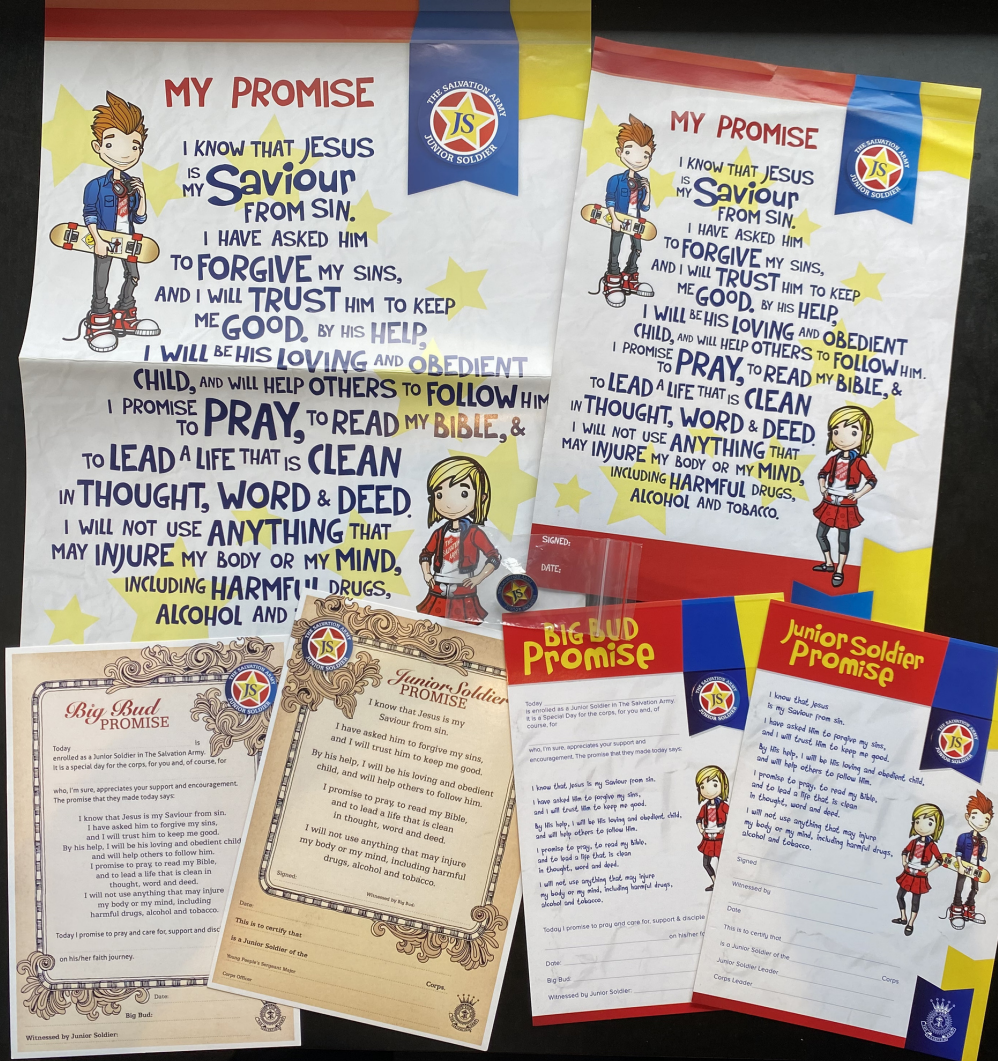
Junior Soldier enrolments

Resources

- Ceremonies Book
- Preparation class material
- Discipleship program material
- Renewal day material
- Uniform
- Certificates
- Badges

Paperwork

- Certificates
- Roll
- Transfers



Adherent enrolments

Purpose of the ceremony

- Adult expression of faith and "membership" of The Salvation Army
- Ages 14 and over

Before the ceremony

- May complete Soldiership classes, but not required
- May be a one-on-one or group discussion about what Adherency is, The Salvation Army and local corps mission
- Needs to be accepted by Senior Pastoral Care Council
- Ensure you have certificate/badge on hand

Adherent enrolments

The ceremony

- Content of ceremony - see Ceremonies Book (minimal guidance only)
- People involved - adherent, flag bearer, Recruiting Sergeant?
- May include testimony
- Certificate/s and badge/s ready
- Pen/s that work
- Special considerations?

After the ceremony

- Rolls
- Photos to Others magazine (ensure permission)
- Ongoing pastoral care
- Encourage ongoing discipleship and mission/service opportunities

Adherent enrolments



Resources

- Ceremonies Book
- Adherency brochure
- see Senior Soldiership resources
- Certificates/badges

Paperwork

- Certificates
- Roll
- Transfers

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by love for God. Its mission is to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and meet human needs in his name without discrimination.

The Salvation Army

Certificate of Adherency

_____ is an Adherent Member of The Salvation Army

Corps Officer _____ Adherent _____

Corps _____ Date _____

An adherent member of The Salvation Army is a person who:

- Believes in the Lord Jesus Christ and seeks to follow and be like him,
- Participates in the worship, fellowship, service and support of a local Salvation Army congregation,
- Identifies with the mission of The Salvation Army.

"Together you are the body of Christ, and each of you is a part of that body." 1 Corinthians 12:27 NCV

Adherent

Senior Soldier enrolments

Purpose of the ceremony

- Adult expression of faith and "covenanted membership" of The Salvation Army
- Ages 14 and over
- No conscription!

Before the ceremony

- Participate in Soldiership classes
- Needs to be accepted by Senior Pastoral Care Council
- Ensure you have Soldier's Covenant (Articles of War) on hand (white copy & illuminated copy)
- Consider what you would require of someone requesting re-enrolment
- Purchase uniform (if worn)

Senior Soldier Enrolments

The ceremony

- Content of ceremony - see Ceremonies Book
- Also called a "swearing-in" making the focus more about the public making of a promise/covenant
- People involved - senior soldier, flag bearer, witness, Recruiting Sergeant?
- Uniform would usually be worn
- Would usually include testimony
- Soldiers' Covenant (Articles of War) ready
- Pen/s that work
- Special considerations?

Senior Soldier Enrolments

After the ceremony

- Rolls
- File "white copy" of Soldier's Covenant (Articles of War)
- Photo to Others magazine (ensure permission)
- Ongoing pastoral care
- Encourage ongoing discipleship and mission/service opportunities

Senior Soldier enrolments

Resources

- Ceremonies Book
- O&Rs for Officers, Corps Officers
- Senior Soldiership classes material
- uniform (\$250 new soldier uniform incentive)

Paperwork

- Articles of War
- Roll
- Transfers

The Salvation Army

The Soldier's Covenant

HAVING accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour and Lord, and desiring to fulfil my membership of His Church on earth as a soldier of The Salvation Army, I now by God's grace enter into a sacred covenant:

I believe and will live by the truths of the word of God expressed in The Salvation Army's eleven articles of faith:

We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; and that they only constitute the Divine rule of Christian faith and practice.

We believe that there is only one God, who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver and Governor of all things, and who is the only proper object of religious worship.

We believe that there are three persons in the Godhead – the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost – undivided in essence and co-equal in power and glory.

We believe that in the person of Jesus Christ the Divine and human natures are united, so that He is truly and properly God and truly and properly man.

We believe that our first parents were created in a state of innocence, but by their disobedience they lost their purity and happiness; and that in consequence of their fall all men have become sinners, totally depraved, and as such are justly exposed to the wrath of God.

THEREFORE

I will be responsive to the Holy Spirit's work and obedient to His leading in my life, growing in grace through worship, prayer, service and the reading of the Bible.

I will make the values of the Kingdom of God and not the values of the world the standard for my life.

I will uphold Christian integrity in every area of my life, allowing nothing in thought, word or deed that is unworthy, unclean, untrue, profane, dishonest or immoral.

I will maintain Christian ideals in all my relationships with others: my family and neighbours, my colleagues and fellow salvationists, those to whom and for whom I am responsible, and the wider community.

I will uphold the sanctity of marriage and of family life.

I will be a faithful steward of my time and gifts, my money and possessions, my body, my mind and my spirit, knowing that I am accountable to God.

I will abstain from alcoholic drink, tobacco, the non-medical use of addictive drugs, gambling, pornography, the occult, and all else that could enslave the body or spirit.

Signed

Signature of corps officer

Witness or officiating officer

Corps

Date



We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has, by His suffering and death, made an atonement for the whole world so that whosoever will may be saved.

We believe that repentance towards God, faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and regeneration by the Holy Spirit are necessary to salvation.

We believe that we are justified by grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ; and that he that believeth hath the witness in himself.

We believe that continuance in a state of salvation depends upon continued obedient faith in Christ.

We believe that it is the privilege of all believers to be wholly sanctified, and that their whole spirit and soul and body may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe in the immortality of the soul; in the resurrection of the body; in the general judgment at the end of the world; in the eternal happiness of the righteous; and in the endless punishment of the wicked.

I will be faithful to the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, endeavouring to win others to Him, and in His name caring for the needy and the disadvantaged.

I will be actively involved, as I am able, in the life, work, worship and witness of the corps, giving as large a proportion of my income as possible to support its ministries and the worldwide work of the Army.

I will be true to the principles and practices of The Salvation Army, loyal to its leaders, and I will show the spirit of salvationism whether in times of popularity or persecution.

I now call upon all present to witness that I enter into this covenant of my own free will, convinced that the love of Christ, who died and now lives to save me, requires from me this devotion of my life to His service for the salvation of the whole world; and therefore do here declare my full determination, by God's help, to be a true soldier of The Salvation Army.



Postscript - Rolls

- The rolls referred to in this class are membership rolls, not attendance rolls
- Good practice is for the Senior Pastoral Care Council to meet quarterly but at a minimum annually
- Numbers of soldiers, adherents, recruits, junior soldiers etc are required to be updated annually in a SAMIS report for IHQ (due early December)

Postscript - Pastoral Care Council

- See Orders and Regulations for Senior Pastoral Care Councils for full guidance.
- If you don't have a Pastoral Care Council set up in your corps (this is not the same as a pastoral care team) this is an important group of people to assemble.
- Members may be drawn from your Leadership team or you may select people who are suitable for such a function. It's always good to have people from different generations and include people who know the history of the corps.
- It was previously known as the Census Board. The change in language (I think) helped transition from a statistics focus to a pastoral care focus.

Rolls Postscript - Transfers

- Initiate transfers (of soldiers, adherents, junior soldiers, friends) by sending an email to your ASKXXX@salvationarmy.org.au. Each division operates slightly differently - for some an email exchange is sufficient, other divisions may have an (electronic) form.
- There needs to be confirmed acceptance by the receiving corps before removing a name from the sending corps roll - once confirmed, post the original "white copy" Articles of War for soldiers
- People cannot be transferred without their approval.

Postscript - Removals

- See Orders and Regulations for Senior Pastoral Care Councils for complete guidance.
- The Pastoral Care Council can authorise removal of names for the purposes of Promotion to Glory or transfer only.
- All other reasons for removal must be authorised by the DC (or representative) on their annual roll inspection/review/audit.



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THE NATIONAL LEARNING

CENTRE OF THE SALVATION ARMY

