

Bishop: Rt Revd Dr Titus Chung

Vicar: Revd Ian Chew

#### **COLLECT FOR TODAY**

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within Your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do Your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

22 Oct 2023	UPCOMING		
Trinity 20 8am & 10:30am	27 Oct (Fri) 10:30pm- 12:30pm	Elder Fellowship Holy Communion Service Multi-Purpose Hall Revd Soon Soo Kee	
Preacher: Dr Carol Loi Sermon: Raising a Godly Generation	29 Oct (Sun) 8am	<b>5th Sunday before Advent</b> Confirmed Committed Christian 1 Thess 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46 Esther Wong	
Bible Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Matthew 22:15-22	10:30am	Combined Confirmation Service The Spirit is God's Empowering Presence Ezek 37:1-10; Lk 24:44-49 Rt Revd Rennis Ponniah	
Connect with the Ascension Family 13 Francis Thomas Drive S(359339) T(65) 6283 3988 F: (65) 6283 3220	2 Nov (Thurs) 9:45am - 11:30am	Comlink "What's A Cooking" Mushroom Julienne/ Russian Salad Oliver LKC Hall	
Email: <u>admin@ascension.org.sg</u> Website: <u>www.ascension.org.sg</u>			

Event Calendar: https://ascension.org.sg/coa-calendar

#### **VICAR'S MESSAGE**

Dear COA Family,

What is a most defining characteristic (or fruit) of a Christian?

#### I believe it is love for people in general.

This is because humanity (every male and female) is made in the image of God and worthy of the respect, care and love that God assigns to us. It is also why we would care for the sick, the intellectually disabled and the unborn even if it seems that more resources are needed to care for them than they can repay. Our consideration of human lives is not based on utilitarian principles but upon the innate value and worth that God assigns to every human being.

Just recently, I met with a youth whom I had counselled quite a few years ago. He was a very withdrawn and introverted boy then and lived in his own world. It was a marvel that he was still willing to talk to me on a regular basis. He has since changed very much to be more confident and outgoing, pursuing his university studies.

When I asked him what caused his change of behaviour, he simply had this to say: "The Lord has taught me to love people."

During his younger days, he had bad experiences of being criticised and rejected by friends and adults that made him conclude all human beings were bad. As a result, he shut himself from all contact and refused to interact with others. It was only when the Lord graciously opened his heart to love that he began to change and is now hungering after God's word and to do His will.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus says the same to his disciples, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (13:34-35).

Love is the one most distinctive characteristic that shows we are Christ's disciples. As we love people and especially care for our brothers and sisters, the world can see that we are radically different from them. And they will be attracted to that difference in our lives.

Beloved, this is especially so in the age we live in where violence against human lives is espoused, both in real life and social media. Civilian lives which are precious to the Lord are being threatened and sacrificed. Rallies are being held in cities calling for the extermination of a certain race of people. They are all abhorrent to God.

We need to pray to the Lord of all humanity to protect and preserve the lives of people, so that all may have a chance to come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. And we need to continue to love all people as Jesus did. He showed the extent of his love by sacrificing his life for the world that all might be saved through him. And he calls us to be loving and love everyone in the same way.

God bless,

Revd Ian



#### WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

We warmly welcome you to worship with us at our Sunday Services.	Sunday Service English Traditional Holy Communion	<b>Time</b> 8:00am	Venue Sanctuary (Level 2)
The Church Office is open daily from Tuesday to Saturday (9am to 5.30pm), except for public holidays. Office Phone: 62833988 Emergency contact: 81002203	English Contemporary Holy Communion 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun	10:30am	Sanctuary (Level 2)
	Mandarin Holy Communion 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun	10:30am	Ascension Hall (Level 3)

#### **NEW TO COA?**

Whether you have joined our service today, onsite or online, or found us on the web, we are glad you have! Do let us know if you would like more information or prayer, or to just give us some feedback. Please contact us at

admin@ascension.org.sg or click on the link and kindly fill in the form to help us keep in touch with you. Click <u>here</u>.

If you are driving to church:

- Register for your new car decal via this link <u>https://bit.ly/3omt1Y9</u> (Please contact the church office if you cannot access the online form.)
- We encourage everyone to register for the new decal to enter St Andrew's Village. The SAV guards have the authority to deny entry to vehicle without proper identification.

#### **UPDATE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION**

If your home or email address or contact number has been changed, please notify the church office to ensure you continue to receive COA correspondence. You can notify us in any of the following ways:

- 1. Call the church office at 62833988
- 2. Email to admin@ascension.org.sg
- 3. Write to 13 Francis Thomas Drive, Singapore 359339

#### **ELECTRONIC OFFERTORY**

#### **INTERNET BANKING (BANK TRANSFER)**

Account Name: Church of The Ascension Bank Name: OCBC Account Number: 511010332001 Reference: Tithing number (if any), and any other description e.g. month of contribution etc.

#### PAYNOW VIA UEN

- Step 1: Log in to your internet banking account
- Step 2: On the PayNow transfer screen, enter the UEN number T08CC4066A for the Church of the Ascension



#### **CHILDREN MINISTRY**

Sunday school classes start at 10.30am. The children will be dismissed after 10.30am English Service.

Enquiries: Shirley Kwek





#### BREAKFAST AT LKC

Welcome to our 'Refreshment Corner' and enjoy your fellowship with the food and beverage.

We praise God and are grateful for the generous monetary contribution we have been receiving.

If anyone is interested in contributing in kind (eg. food and drinks), please contact Elaine Koh (94511625) or Clare at the church office. In consideration of hygiene and proper coordination, we seek your kind cooperation in informing Elaine or Clare before placing any food contribution at the 'Refreshment Corner'.



#### VACANCY FOR COA STAFF POSITION

We are looking for suitable candidates to fill the following position:

 Associate Chaplain for St Andrew's Nursing Home (Aljunied). Interested applicants, please click on the below URL <u>https://ascension.org.sg/jd03</u> and send your resume to <u>admin@ascension.org.sg</u>

#### **ELDER FELLOWSHIP HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE**

**Date:** Friday, 27 Oct 2023

**Time:** 10:30am - 12:30pm

Venue: Multi-Purpose Hall (MPH)

Speaker: Revd Soon Soo Kee

Lunch will be provided after Service at LKC Hall.



Do join us if you are 60 or older. Please contact the Church Office for registration and more information.

#### **CONFIRMATION COURSE**

#### Confirmation Course (Sep-Oct 2023)

Date: 24 Sep - 28 Oct 2023, Time: 1pm - 2:30pm Venue: Multi-Purpose Hall (MPH) - COA

Confirmation marks the point in the Christian journey at which you affirm for yourself the faith into which you have been baptised and your intention to live a life of committed discipleship. This affirmation is



confirmed through prayer and the laying on of hands by the confirming Bishop.

The Confirmation Course is for:

- 1. Those seeking confirmation / membership in Church of the Ascension (COA).
- 2. Those baptised and currently attending church services regularly at COA.

<u>Schedule for Confirmation Course</u> Sunday 22 Oct - The Sacrament of Holy Communion Saturday 28 Oct (10am-12pm) - Confirmation Retreat

#### Confirmation Service: Sunday 29 Oct 2023, 10.30 am

- Service conducted by Bp Rennis Ponniah

#### NEW BELIEVERS' CLASS

#### New Believers' Class (Sep-Nov 2023)

Date: 17 Sep - 19 Nov 2023 Time: 12:30pm - 2pm Venue: Youth room, #01-06, Diocesan Centre Lunch will be provided.

This class is catered for those who have just received Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord. You are encouraged to join this class (a total of 8 lessons) to be grounded in the foundational aspects of your new life as a Believer.

#### Schedule For New Believers' Class

Sunday 22 Oct: Lesson 5 - Beginning Your New Life In God's Word Sunday 5 Nov: Lesson 6 - Beginning Your New Life In Prayer Sunday 12 Nov: Lesson 7 - Beginning Your New Life As Part Of The Church (Part 1) Sunday 19 Nov: Lesson 8 - Beginning Your New Life As Part Of The Church (Part 2)

#### CONGRATULATIONS

Our heartiest congratulations to Jun Kai and Jasmine Ng, on their arrival of their baby boy Noah, on 16 Oct 2023. Let's continue to keep them in prayer.

#### COMLINK - WHAT'S A COOKING: 2 NOV 2023



MUSHROOM JULIENNE

RUSSIAN SALAD OLIVIER

# WHAT'S A COOKING ?

Date: 2 Nov 2023 (Thurs) Time: 9.45am to 11.30am Cost : \$6 per person Venue: LKC Hall, COA Closing Date : 27 Oct 2023

To register, please call the Church of the Ascension at 6283-3988 (office hours only, closed on Monday)

The organizer reserves the right to cancel the event should any unforeseen circumstances arise.

**CHURCH CAMP 2024** 



# FULFILLING GOD'S PURPOSES TOGETHER

#### DATE: 1ST - 4TH JUNE

VENUE: AMERALD RESORT HOTEL, DESARU

SPEAKER: REVD TIMOTHY CHOW

More details to come

#### **CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT : 16 DEC 2023**



Based on "You are Special" by Max Lucado



Date: 16 December 2023 Location: Church of the Ascension Programme: Christmas Market & Dinner: 6pm-7.30pm Sanctuary Program: 8pm-9.30pm

# TICKETS



CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION 圣公会栄升 堂

#### **COA MISSION MONTH - OCT SERMON SERIES**





**REVD IAN CHEW** 

**DR CAROL LOI** 

22 OCT **RAISING UP A GODLY GENERATION** 

THE SPIRIT OF GOD'S EMPOWERING PRESENCE\*

**RT REVD RENNIS PONNIAH** 

\*10.30AM SERVICE

"GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"

MATTHEW 28:19

29 OCT



#### **SEPTEMBER -- NOVEMBER SERMON SERIES**

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me." Rev 3:20

> S' RS

URCHES

3 Sep	Revelation: Who is Jesus Now?	Revd Ian Chew
10 Sep	Ephesus - How to Rekindle First Love?	Revd Soon Soo Kee
17 Sep	Smyrna - Faithfulness to What End?	Ps Barnabas Sim
24 Sep	Pergamum - How Dangerous is Compromise?	Revd Stephen Lim
1 Oct	Thyatira - Tolerance: Virtue or Vice?	Ps Edward Zaccheus
5 Nov	Sardis - What is Your Reputation Worth?	Revd Jeremy Joe Tan
12 Nov	Philadelphia - What are Open Doors?	Ps Jamie Harris
19 Nov	Laodicea - Which Perspective is Right?	Revd Ian Chew

#### **DIOCESAN DAY OF PRAYER AND FAST (DDPF)**



### DIOCESAN DAY OF PRAYER AND FAST

## HOLDING FAST FORGING AHEAD

SATURDAY, 4 NOV 2023 9:30AM-11AM CATHEDRAL NEW SANCTUARY ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL

#### Diocesan Day of Prayer and Fast

It is that time of the year to come together and pray as one Diocesan family. This year's DDPF theme is "Holding Fast, Forging Ahead". In "Holding Fast," we seek God's guidance to uphold our values and mandate. In "Forging Ahead," we deepen our relationship with God through discipleship. Let's come together to pray, equip the saints and grow in faith (Ephesians 4:12-13). Let us come together to pray and fast as one Diocesan Family.

#### **#PARISHOFTHEWEEK – MARINE PARADE CHRISTIAN CENTRE** (MPCC)

- The Diocese of Singapore is embarking on a 2-year campaign: Parish of the Week, where one parish is featured per week.
- This week, the Parish of the Week is Marine Parade Christian Centre (MPCC). You can view a video about MPCC via <u>http://anglican.org.sg/potw\_or</u> the Diocesan Facebook or Instagram page @dioceseofsingapore.
- For YouTube Link, please click here.

BIDADARI KIDS CLUB - GOOD NEWS COMMUNITY SERVICES(GNCS)

# POU ARE INVITED TO ... BIDADARI KIDS CLUB

#### FOR A TIME OF GAMES, STORIES, CRAFT, SONGS

Program is catered for 9 years and below, all ages are welcomed



DATE: EVERY IST & 3RD THURSDAYS (EXCLUDING PH)

TIME: 6-7PM

LOCATION: PLAYGROUND BETWEEN 106B & 108A BIDADARI PARK DR (NEAR PRIME SUPERMARKET)



# Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers

#### PRAYER FOCUS FOR WEEK: 22 - 28 OCT 2023

#### 1) DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE:

Marine Parade Christian Centre

English and Chinese congregations:

Revd Canon Terry Wong Clergy, staff and parishioners

#### Chapel of Christ our Hope (CCH)

- CCH is the church plant of Marine Parade Christian Centre (MPCC).
- Pray for the ministry of CCH as they continue to embrace people of all abilities, neurotypical and special needs, so that everyone can love, grow, and serve together in God's Kingdom.
- Pray for God's providence as CCH works toward attaining Parish status.

#### MPCC English

- Pray that the Youth and Young Adults will be able to navigate the world and stay true to their walk with God.
- Pray for the congregation to have a renewed vision from God to further their work in God's Kingdom.

#### MPCČ Chinese

• Pray for the congregation to be united, and for God's presence to be with them.

#### 2) SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD:

Singapore: Pray for God's blessings on our Government's efforts to uplift our lower-income Singaporeans and that support and funding be made available to them to cope with cost of living pressures.

Israel: Pray for God's continued preservation of civilian lives from the ongoing hostilities and the protection and release of all hostages. Pray too for the swift and smooth delivery of aid supplies to those who are in need.

#### 3) PARISH

- Pray for God's wisdom, patience and love to fill the nurses serving in St Andrew's Nursing Home (Aljunied). Pray too that they would learn and build up their skills well to serve when the home begins operation next year.
- Pray for God's blessing of favour on our Visitation Ministry teams. Pray that they would be Christ's
  ambassadors to bring comfort and assurance to the families they visit.
- Confirmation Service on 29 Oct 23. Pray for the 27 candidates at the upcoming Service that their hearts will be prepared to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit and that they will continue to grow in faith and service for God.

#### 4) THE SICK AND SUFFERING:

**For health and recovery** Evelyn Tan, Joanne Lau, Lily Chan, Mary Yee, Tan Teck Hin, Wong Wah Kum, Zephan Heng

#### **Relatives and Friends of COA members**

Benjamin (Lesley Ho's nephew) - Hepatitis B David Yeong (Margaret Onn's husband) – cancer Sng Hock Meng - **healing** of the mind Soo Ngook Khinn (Sien Yee's father) - salvation Ong Chwee Hock (Ong Siew Chin's brother) physiotherapy and lymphoma

For healing Annie Huan - strength for her legs Conelius Loo - sleep apnea Joseph Phua - muscular degeneration - stones in left kidney. - urinary tract infection. Felicia Koh - tiny cyst on the liver. Pray for bad cholesterol (LDL) and iron level to be in normal range and health stability. Zephan Heng - ALP in the liver to be back to normal level and good report for test results. Steven Syn - restoration and stomach. Janet Hale - relief from pain in her body. Wilson Lim - continued recovery from loss of red blood cells Nancy Chan (Low) - stroke & heart Andreatte Loh: Smooth recovery from operation

"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."