

Bishop: The Most Revd Dr Titus Chung

Vicar: Revd Ian Chew

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us Your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of Your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; 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.

29 September 2024

Trinity 18

8am & 10.30am

Preacher: Revd Ian Chew

Sermon: "Test of Truth in Ministry"

Bible Reading: 2 Corinthians 13:1-14;

Mark 9:38-50

Connect with the Ascension Family





Email: admin@ascension.org.sg
Website: www.ascension.org.sg
Event Calendar: ascension.org.sg

UPCOMING

29 Sep (Sun) 12.30pm

New Believers' Class #2
"Beginning Your New Life of Fellowship With Christ"
Youth Room #01-06
DOS Building

29 Sep
(Sun)
12.30pm

Confirmation Course #2
"The Ten Commandments (1-4)"
MPH

5 Oct (Sat) 7.30am Men's Network Monthly Prayer Meeting "Persevering in God's Faithfulness" Ps Edward Zaccheus AH

6 Oct (Sun) 8am & 10.30am Children/Youth Sunday/Trinity 19
"Children of Light"
Ephesians 5:1-21;
Matthew 18:1-6
Angelina Lim

10 Oct (Thu) 8am ComLink Fellowship Walk - Kent Ridge Park and Hort Park

VICAR'S MESSAGE

Dear COA Family,

When we were in school, one of the first things we learnt was the significance of tenses in languages.

In the English language, there are primarily past, present and future tenses that cover the relevant time frames. Each of these tenses consists of four aspects: simple, continuous, perfect or perfect continuous which describe the action and event in more detail. They are all essential for clear communication.

For example, "I ate my breakfast this morning" (simple past tense) is different from "I am eating my breakfast right now" (present continuous tense). When hearing the former reply, the listener would not offer more food to him or her. When hearing the latter phrase, the listener would not disturb the person having breakfast more than is necessary.



Similarly, tenses in biblical language are crucial for us to understand the meaning of the words of Jesus or doctrines taught by the apostles. This will affect how we respond to them.

A well-known verse in the Bible is John 3:16. It is often translated as:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever *believes* in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (Italics mine.)

Any Christian, upon hearing this teaching, would either respond by believing in Jesus Christ as his saviour that very moment or encourage others to do so. This is what we usually do in our evangelistic efforts to help people become "saved".

Yet a more proper translation of the verse from the Greek ought to be:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever *believes and goes on believing* in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (Italics mine.)

This is because the tense of the verb "believe" in Greek ("pisteuōn") is actually in the present participle active tense signifying a **continuous** or **ongoing** action.

This has great significance to our understanding of what constitutes salvation. It tells us that our faith in Christ should not be limited to a one-time decision made in the past to believe but is an ongoing relationship of trust in Christ every moment of each day. It reminds us that salvation is a continuing journey of faith from the beginning to the end till we meet Jesus.

This has great significance too in our evangelistic and discipleship efforts. We are not so much concerned to get people to say the sinner's prayer (akin to signing an insurance policy) as to ensure that they grow by getting baptised, confirmed and joining our church services and cell group meetings regularly. This is because salvation for them too is not a one-time decision made in the past but an unending walk with Christ for the rest of their lives.

By teaching according to this manner, our daily attitudes, actions, behaviours and responses become crucial to our faith. They show whether we are adhering to our beliefs or straying away from them. It can make the difference between us being saved or not!

So, don't underestimate the importance of tenses in God's word.

Am I therefore saying that it is a must for every Christian to know Greek as well? Not to that degree but it is important to get yourself immersed in God's word and study the Bible diligently. There are numerous commentaries which deal with the tenses and meanings of the words to help you understand the Bible better.

As you keep a close watch on growing in understanding of God's word and living your faith out diligently each day, you "will save both yourself and your hearers" (1 Timothy 4:16). It is that important!

God bless,

Revd Ian

WELCOME TO 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 Services

English Traditional 8.00am Sanctuary Holy Communion (Level 2)

English ContemporaryHoly Communion (1st & 3rd Sun)

Sanctuary (Level 2)

MandarinHoly Communion (1st & 3rd Sun)

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 a 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 <u>admin@ascension.org.sg</u>
- 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 GIVING

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



JOIN US ON 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



Download Telegram:

Android:

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

Apple/IOS:

https://apps.apple.com/us/app/telegrammessenger/id686449807nger&hl=en_SG&gl=US

CHILDREN MINISTRY

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

Little Gems: Sunday School room (L2)

Kids For Christ: MPH (Lower L2)

Enquires: Shirley Kwek

Please click on to this <u>Link</u>, for more information.





BREAKFAST AT LKC

We welcome you 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 in informing Elaine or Clare before placing any food at the 'Refreshment corner'.

NEW BELIEVERS' CLASS 2024



KALIMANTAN (AND JAVA) TRIP NOV 2024

Trip Introduction Meeting:

Date: 29 Sept 2024 **Time:** 9:40 to 10:20am

Venue: Conference Room (Church Office)

Please attend the above meeting for more information.

Kalimantan (26-28 Nov); Java (29 Nov-1 Dec).

For those who are interested please submit your name to either Allan or Clare.

CONFIRMATION COURSE



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.

Confirmation Course is for:

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

Schedule for Confirmation Course

Sunday 22 Sep - The Sacrament of the Holy Communion

Sunday 29 Sep - The Ten Commandments (1-4)

Sunday 6 Oct - The Ten Commandments (5-10)

Sunday 13 Oct - The Work of the Holy Spirit

Sunday 20 Oct - Anglicanism & Church History

Saturday 26 Oct (10am-12pm) - Confirmation Retreat



Confirmation Service:

27 Oct 2024 (Sunday), 10.30 am - conducted by Rt Revd Low Jee King Register: https://ascension.org.sg/confirmation

COA - CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION



COMLINK - FELLOWSHIP WALK



Kent Ridge Park & Hort Park



Time: 8 am to 11.30 am

Meeting Potong Pasir MRT

Place: Station

Register by: 9 OCT 24



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

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

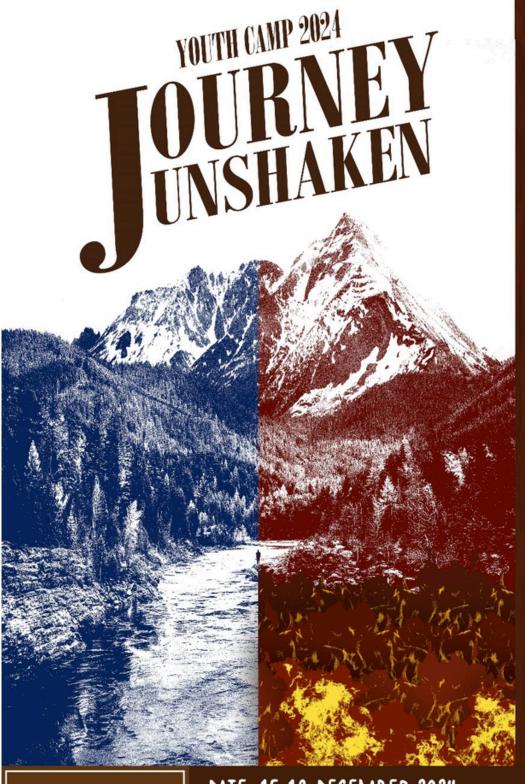
ADVANCE CARE PLANNING - FOLLOW UP



COA MISSIONS MONTH - OCTOBER 2024



YOUTH CAMP 2024



"WHEN YOU PASS
THROUGH THE
WATERS, I WILL BE
WITH YOU; AND
THROUGH THE RIVERS,
THEY SHALL NOT
OVERWHELM YOU;
WHEN YOU WALK
THROUGH FIRE YOU
SHALL NOT BE
BURNED, AND THE
FLAME SHALL NOT
CONSUME YOU."

ISAIAH 43:2

SIGN UP HERE!



\$20 PER PERSON DATE: 15-18 DECEMBER 2024

CAMP SPEAKER: PS SAMUEL PHUN

LOCATION: CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

REGISTRATION ENDS 24 NOVEMBER 2024

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT ISAAC (84484450) OR DORCAS (94257667)



CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT (CBC) 2024



Church of the Ascension warmly invites you to our annual Christmas celebration event, Carols By Candlelight. This year's theme is A Classical Christmas and we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus together!

Please don't miss out! Register at https://tinyurl.com/COACBC2024 to secure your dinner tickets!

KARDIA YOUTH MINISTRY



SERMON SERIES -- JULY-SEPTEMBER 2024

Fulfilling God's Purposes in Ministry

07/07	Comfort of God in Ministry 2 Cor 1:1-24	Revd Ian Chew
14/07	Fragrance of Christ in Ministry 2 Cor 2:1-17	Ps Edward Zaccheus
21/07	Freedom of Spirit in Ministry 2 Cor 3:1-18	Revd Ian Chew
28/07	Treasure in Jars of Clay in Ministry 2 Cor 4:1-18	Ps Robert Rice
04/08	Compelling Love of Christ in Ministry 2 Cor 5:1-21	Revd Ian Chew
11/08	Danger of Compromise in Ministry 2 Cor 6:1-18	Ps Barnabas Sim
18/08	Repentance of Godly Sorrow in Ministry 2 Cor 7:1-16	Revd Ian Chew
25/08	Proof of Love in Ministry 2 Car 8:1-24	Ps Edward Zaccheus
01/09	Generosity of Heart in Ministry 2 Cor 9:I-15	Revd Ian Chew
08/09	Seal of Approval in Ministry 2 Cor 10:1-18	Ps Jocelyn Choo
15/09	Marks of Apostleship in Ministry 2 Cor 11:1-33	Revd Ian Chew
22/09	Grace of God for Ministry 2 Cor 12:1-21	Ps Barnabas Sim
29/09	Test of Truth in Ministry 2 Cor 13:1-14	Revd Ian Chew















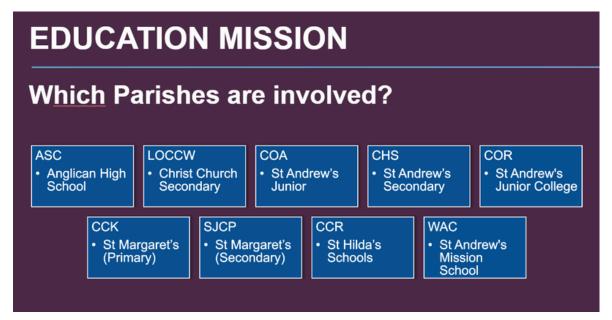






DIOCESAN EDUCATION MONTH



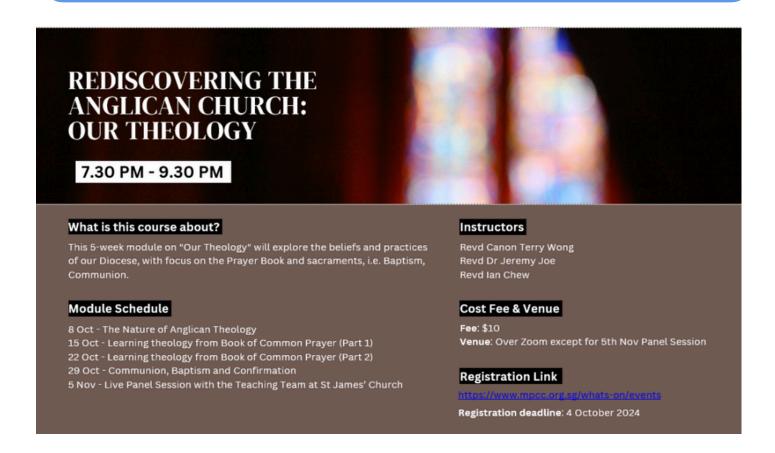


September marks the Diocesan Education Month and the Education Board would like to highlight the Chaplaincy Work at our Anglican Schools.

Every September, the Diocese of Singapore remembers our Education Mission. The Anglican Church serves 3 primary schools, 5 secondary schools and 1 junior college as well as 2 schools for children with special needs. The Education Mission Fund (EMF) was set up with the bequest of Mr Tan Lye Whatt, a former Principal of St Andrew's School with the intention to support and strengthen school chaplaincy work. The EMF is used to subsidise the hiring and/or training costs of chaplaincy workers. Here are some ways you can contribute:

- Monetary contribution: make your cheque or digital transfer to your parish indicating "EMF". Your parish will then transfer the sum collected to the Diocese.
- Voluntary Work: Approach the anchor parishes for more details.
- **Prayers**: Your prayers are instrumental for the Education Mission in our Schools.

SCHOOL OF ANGLICANISM: LAY TRAINING COURSE



Rediscovering the Anglican Church (RTAC) is a lay training course under St Peter's Hall School of Anglicanism. This module on "Our Theology" will explore the beliefs and practices of our Diocese, with focus on the Prayer Book and sacraments, i.e. Baptism, Communion.

Title: Rediscovering the Anglican Church: Our Theology

Date: 8 Oct - 5 Nov 2024 **Time**: 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Course Fee: \$10

All lessons will be conducted via Zoom except for the **5th Nov 2024** Panel Session. Registration details can be found on the Diocesan website at https://anglican.org.sg/events/.

DAWN THE MUSICAL - EVANGELISTIC MUSICAL



The story of a wealthy man known for his discerning taste in art and aloof demeanor. One fateful night, a devastating fire consumes everything. In dealing with the loss of his assets, he withdraws himself from society, even drifting apart from his wife.

At the lowest point of his life, he finds himself wandering to the seaside, contemplating to end his life....

A joint production with The Anglican Chinese Board and The Christian Orchestra, "Dawn the Musical 曙光音乐会" speaks of a journey of love and hope for man. Our protagonist will embark on a soulful journey that cannot be missed!

Book your tickets early and invite your pre-believing friends and families to the evangelistic musical. Tickets are \$15* (inclusive of a welcome package).

*Kindly note that the musical will be presented in **Mandarin**.

Date: 20th, 21st, 22nd November 2024

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: Church of Our Saviour

Registration: https://sg.bookmyshow.com/e/DAWN2024 (Closes 22 November)

Ticket Cost: \$15 per ticket (exclude booking fee)



PRAYER FOCUS FOR WEEK: 29 SEPT - 6 OCT 2024

1) DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

1) Principals and Staff of LSP (Ascension) and LSP (Church of the Ascension)

 God's strength wisdom and guidance upon them to share knowledge and the love of Christ with the children

2) Chaplaincy outreach to the Preschools:

 Opportunities to sow seeds of the gospel in the hearts of the children and impact their families

3) COA Children Ministry (LG/KFC)

- Thank God for growth and fruitfulness
- Children's lives to be changed by God's word
- More teachers and helpers to volunteer to serve

2) SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD

Singapore: PSLEs from 26 Sep – 2 Oct, GCE "N" levels ending 8 Oct, GCE "O" levels ending 11 Nov, and "A" levels ending 7 Nov. Pray for the mental health and well-being of the students preparing and sitting for their national examinations. Pray also for smooth, safe, and reliable transport to their examination venues.

East Asia: Pray for a spirit of concord and peace among the countries involved amidst rising tensions in the contested South China Sea, and or God's mercy to be upon these countries that the conflict will not escalate further.

3) PARISH

1) Children's and youth sitting for their examinations:

- a) <u>P6s siting for their PSLEs from 26 Sep-2 Oct:</u>
 Gareth Oh, Genela Nepolian, Jenessa Lim, Jonah Lai, Noah Goh, Ryleigh Chan, Vivienne Chua, Eliane Ng, Josiah Yam, Marcus Ho.
- b) <u>Youths sitting for their GCE "N" Levels till 8 Oct :</u> Aquila Manzano, Ian Yeo, Joshua Liew, Reyes Tan.
- c) <u>Youths sitting for their GCE "O" Levels till 11 Nov:</u>
 Reyes Tan, Eleanor Lai, Janice Loo, Jarren Mak, Oliver Chua, Stephanie Lim, Theron Ting.

2) Children & Youth Sunday service and celebration:

Pray for our invited children and youths to come for our celebrations, experience God's love and be open to receiving Him.

3) COA Missions Month - October 2024

Pray that we will be filled with God's love and embrace His mission to reach the lost in Singapore and beyond. Pray too that we will be filled with the Spirit's wisdom in sharing the gospel with our families and friends.

4) THE SICK AND SUFFERING

For Health and Recovery

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

For Healing

- Annie Huan: Strength for her legs
- Sng Hock Meng: Healing of the mind
- Conelius Loo: Sleep apnea
- Joseph Phua: Muscular degeneration, stones in left kidney, urinary tract infection
- Felicia Koh: Tiny cyst on liver remains harmless, stable liver enzymes, wisdom for doctors
- Zephan Heng: ALP level to drop, no issues with liver or bones
- Steven Syn: Restoration of consciousness and health
- Rosalynn Lim: Full recovery from brain tumor operation
- Nancy Chan (Low): Stroke and heart issues
- Willy Wong: Healing from cancer; starting radiation treatment in Nov
- Soon Pee Seng: healing and strength for Parkinson condition
- Chia Jengwe: complete healing and recovery from heart bypass operation

Prayer Requests for Relatives and Friends of COA Members

- Benjamin (Lesley Ho's nephew): Hepatitis B
- David Yeong (Margaret Onn's husband): Cancer
- Ong Chwee Hock (Siew Chin's brother): Physiotherapy and lymphoma
- Lim Cheng Ho (Kim Lim's father): God's healing upon him
- Chen Wenxi (Choon Tee and Jacqueline's niece): Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia