



Bishop: Rt Revd Dr Titus Chung Vicar: Revd Ian Chew

COLLECT FOR TODAY

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made man in your own image. Teach us to discern your hand in all your works and to serve you with reverence and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord who, with you and the Holy Spirit, reigns supreme over all things now and for ever. Amen.

29 Oct 2023
5th Sunday before Advent

8am

Preacher: Esther Wong

Sermon: Confirmed Committed Christian

**Bible Reading: 1 Thess 2:1-8;
 Matthew 22:34-46**

10:30am
Combined Confirmation Service

Preacher: Rt Revd Rennis Ponniah

Sermon: The Spirit is God's Empowering Presence

**Bible Reading: Ezek 37:1-14;
 Lk 9:51-56**

UPCOMING

2 Nov (Thurs) 9:45am - 11:30am	Comlink "What's A Cooking" Mushroom Julienne/ Russian Salad Olivier LKC Hall
5 Nov (Sun) 8am and 10:30am	All Saints' Sunday/ 4th Sunday before Advent "Jesus' Letters to the Seven Churches: Sardis - What is Your Reputation Worth?" Revelation 3:1-6 Revd Jeremy-Joe Tan
8 Nov (Wed) 8pm - 9pm	Hour of Power Via Zoom

VICAR'S MESSAGE

The Curious Case of Confirmation

"Why must I be confirmed? There is no biblical command to do so," say many Christians to me.

And they are right. There is no explicit instruction from our Lord or the Apostles to be "confirmed". We are only commanded to be baptised and to partake of the Holy Communion regularly. These are the two Sacraments (holy rites that bring about God's grace in our lives) that we, Christ's church, are commanded to practise.

Yet that is to misunderstand what the practice of Confirmation truly is.

Confirmation is about the leaders of the church praying for the indwelling, filling and sealing of the Holy Spirit in every Christian's life. This is so important that Jesus emphasised to his disciples the coming of the Spirit before he ascended to God. He would send them the Holy Spirit to teach them more of the faith (John 15:26). The disciples' lives and witness would be dramatically transformed when they were filled with the Spirit (see the book of Acts). All of this is in fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies that the Holy Spirit will be poured out on the believers (Ezekiel 36:25-27; Joel 3:1-2).

So, to signify its importance, Jesus breathed upon the disciples and they received the Holy Spirit after his resurrection (John 20:22). Thereafter, the apostles continued this practice by laying their hands on believers to bestow the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:4-20 and 19:1-7, Hebrews 6:1-6). We continue with this practice in our Anglican Church by having a Bishop lay hands on each believer during Confirmation. Secondly, Confirmation is the means by which we welcome believers into membership of the Anglican Church. And only members admitted through Confirmation may partake of the Holy Communion.

The Canons of the Province of South East Asia states in 10.1.1:

There shall be admitted to the Holy Communion: members of the Anglican Church in the Province of South East Asia who have been confirmed or who have been otherwise episcopally confirmed with unction or with the laying of hands.

I have had to gently remind some of our members to wait till they are confirmed to receive the Holy Communion. In the meantime, I would pray a blessing for them when they come forward during Communion. Good things are always worth the wait!

Lastly, Confirmation also provides an opportunity for those who were baptised as infants to declare their personal faith in God.

Many have approached me to want to be baptised again as an adult even though they have been baptised as an infant. While I understand their wish to make a decision for themselves and to declare their commitment to Christ to the world, we do not baptise any person twice because there is only one baptism (Ephesians 4:5). (Re-baptism is allowed only if the first baptism is invalid). Hence, Confirmation provides the place for these believers to reaffirm their faith in Christ and to own the faith for themselves. It then becomes very powerful and meaningful for them.

As you can see, Confirmation is therefore very significant, biblical in nature and full of meaning and purpose. Those who are getting confirmed in the Confirmation Service are blessed by God in a very wonderful way. Let us all be similarly encouraged at this Sunday's Confirmation Service to live in dependence on the leading and power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Revd Ian

Connect with the Ascension Family

13 Francis Thomas Drive S(359339)
T(65) 6283 3988 F: (65) 6283 3220



Email: admin@ascension.org.sg

Website: www.ascension.org.sg

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



WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

We warmly welcome you to worship with us at our Sunday Services.

The Church Office is open daily from Tuesday to Saturday (9am to 5.30pm), except for public holidays. Office Phone: 62833988
Emergency contact: 81002203

Sunday Service	Time	Venue
English Traditional Holy Communion	8:00am	Sanctuary (Level 2)
English Contemporary Holy Communion 1 st & 3 rd Sun	10:30am	Sanctuary (Level 2)
Mandarin Holy Communion 1 st & 3 rd 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 [here](#).

If you are driving to church:

- Register for your new car decal via this link <https://bit.ly/3omt1Y9> (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 <https://ascension.org.sg/jd03> and send your resume to admin@ascension.org.sg

HOUR OF POWER (ONLINE)

Date: Wed 8 Nov 2023

Time: 8pm - 9pm

Join us as one Ascension family to pray and seek the Lord.
The online Prayer Meeting will be conducted via Zoom:
(Click [here](#) for the link.)

Meeting ID: 822 3756 7980

Passcode: matt1820



LIST OF CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES ON 29 OCT 2023

We rejoice with the following members who will be confirmed at the 10:30am Service. Please keep them in prayer.

ADULT

Ambar Wahyu Pertiwi
Goh Thiam Yui, Sam
Kwek Chou Lee, Shirley
Lee Pheng Guan Victor
Li Shao Qiang, Christian
Lim Kim Yan, Kim
Oh Hsien Liang, Timothy
Shannon Lee
Tan Chean How Clement
Zhang Yao
Zuo Dan Dan Taylor

YOUTH

Ang Seow Pinn, Adriel
Chew Yong Jun, Samuel
Er Yi Lin Elyse
Er Yi Xuan, Emma
Er Yi Xi Emmett
Josh Immanuel Lim En Zhuo
Lee Gladys
Kan Wing, Lucien
Megan Eng Chin Ern
N Remila
Nathan Ong Yu En
Richard Allan Durrani
Samuel Sou Kar Lok
Sarah Tay Rui
Tiah Hui Lok, Esther

CHINESE MINISTRY

Chew Suat Ngoh (周雪娥)

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 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)

COA HOLY LAND BIBLE STUDY TOUR 19 NOV - 1 DEC 2023

We regret to announce the cancellation of the tour due to the outbreak of hostilities in Israel. We will look into planning and organising a future trip when conditions are more favourable.

COA MISSION MONTH



15 OCT

GOD'S AGENCY THROUGH US: COA MISSIONS

REVD IAN CHEW

22 OCT

RAISING UP A GODLY GENERATION

DR CAROL LOI

29 OCT

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



CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
✠ 聖 公 會 聖 安 徒 堂

CHURCH CAMP 2024

Church of the Ascension
**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

Carols by Candlelight 2023

A Starry & Spotty Christmas

Based on "You are Special" by Max Lucado



Date: 16 December 2023

Location: Church of the Ascension

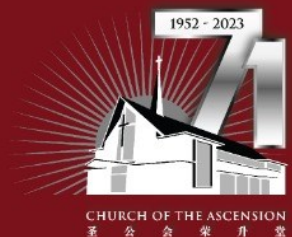
Programme:

Christmas Market & Dinner: 6pm-7.30pm

Sanctuary Program: 8pm-9.30pm

TICKETS

\$5

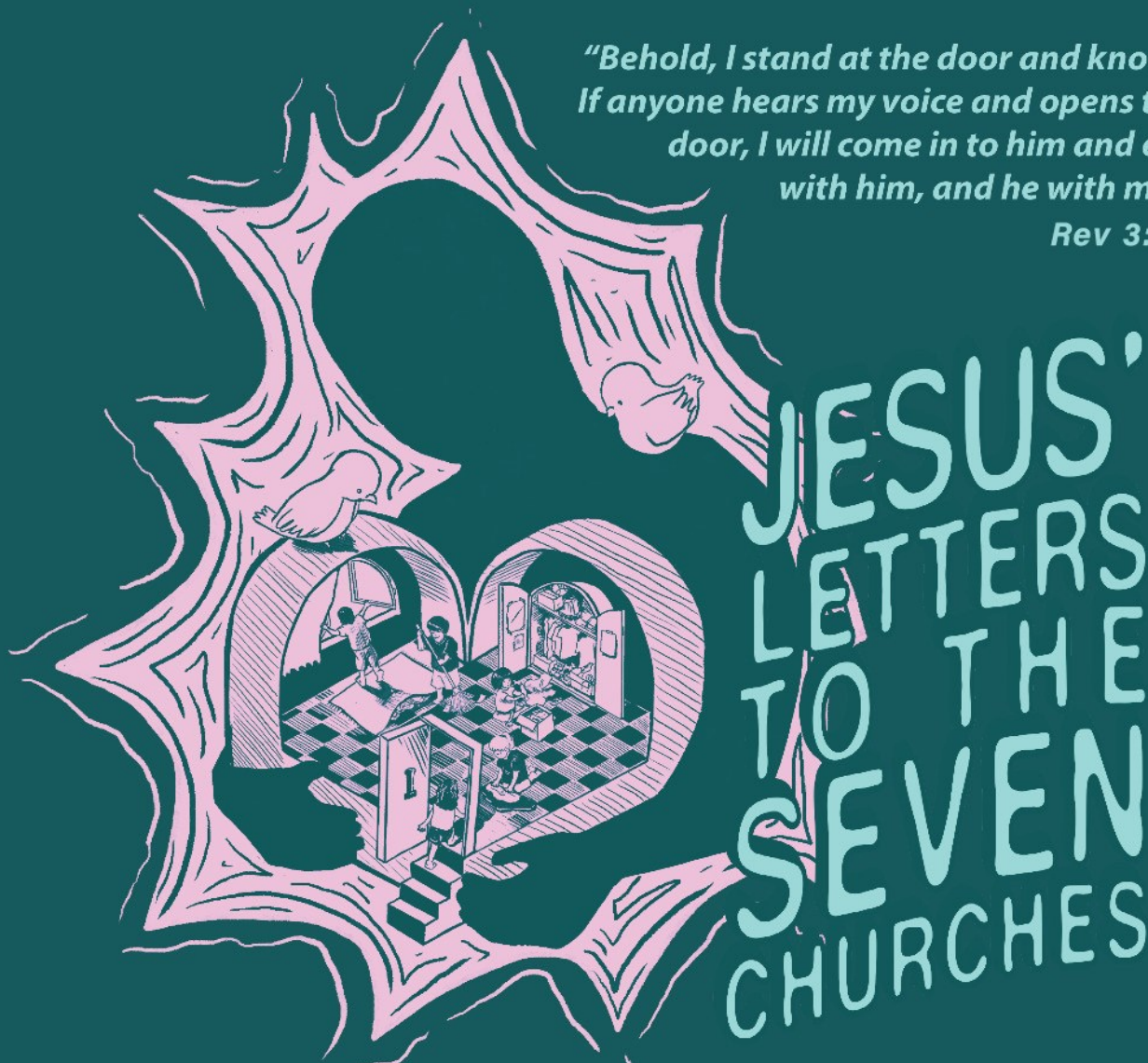


CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
圣公会荣升堂

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



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

DIOCESAN DAY OF PRAYER AND FAST (DDPF)



THE DIOCESE
of SINGAPORE

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.

DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE - ORDINATION SERVICE: 12 NOV 2023

DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE ORDINATION SERVICE 2023

12 November 2023
Sunday, 5.00pm
St Andrew's Cathedral
Cathedral New Sanctuary (CNS)

Scan the QR code for
free **tickets**:

Livestream Link:
<http://bit.ly/OrdinationService2023>



Revd Wu Wenbin
Deanery of Cambodia
Church of Christ our Peace



Revd Yan Jim Kiat Calvin
Archdeaconry of Singapore
St John's - St Margaret's Church



Revd Ng Lian Wen Moses
Archdeaconry of Singapore
Chapel of the Holy Spirit



YOU 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 1ST & 3RD THURSDAYS (EXCLUDING PH)
TIME: 6-7PM
LOCATION: PLAYGROUND BETWEEN 106B & 108A BIDADARI PARK DR
(NEAR PRIME SUPERMARKET)



JOIN OUR WHATSAPP CHAT
FOR LATEST UPDATES !



ORGANISED
BY



SUPPORTED
BY





Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers

PRAYER FOCUS FOR WEEK: 29 OCT - 4 NOV 2023

1) DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE:

Global South Fellowship of Anglican Churches (GSFA)

The Diocese of Singapore and Province of Southeast Asia is part of the Global South Fellowship of Anglican Churches (GSFA).

Pray that the Lord will lead us as a bible-believing church to stand firm in the truth of God's word and share God's good news in a powerful and relevant way in this age.

2) SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD:

Singapore: Pray for God's protection of our society from the strains that may come from overseas conflicts. Pray that our nation will be united to stand against all that is evil and stand for the good according to God's word. Pray that our government will be vigilant and wise in identifying and dealing with extremist and harmful ideologies.

World: Pray for God's continued protection of civilian lives in the Israel-Palestine conflict. Pray for the safe release of all the hostages and the de-escalation of hostilities in the region. Pray for the peace and reconciliation that can only come through Christ to prevail in every heart.

3) PARISH

- Thank God for our ushers and Ushering Ministry. Pray that they may be filled with God's love to be His ambassadors to everyone who comes for our services and be filled with joy to serve.
- Confirmation Service on 29 Oct 23 (**Today**). Thank God for the 27 candidates and pray for them to be filled with the Holy Spirit and grow in faith and service for God.
- Carols By Candlelight (CBC) on 16 Dec 23. Pray for God's wisdom for the organising committee to plan for the event, enthusiasm for members to volunteer for and support it, and favour on our family and friends to come and celebrate the joys of Christmas.

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 remain harmless.
Pray for protection of the liver.
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

"And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Lk 24:49