

COLLECT

Almighty God, who through Your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by Your grace going before us You put into our minds good desires, so by Your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Time:

11.30am

28 Apr 2024 Easter 5

8am & 10.00am

Preacher: Revd Ian Chew

Sermon: "Love One Another"

Bible Reading: 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-17

UPCOMING

(Sat) 7.30am	Men's Network Monthly Prayer Meeting AH "The Beatitudes of Christ" David Tey
5 May (Sun) 8am & 10.30am	Easter 6/ Mother's Day Service "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
12 May (Sun) 10am	Easter 7/Ascension Sunday Combined Service "Our Unity in Christ" 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19 Revd Ian Chew
Annual G Venue: Sa	eneral Meeting (AGM) - Today

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

Connect with the Ascension Family



Email: <u>admin@ascension.org.sg</u> Website: <u>www.ascension.org.sg</u> Event Calendar: <u>ascension.org.sg/cc</u>

VICAR'S MESSAGE

Dear COA Family,

A very interesting question came up during one of the cell group meetings in our church this week during their Bible study on growing in fruitfulness.

One of our members asked this question: Is it possible to upscale or upgrade ourselves in heaven?

This is a very pertinent question as it presents the idea that we can change our circumstances in heaven even if we may have not been faithful or have "messed up" on earth.

To answer this question, we must understand first of all that <u>we will all be rewarded in heaven with</u> <u>salvation</u>, which is eternal life. Jesus declares,

"Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life" John 5:24.

Yet, at the same time, there are also varying degrees of reward in heaven apart from the baseline gift of salvation. Take, for example, these other words of Christ and the Apostle Paul:

- 1. "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because **great is your reward in heaven**" Matthew 5:11-12.
- "Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward" Matthew 10:41-42.
 "But each one should build with care... If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a
- "But each one should build with care... If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames" 1 Corinthians 3:10-15.

So, it is clear that there are different rewards for the degree of our faithfulness to Christ here on earth. It is important to note that these are not our works to earn our salvation, but they are our actions of response after being saved and changed to be like Christ. It is a heresy to claim that someone who continues to live in sin and darkness will be saved just because he or she had believed some time ago.

But will we be able to earn such rewards in heaven? Here I am delving into realm of speculation as no one has been to heaven yet, but I can offer some thoughts based on the teaching of Scriptures.

Firstly, we will not have to fight to be faithful to Christ in heaven. There will be nothing that pollutes and there will be no more suffering in heaven. God will wipe away all of our tears. In that sense, there is nothing for us to work for as all of us will be perfectly enabled to obey God, unlike on earth.

Secondly, it will cause human beings to be complacent as we can leave our serving for God to heaven. Here on earth, we will be free to pursue all of our interests, desires and aspirations without thought for God's kingdom. This is patently untrue.

Both these reasons reveal to us how important it is for us to live for God's kingdom here and now. We have only one chance to live for God and be fruitful for His kingdom to earn our future reward. As C. T Studd writes,

"Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last."

Let us give of ourselves fully for the work of the Lord in whatever capacity He calls us to be in.

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	Time 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 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 <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

REQUEST FOR HOUSE/OFFICE BLESSING

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

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

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CHILDREN

Please take note that there will be no Sunday school today.





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.

EVENT CALENDAR 2024

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

VACANCY FOR COA STAFF POSITION

We are looking for a suitable candidate to fill the following position: COA Finance Officer (part-time). Interested applicants, please click on the below URL <u>https://ascension.org.sg/finance-officer-opening/</u> and send your resume to <u>admin@ascension.org.sg</u>



CLOSURE OF CHURCH OFFICE

The church office will be closed on 1 May (Wed - Labour Day). It will reopen on 2 May (Thur). For any urgent matters, please contact 81002203.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

- <u>Notice and Agenda of AGM 2024</u>. Notice is hereby given that the 60th AGM of the Church of the Ascension will be held at the Sanctuary on <u>Sunday, 28 April 2024</u>, <u>11:30am</u>, 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. AGM Attendance & Apologies

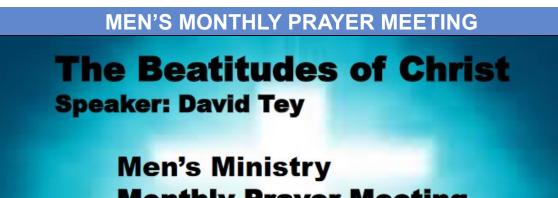
- a. Electoral Roll (ER) members are to proceed to the back of the sanctuary (by the baptism font) to register your attendance **at 11.15am.**
- b.. If you are not able to attend, please sign to indicate your apologies.
- c. Non-ER members who are attending the AGM are to sign in as Observers.
- d. All are to be seated in the Sanctuary by 11.30 am.

3. AGM REPORT 2023

The AGM Report is made available in the following link. Please click here.

AGM SUNDAY SERVICES & AGM MEETING





Monthly Prayer Meeting Saturday : 4th May 2024 7.30 am – Ascension Hall All Are Welcome

MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE

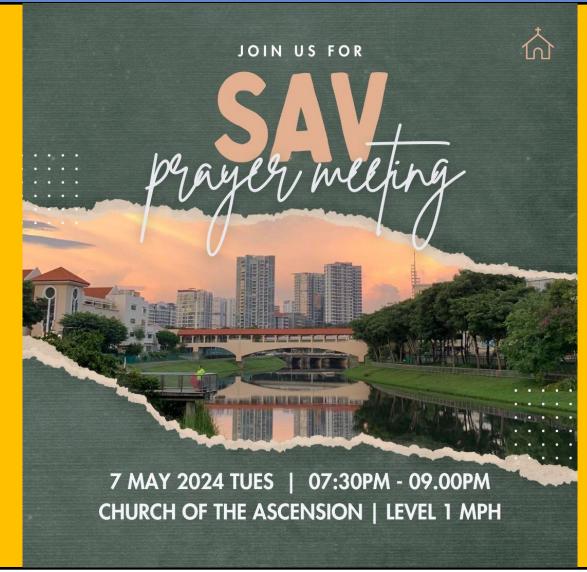


5 MAY 2024 | 8AM & 10.30AM

"Our Identity In Christ"

Speaker: Ps Jocelyn Choo

SAV PRAYER MEETING



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 <u>here</u> for the link.

of

Meeting ID: 822 3756 7980 Passcode: matt1820

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.

COA 72ND ANNIVERSARY: 10AM COMBINED SERVICE A S C E N S I O N ' S CHURCH 0 F THE NIVERSARY 2 N D N 7 A MAY **OUR UNITY** 19 **IN CHRIST REV IAN CHEW** SUNDAY SI **10AM COMBINE** D **BILINGUAL SERVICE**

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

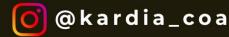
Cell Groups

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



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 <u>anglican.org.sg/work-with-us/</u> for details of these recruitment advertisements.

VACANCIES IN DIOCESAN CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

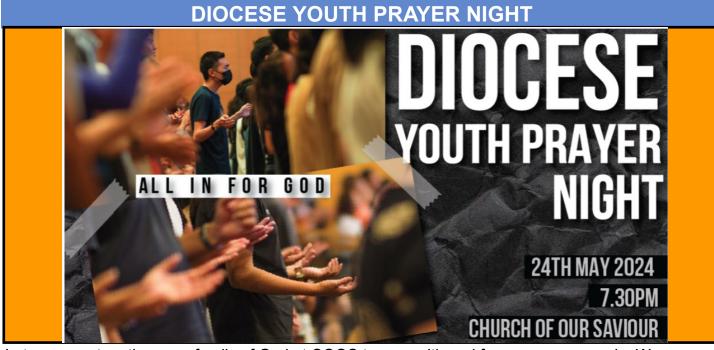
Have the gift of administration? Want to be part of God's mission for the Church? The Diocesan Central Administration (DCA) is looking for administration professionals with a burden to serve God with their skills. Join us in building the administration infrastructure for all the Anglican parishes in Singapore. Join us to Empower, Enable and Equip our churches for tomorrow!

We are recruiting for Heads of Departments, Senior Executives and Executives for

- 1) Finance
- 2) HR
- 3) IT
- 4) Corporate Communications
- 5) Property & Facilities Management
- 6) Operations & Events Management
- 7) Secretariat & Compliance
- 8) Membership & Licensing

Find out more about DCA and what we do https://anglican.org.sg/wearedca/ .

Interested applicants may submit their CV via <u>https://form.jotform.com/Diocese_Central/careers-at-dca</u>.



Let us come together as a family of God at COOS to pray with and for our young people. We want to intercede for our young people, ignite their passion for Christ, and propel them to go all in for Jesus!

Date: 24 May 2024 Time: 7.30pm Venue: Church of Our Saviour, Auditorium



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: 28 APR - 4 MAY 2024

1) DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

ST JOHN'S-ST MARGARET'S CHURCH

Vicar:

English, Chinese and Tamil Congregations: SJSM Village (Nursing Home & Child Care):

Revd Victor Teo Clergy, staff and parishioners Staff and volunteers

2) SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD:

- Singapore: A multi-vehicle road accident occurred recently in Tampines which killed two and injured several people. Pray that God will heal those injured and bring comfort to the families who have lost their loved ones. Pray too that motorists on our roads will drive with care and be mindful of the safety of all.
- Asia: Parts of South and Southeast Asia are going through a severe heat wave currently. Pray for God's protection on the vulnerable from the effects of the heat wave . Pray too for wisdom for the leaders of these countries to take effective measures to help their people cope with the heat wave.

3) PARISH:

- 1) Pray for God's leading and guidance upon our church at today's AGM to discern and follow His will for us in the year ahead.
- 2) Pray for God's blessings on our Mother's Day Service and many of our loved ones who come and hear His words of love and encouragement.
- 3) We thank God for the 238 members who have signed up for our Church Camp. Pray for the Camp Committee to be strengthened to plan and prepare for the upcoming camp.

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