

Heartwarming HOSPITALITY

2025



*"Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide,
do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes"
Isaiah 54:2*

Bishop: The Most Revd Dr Titus Chung

Vicar: Revd Ian Chew

COLLECT

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed Him to be Your Son, anointing Him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as Your adopted children; 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.

12 January 2025

Epiphany 1/ Baptism of Christ
8am & 10.30am

Preacher: Revd Gary Chng

Sermon: "Abraham - The Model of Hospitality"

Bible Reading: Genesis 18:1-19;
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

UPCOMING

16 Jan
(Thu)
9.45am

ComLink
"What's A Cooking"
Crispy Roasted Pork & Easy
Cucumber Pickles
LKC Hall

19 Jan
(Sun)
8am
&
10.30am

Epiphany 2
"Rahab - The Risk of Hospitality"
Joshua 2;
John 2:1-11
Revd Ian Chew

19 Jan
(Sun)
1pm

PCC Meeting
Conference Room

24 Jan
(Fri)
10.30am

Elder Fellowship
MPH
Revd Ian Chew

Connect with the Ascension Family

13 Francis Thomas Drive



Email: admin@ascension.org.sg

Website: www.ascension.org.sg

Event Calendar: <https://ascension.org.sg/coa-calendar-2025/>

VICAR'S MESSAGE

Dear COA Family,

In the Gospels, Jesus often reserved his harshest criticisms for the Pharisees and teachers of the Law.

What was his main complaint about them? It is this: they laid heavy burdens on the people, yet did not lift a finger to help them (Matthew 23:4). In other words, the Pharisees imposed strict regulations and numerous man-made expectations on the people they led, yet did not live up to their own teachings nor were willing to guide the people in how to obey the laws.



In essence, the Pharisees and teachers of the Law in Jesus' day were **hypocrites!**

Jesus' warning against them was stark: listen to what they teach, but do not do what they do. Their appearances may be awe-inspiring and their words impressive to others, but in God's sight they are white-washed tombs, threatening to drag others down to hell with them.

The sin of hypocrisy is thus a very serious and heinous sin in God's sight. And the truth is that none of us are exempt from it. We need to be conscientious in rooting out every trace of hypocrisy in our hearts.

Here are some guiding reflections:

- Do we **profess** to love our neighbours but ostracise individuals because of their past mistakes, lifestyle, or socio-economic status?
- Do we **prioritise** accumulating wealth, building up our physical and material assets, or increasing personal streams of income over helping the poor and needy?
- Do we **publicly** condemn immoral behaviour while secretly engaging in similar conduct (e.g., financial fraud, sexual misconduct, or abuse of power)?

Our Lord calls us to an honest and regular self-examination of our own hearts to remain right in his sight. He says:

*"Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? **You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye,** and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye" Matthew 7:3-5.*

In dealing with the stain of hypocrisy, let us be brutally honest and ruthless in dealing with our own hearts. Though we may be weak, our Lord is gracious and will send his Spirit to help and strengthen us. It is not how perfect we have been that counts, but how willing we are to obey God wholeheartedly!

Blessings,

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)
English Contemporary Holy Communion (1st & 3rd Sun)	10.30am	Sanctuary (Level 2)
Mandarin 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 [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 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 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>

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Apple/iOS:

https://apps.apple.com/us/app/telegram-messenger/id686449807nnger&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: <https://ascension.org.sg/coa-calendar-2025/>

CHILDREN MINISTRY

Sunday School will resume on

12 Jan 2025 (Today).

There will also be a briefing session for parents of Little Gems and Kids for Christ:-

Time: After 10.30am English service.

Venue: Sanctuary

Enquires: [Shirley Kwek](#)

Please click on to this [Link](#) 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'.

VACANCY FOR COA STAFF POSITION

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

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

COMLINK - WHAT'S A COOKING



WHAT'S A COOKING?
CRISPY ROASTED PORK & EASY CUCUMBER PICKLES



DATE:	16 JAN 2025 (THURS)
TIME:	9.45AM TO 11.30AM
COST:	\$6 PER PERSON
VENUE:	LKC HALL, CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
REGISTER BY:	10 JAN 25

TO REGISTER, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION AT 6283-3988 (OFFICE HOURS ONLY, CLOSED ON MONDAY)

TALK ON HOW TO BE AN EFFECTIVE WITNESS



How to be an Effective Witness

Ascension Hall, Level 3
Speaker: Ps Samuel Phun, River Community Church

SESSION 1: 26 JAN (SUN), 1.30-3.30PM
SESSION 2: 2 FEB (SUN), 1.30-3.30PM

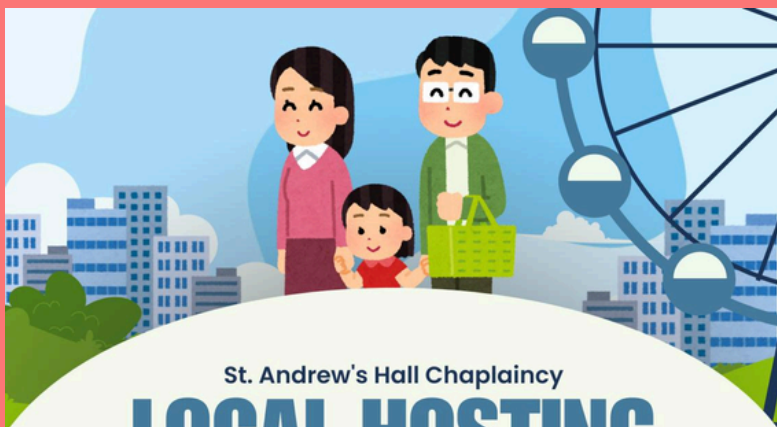
*No registration is required

Heartwarming 2025 HOSPITALITY

5 Jan	God in Christ: The Call to Hospitality	Revd Ian Chew
12 Jan	Abraham: The Model of Hospitality	Revd Gary Chng
19 Jan	Rahab : The Risk of Hospitality	Revd Ian Chew
26 Jan	Widow of Zarephath: The Sacrifice of Hospitality	Ps Barnabas Sim
2 Feb	Zaccheus: The Response of Hospitality	Ps Edward Zaccheus
9 Feb	Good Samaritan: The Act of Hospitality	Ps Edric Sng
16 Feb	Cornelius and Peter: The Openness of Hospitality	Revd Ian Chew
23 Feb	Philemon: The Forgiveness of Hospitality	Ps Jocelyn Choo
2 Mar	Church in Acts: The Community of Hospitality	Revd Ian Chew

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Isaiah 54:2

ST ANDREW'S HALL CHAPLAINCY MINISTRY



St. Andrew's Hall Chaplaincy

LOCAL HOSTING PARENTS NEEDED!

Come join us and don't miss being part of the
SA Hall Local Hosting Programme!

- Care for 13-16 years old students from ASEAN countries
- Experience a wholesome family time together

Contact COA Office

6283 3988

or your local SA Hall representatives
to sign up!

St. Andrew's Hall Chaplaincy

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.

KARDIA - YOUTH MINISTRY

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

INSTITUTION & INDUCTION OF REV. DR. GLENN CHAN AS VICAR OF CHAPEL OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER



Rev. Dr. Glenn Chan will be instituted and inducted as the Vicar of Chapel of Christ the Redeemer on 12 January 2025, Sunday (today) at 10.15am. A livestream of the Service can be viewed [here](https://oneccr.online.church/).

Let us uplift Rev. Dr. Glenn and his family in prayer.



Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers

PRAYER FOCUS FOR WEEK: 12 - 18 JAN 25

1) DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL

Bishop of Singapore and Dean:

Acting Vicar:

English, Mandarin, Hokkien, Cantonese, and Burmese services: Clergy, Deaconess, Staff, and Parishioners

The Most Revd Dr Titus Chung
Revd Christopher Chan

- 1) Alpha Course: Pray for leaders and visitors preparing for the Alpha Course starting 5 Feb to discover life's bigger picture and encounter God's goodness and saving grace in their lives.
- 2) Pray that members will respond to the call for Children Ministry workers and that God will bless the workers with wisdom, strength, and joy as they invest time and effort in the children.

2) SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD

- 1) **Singapore:** Three self-radicalised men were detained under ISA on 9 Jan. Pray for God's mercy and protection upon our country against harmful radical and extremist ideologies.
- 2) **Tibet:** A 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck the Himalayan foothills in Tibet on 7 Jan. Pray for families of victims and survivors to find healing in God's comforting presence. Pray also for rescuers searching for survivors in the freezing weather.

3) PARISH

1) COA Theme for 2025

As we enter into the new year, may we embrace the theme of "A Heartwarming Hospitality". Pray that we would be willing to enlarge our tents and extend hearts of hospitality and hands of mercy to those in need.

- 2) Pray for God's Blessings on our Sunday School program and teachers as classes resume **Today**.
- 3) Pray for outreach activities and services in January - Comlink (16 Jan) and Elder Fellowship (24 Jan) - to be well attended and blessed.

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
- Phyllis Teh: Speedy recovery from neck injury

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