

Bishop: The Most Revd Dr Titus Chung

Vicar: Revd Ian Chew

# COLLECT

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of Your Son: grant that, as she looked for His coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet Him when He comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

22 December 2024	UPCOMING		
Advent 4	25 Dec (Wed)	Christmas Day "Jesus, Lord of God's Kingdom"	
8am & 10.30am	10am	Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 Revd Ian Chew	
Preacher: Vincent Lim	27 Dec (Fri)	Elder Fellowship "Christmas Thanksgiving Service " MPH Revd Soon Soo Kee	
Sermon: "Faith to Receive God's Kingdom"	10.30am		
<b>Bible Reading:</b> Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38	29 Dec (Sun)	Christmas 1 "Relationships in God's Kingdom" Colossians 3:12-24; Luke 2:41-52	
	8am 10.30am	Yuri See Marcus Sia	
	31 Dec (Tue)	Watchnight Service "Teach Us to Number Our Days"	
Connect with the Ascension Family	10.30pm	Psalm 90 Revd Ian Chew	
💡 <u>13 Francis Thomas Drive</u>	China China		
Email: <u>admin@ascension.org.sg</u> Website: <u>www.ascension.org.sg</u> Event Calendar: <u>ascension.org.sg/cc</u>		The Vicar and staff would like to wish everyone a Blessed Christmas!	

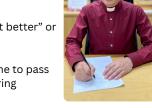
## **VICAR'S MESSAGE**

Dear COA Family,

How do you encourage someone who is down?

Often we say words that attempt to bring immediate comfort and assurances, such as "Don't worry, this will pass" or "Things will get better" or "Cheer up, the weekend/year-end is coming".

However, we don't really know whether what we say will truly come to pass and whether what we say will truly help. At best, they may only bring temporary relief but cannot solve the root of the problems.



That is why the Bible gives us specific instructions about what to say to encourage our brothers and sisters when they are going through difficulties.

Paul writes to the Thessalonian church:

"For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep... For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. **Therefore** *encourage one another with these words*" 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18.

Ultimately the greatest truth that brings comfort, peace and strength is the assurance that one day, we will be not only with the Lord but also ruling and reigning with him. This is the promise and hope that we can cling on to in the midst of life's confusions and trials. God has planned out a glorious future for our lives!

So, today, if you are hanging on to earthly hopes like having job security, stability in relationships or an uninterrupted or unending smooth-sailing life as your basis for overall well-being and future happiness, you are on thin ice. They may very well not materialise. And God has not intended for things to be like this because he intends to lift our gaze from earth to heaven (Colossians 3:2).

However, as we tutor our hearts on where to place our hopes for eternity, we yearn and look forward to what is good, just and right. Only our future hope with and in Christ will give us true comfort, strength and peace.

Have a blessed week ahead!

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 Holy Communion	8.00am	Sanctuary (Level 2)
<b>English Contemporary</b> Holy Communion (1st & 3rd Sun)	10.30am	Sanctuary (Level 2)
<b>Mandarin</b> Holy Communion (1st & 3rd 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 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 <u>admin@ascension.org.sg</u>

# **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

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



#### @ASCENSIONAIRES

## **EVENT CALENDAR 2025**

The COA 2025 Event calendar is available for download. Please use the below link for the event calendar: <u>https://ascension.org.sg/coa-calendar-2025/</u>

## **CHILDREN MINISTRY**

Sunday School will be in recess from **1 Dec to 5 Jan 2025.** It will resume on **12 Jan 2025.** 

Little Gems will be having a Christmas Party on **22 Dec 2024 (Today).** 

Enquires: <u>Shirley Kwek</u> 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'.



#### DECEMBER SERVICES AND EVENTS -- LIVING IN GOD'S KINGDOM



### ST ANDREW'S HALL CHAPLAINCY MINISTRY



A new batch of Sec 1 and Sec 3 scholars has joined St Andrew's Hall for 2025-2026. We are looking for Host Parents (whether an adult couple or two adults of the same gender) to take care of two or three students per pair. Please contact the church office if you wish to sign up as a Host Parent.

#### **CHRISTMAS DAY BAPTISM SERVICE 2024**



After the Service, please join us at the poolside for a baptism ceremony. All are welcome to participate in this significant occasion.

### **YA - WINE & CHEESE NIGHT 2024**



# **KARDIA - YOUTH MINISTRY**

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

> > 👩 @kardia\_coa

### **VACANCY FOR COA STAFF POSITION**

We are looking for a suitable candidate to fill the following position:

<u>COA-Chaplaincy Staff for St Andrew's Nursing Home (Aljunied)</u>. Interested applicants, please click on the <u>Link</u>, and send your resume to <u>admin@ascension.org.sg</u>

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

WELCOME TO THE ELDER FELLOWSHIP HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

27 DEC 2024 10.30AM - 12.30PM 27 December 2024 Holy Communion Service "Christmas Thanksgiving Service " Venue: MPH 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

# **GREETINGS FROM ARCHBISHOP TITUS CHUNG & DCA**

# Blessed Christmas & Happy New Year

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

John 14:27 ESV

from Archbishop Titus and all of us at the Diocesan Central Administration



#### INSTITUTION & INDUCTION OF REVD GLENN CHAN AS VICAR OF CHAPEL OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER



Revd Glenn Chan will be instituted and inducted as the Vicar of Chapel of Christ the Redeemer on 12 January 2025, Sunday, at 10.15am. A livestream of the Service can be viewed <u>here</u>.

Let us uplift Revd Glenn and his family in prayer.

# JOB OPENINGS WITHIN THE DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

• Anglican Preschool Services is recruiting for a Marketing and Communications Executive.

Interested applicants may visit <u>anglican.org.sg/work-with-us/</u> for details of the recruitment advertisements.

# Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers

# PRAYER FOCUS FOR WEEK: 22 - 28 DEC 2024

#### **1) DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE**

#### Parish Staff (pastoral, administrative, facilities)

- Thank God for the work and contributions of parish staff who have served faithfully over the years.
- Pray for God's provision and protection for them and their families.
- Pray for God to use and multiply their talents and efforts for the furtherance of His Kingdom.

#### 2) SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD

1) **Singapore:** Cases of whooping cough have spiked in 2024. Pray for God's protection especially over the vulnerable and for speedy recovery for the sick.

2) **South Korea**: South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol has been impeached following a declaration of martial law on 3 Dec. Pray for God's mercy and will to be done in South Korea, as they navigate political uncertainty.

#### 3) PARISH

#### 1) Season of Christmas

Pray that our hearts will filled with the true joy and peace that comes with Christ's birth. Pray too that we will be share our Lord's love with others through the church's celebrations.

#### 2) Christmas Day Baptism Service 2024

Children - Alexandre Yong Cheng Rigoulet, Elena Xu En Yue, Estelle Xu En Xin, Kylian Leong Wen Zhe, Raphael Jue Cheng Rigoulet, Tan Qi Rui Jotham (陈启锐)

Adults - Chan Noi Sin Josephine (曾丽心), Lee Kok Cheong (李国祥), Reni Widyastuti, Tan Beng Chun (陈明俊), Wu Yanyan Ruth (吴燕燕), Lee Yong Lor Thomas (李仰露), Ong Doreen

#### 4) THE SICK AND SUFFERING

#### **Health and Recovery**

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

#### 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 and good response to radiation treatment.
- Soon Pee Seng: Healing and strength for Parkinson condition
- Nathaniel Soon: Complete healing and restoration of strength, function and stability of right wrist.
- Lim Cheng Ho (Kim Lim's father): God's healing upon him

#### 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
- Chen Wenxi (Choon Tee and Jacqueline's niece): Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia
- Teo Wee Chia (Celine Wong's friend) Rheumatoid Arthritis