



Bishop: The Most Revd Dr Titus Chung **Vicar: Revd Ian Chew**

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in Him from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where He reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

21 Apr 2024

Easter 4

8am & 10.30am

Preacher: Revd Gary Chng

Sermon: "Victory Over the World"

Bible Reading: 1 John 5:1-5;
John 10:11-18

UPCOMING

26 Apr (Fri) 10.30am **Elder Fellowship Holy Communion Service**
"The Fruit of The Spirit: Virtue of Joy & Peace"
Ps Edward Zaccheus

28 Apr (Sun) 8am & 10.00am **Easter 5**
"Love One Another"
1 John 4:7-21;
John 15:1-8
Revd Ian Chew

28 Apr (Sun) 11.30am **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**
Sanctuary

5 May (Sun) 8am & 10.30am **Easter 6/ Mother's Day**
"Our identity in Christ"
1 John 5:1-6;
John 15:9-17
Ps Jocelyn Choo

7 May (Tue) 7.30pm **SAV Prayer Meeting**
Level 1
MPH

8 May (Wed) 8pm **Hour of Power**
Via Zoom

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: ascension.org.sg/cc

VICAR'S MESSAGE

Dear COA Family,

One of the questions that I get constantly asked is this: How can the practice of infant baptism be justified by the church?

After all, many Scriptures in the Bible speak about repentance and belief in Christ as being critical criteria for receiving baptism.

Take, for example, the Apostle Peter's significant exhortation to the Jews in his first sermon after Pentecost: "**Repent and be baptised** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins" (Acts 2:38).

Or Jesus' instructions to his disciples before his ascension: "Whoever **believes and is baptised** will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned" (Mark 16:16).

Both of these requirements would definitely rule out infants from getting baptised as they have no understanding of what they are doing.

Yet, by taking such a view, we are misunderstanding the meaning of baptism, or sacraments in general.

The sacraments of Christ, namely baptism and Holy Communion, are primarily about what **God does in us through his love and grace** for us. It is not just about our cognitive or rational decisions to follow Christ. God works through the sacraments to effect faith in our lives, adopt us into his family and increase his grace in our lives (Article 27, 39 Articles of Faith).

Take, for instance, the practice of circumcision for Jewish boys at eight days of age. Any male who does not subject himself to circumcision will be cut off from being God's covenant people (Genesis 17:14). God was incorporating infants into the community through circumcision before they even had knowledge of what they were doing!

And there is a very close link between circumcision and baptism in the New Testament. The Apostle Paul writes, "Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were **circumcised by Christ, having been buried with him in baptism**" (Colossians 2:11-12). Just as circumcision was effective for young boys in the OT, baptism is just as applicable to our infants as well. This is also the reason for conversion and baptism for whole families in the NT when they believed in the Lord Jesus. (See the example of the Philippian jailer and his family in Acts 16:31-33.)

I suspect that much of our reservation about infant baptism centres around our reluctance to "make a decision" on behalf of our children. We are afraid that they may wish to change their minds about believing in Christ in the future. Of course, that would be very sad for us. But, if you think about it, we as parents and caregivers often make decisions for them anyway according to what we think is good for them. We would never ask them if they would like to go to school to receive an education, for example. Instead, we would just select a school which we think would be suitable for them and benefit them best. Similarly, we know that the best gift for our children is belief and trust in a personal God who loves them and directs them in all that is good for them.

So, in conclusion, infant baptism is thoroughly legitimate and beneficial for our children. It is God's mode of working through the sacrament and the faith of the community to open the spiritual eyes of the child and sensitise them to his presence. It is the beginning of God's work of salvation for their lives. We should not only be not reticent about it, but actively embrace it and encourage other parents to obey God's command in this.

Blessings,

Revd Ian



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

REQUEST FOR HOUSE/OFFICE BLESSING

If you need help with House or Office Blessing, please contact the Church Office or send an email to admin@ascension.org.sg

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



STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS (TITHING & THANKSGIVING)

The yearly statements are ready. Please contact Clare if you require a copy of your contributions.

TELEGRAM

We are on Telegram!

Subscribe to Church of The Ascension to receive updates on our latest announcements, events, programmes and more. Click on the link or scan the QR code to subscribe

<https://t.me/Ascensionaires>

Follow us and stay in touch!



@ASCENSIONAIRES

Download Telegram:

Android: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.telegram.messenger&hl=en_SG&qI=US

Apple/iOS: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/telegram-messenger/id686449807>

CHILDREN MINISTRY

Sunday school classes start at 10.30am.
The children will be dismissed at 12.30pm.

Please take note that on **28 April 2024**, there will be **no Sunday School** as we will be having AGM on that day.



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 cooperation informing Elaine or Clare before placing any food contribution at the 'Refreshment Corner'.

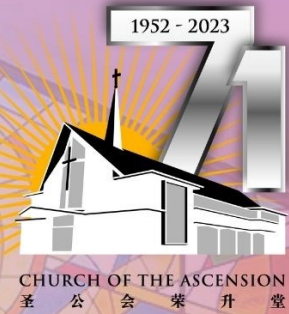


EVENT CALENDAR 2024

The COA 2024 Event calendar is available for download. Please use the below link for the event calendar: <http://ascension.org.sg/coa-calendar>

AGM SUNDAY SERVICES & AGM MEETING

**AGM SUNDAY
SERVICE TIMINGS**
8am & 10am



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

28 APRIL 2024, 11.30AM
SANCTUARY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

1. **Notice and Agenda of AGM 2024.** Notice is hereby given that the 60th AGM of the Church of the Ascension will be held at the Sanctuary on **Sunday, 28 April 2024, 11:30am**, for the following purposes:

- a. To confirm the Minutes of the 59th AGM held on 23 April 2023
- b. To approve the Annual Report for 2023
- c. To approve the Financial Statements for 2023
- d. To approve the Budget for 2024
- e. To elect members to the Parochial Church Council
 - i) People's Warden
 - ii) 7 Committee Members
- f. To appoint the Auditor for the ensuing year
- g. To transact Any Other Business

2. **ELECTORAL ROLL**

The Electoral Roll (ER) is being updated and revised for AGM on 28 April 2024. Only ER members can vote and stand for elections at the AGM. The ER is now posted at the foyer in LKC Hall for verification. Signed up members, please ensure your name is on the ER and notify Clare if any names have been left out, or if you wish to be reinstated or to be an ER member. (You have to be baptised, confirmed, over the age of 17 and actively support the church.)

3. **AGM REPORT 2023**

The AGM Report is made available in the following line. Please click [here](#).

4. **NOMINATION FOR ELECTION**

Nomination opens on 7 April. Nomination forms can be accessed through (i) COA's website, or (ii) hard copies from Church Office and Foyer. The completed nomination forms must be submitted before **Sunday, 21 April 2024 (today)** 1:00pm (email to pcc_secretary@ascension.org.sg; or return hardcopy to Church Office).

5. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Raising of Questions at AGM. Electoral Roll members who wish to raise questions at AGM should email the Hon Secretary before **Sunday, 21 April 2024 (today)** 1:00pm at pcc_secretary@ascension.org.sg. Only questions that are submitted in writing will be addressed at the AGM. The Chairman reserves the right to allow for any follow-up questions during the AGM.

6. **SUNDAY SERVICES ON AGM SUNDAY**

English Services - 8am & 10am
Chinese Service - 10am
(No lunch will be provided.)

ELDER FELLOWSHIP HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

Date: Friday, 26 Apr 2024
Time: 10:30am - 12:30pm
Venue: Multi-Purpose Hall (MPH)
Sermon: The Fruit of The Spirit: Virtue of Joy & Peace
Speaker: Ps Edward Zaccheus
Lunch will be at First Culinary Restaurant for all who have signed up for it.



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

KWONG WAI SHIU HOSPITAL @ POTONG PASIR-- VOLUNTEERS

There is an increasing number of elderly residents in KWSH @ Potong Pasir requesting to come to church on Sundays at 10.30am. We need volunteers (especially men) to wheel them on wheelchairs to church at 10am.

If you are keen to be a volunteer for the above ministry, please contact the church office to sign up.

MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE

1952 - 2023
CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
美公会堂

Mother's Day
SERVICE

**5 MAY 2024, SUNDAY
8AM & 10.30AM**

"Our Identity In Christ"
Speaker: Ps Jocelyn Choo

SAV PRAYER MEETING

JOIN US FOR



SAV prayer meeting



7 MAY 2024 TUES | 07:30PM - 09.00PM
CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION | LEVEL 1 MPH

HOUR OF POWER (ONLINE)

Date: Wed, 8 May 2024

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



COA 72ND ANNIVERSARY: 10AM COMBINED SERVICE

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION'S
72ND ANNIVERSARY

**OUR UNITY
IN CHRIST**

REV IAN CHEW

MAY

12

SUNDAY

ASCENSION
Sunday

10AM COMBINED BILINGUAL SERVICE

CHURCH CAMP: 1 - 4 JUN 2024

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
CAMP 2024

Fulfilling God's Purposes Together

1-4 JUNE 2024

AMERALD RESORT, DESARU

REGISTER TODAY!

SPEAKERS:
REV TIMOTHY CHOW
REV PETER CHU
PASTOR CHERYL



CLOSING DATE FOR REGISTRATION & PAYMENT : SUNDAY 21 APRIL 2024 (TODAY)

YOUTH
MINISTRY

KARDIA

Church of the
ASCENSION



Combined Fellowship

Last Sunday of the month,
1.30pm-3pm at Multi-Purpose Hall (L1)

Youth Encounter Night

First Saturday of the month,
7pm-9pm at Youth Room/ Ascension Hall

Cell Groups

2nd and/or 3rd Sunday of the month,
After 10.30am service.

Sports Games

2nd and 4th Saturday of the month,
4pm-6pm at SASS Indoor Sports Hall

CONTACT 81390411 (ANGEL)
FOR ANY QUERIES :D

 @kardia_coa

JOB OPENINGS WITHIN THE DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

1. Anglican Preschool Services is recruiting for the following positions;

- HR Executive – Anglican Preschool Services
 - Centre Administrator – Little Seeds Preschool (TSA-Bukit Panjang)
Cook – Little Seeds Preschool (Bukit Batok)
2. St George's Church is recruiting for an Administrative Executive.

Interested applicants may visit anglican.org.sg/work-with-us/ for details of these recruitment advertisements.

EQUIP COURSES BY TTC - 3RD QUARTER 2024

EQUIP is a lay training initiative of Trinity Theological College (TTC). EQUIP courses are designed with lay Christians in mind and offer theological education for Christians who desire to be well-equipped to live out their faith in Jesus Christ and for effective and faithful ministry.



The following courses are open for registration:

1. The Drama of the History of Christianity (via Zoom)

Instructor: Dr Leow Theng Huat

Dates: 8 Jul - 19 Aug (Mondays)

Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Fees: \$100 (free for TTC alumni and TTC Matriculated Students)

2. Theology of Mission (via Zoom)

Instructor: Rev Dr Andrew Peh

Dates: 9 Jul - 20 Aug (Tuesdays)

Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Fees: \$100 (free for TTC alumni and TTC Matriculated Students)

3. New Testament Survey (via Zoom)

Instructor: Rev Dr Leonard Wee

Dates: 10 Jul - 21 Aug (Wednesdays)

Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Fees: \$100 (free for TTC alumni and TTC Matriculated Students)

4. Moral Character of a Christian Leader (via Zoom)

Instructor: Rev Dr Daniel Koh

Dates: 11 Jul - 22 Aug (Thursdays)

Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Fees: \$100 (free for TTC alumni and TTC Matriculated Students)

5. Mobilising Churches for Mission (in-person at TTC)

Instructor: Rev Manik Corea

Dates: 17 - 31 Aug 2024 (Saturdays)

Time: 8.30am - 1pm

Fees: \$150 (free for TTC alumni and TTC Matriculated Students)

More information and registration details can be found on our website <https://anglican.org.sg/events/>



Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers

PRAYER FOCUS FOR WEEK: 21 - 27 APR 2024

1) DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

ST HILDA'S CHURCH

Vicar:

English and Chinese Congregations:
Little Seeds Preschool (St Hilda's Church)
St Hilda's Community Services

Revd Martin Jungnickel
Clergy, staff and parishioners

2) SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD:

Singapore: On 15 May 2024, Lawrence Wong will take over from Lee Hsien Loong as Singapore's fourth Prime Minister. Pray for the smooth transition of leadership and for the new Prime Minister to lead and govern our country with compassion and integrity.

World: Pray for India as its citizens go to the polls to elect a new government. Pray for peace in the election process and for the country to be governed with righteousness and fairness. Pray for the hope of Jesus to enter into the hearts of many in this nation through the ministry of the churches.

3) PARISH:

- 1) Pray for members to experience God's renewal, restoration and empowerment during the Easter Season.
- 2) Pray for God's revelation of His direction for the church in the year ahead at the upcoming AGM.
- 3) Pray for God's blessings on the upcoming Mother's Day service to refresh and encourage many, especially mothers, of His love for them.

4) THE SICK AND SUFFERING:

For health and recovery

Joanne Lau, Lily Chan, Mary Yee, Tan Teck Hin, Wong Wah Kum, Zephan Heng

For 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
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. Liver enzymes to be stable. Wisdom on the doctors to give right diagnosis.
Zephan Heng - ALP level to drop and no issues with liver or bones.
Steven Syn - restoration consciousness and health
Janet Hale - relief from pain in her body
Rosalynn Lim - Full recovery from brain tumor operation
Nancy Chan (Low) - stroke & heart

"For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world - our faith."