join us for a

A VERY HOMEMADE *Christmas*



Salvationist Women

THE SALVATION ARMY

Freely you have received; freely give.” — Matthew 10:8

A Very Homemade Christmas is a joyful and festive ladies fellowship evening inspired by the warmth and charm of a Christmas market. This gathering invites women to celebrate the season by sharing homemade gifts, meaningful conversation, and the simple joy of community.

The evening could feel like stepping into a small, old-fashioned Christmas market—warm lights, greenery, handmade treasures, Christmas treats, and plenty of time to visit.



Decor: Create cozy “market stalls” or tables using kraft paper, baskets, wooden crates, greenery, pinecones, dried oranges, cinnamon sticks, Christmas fabric, and warm white lights. Hand-lettered signs such as Homemade Market, Made With Love, Christmas Treats, and Gather & Give would tie everything together. A Christmas tree decorated primarily with handmade ornaments would make a beautiful focal point.





Refreshments: Keep the food intentionally homemade and nostalgic: Christmas cookies, squares, breads, little pies or tarts, cheese and crackers, homemade preserves, hot chocolate, apple cider, tea, and coffee. Recipe cards beside special dishes could add to the market feeling.

Story & Sharing Moments: Invite two or three women ahead of time to bring a treasured handmade Christmas item—perhaps an ornament, recipe, quilt, decoration, or gift—and briefly tell its story. Another possibility is asking, “What is something someone made or did for you that you have never forgotten?” This could lead naturally into the devotional.





Made With Love

Devotional: "Made With Love": Christmas itself is wonderfully personal. God did not send us an impersonal gift; He gave us His Son. Jesus came into an ordinary family, was laid in a manger, and entered the everyday, handmade world of human life. The devotional could connect the care involved in making something by hand with the intentional love of God: we give because He first gave to us. The emphasis need not be on how beautiful or impressive our creations are, but on the love with which they are offered.





Homemade Market: Each woman brings one handmade item to give away (they would bring enough of that item for everyone). Ideas could include ornaments, cookies, fudge, bread, jam, preserves, candles, soap, knitted/crocheted pieces, bookmarks, cards, spice mixes, hot-chocolate mixes, or small decorations. Display everything market-style rather than simply exchanging bags. Give each woman a set number of "Christmas Market Tokens," and she can wander through the market choosing that number of different homemade treasures to take home. That makes the exchange itself part of the evening rather than a traditional gift swap.



Homemade Christmas activities: Add fun stations around the room.

- Make a Christmas ornament
- Make a homemade Christmas card
- Decorate Christmas cookies
- Homemade gift- wrapping station

A few activities that encourage laughter and conversation

- Guess the Christmas treat (blind taste testing of homemade Christmas goodies).
- Name that Christmas Carol-play a few seconds of familiar Christmas songs and see who can guess the song first.
- Christmas recipe exchange (have women bring a favorite Christmas recipe to share with everyone.)
- Hot Chocolate Café: Hot chocolate, specialty coffees, tea and Christmas treats.
- Christmas Photo Booth: Festive backdrop with props for friends to take pictures.



