

Heartwarming HOSPITALITY



*"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

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of Your saving presence: renew Your people with Your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by Your mighty power; 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.

26 January 2025

Epiphany 3
8am & 10.30am

Preacher: Ps Barnabas Sim

Sermon: "The Widow of Zarephath -
The Sacrifice of Hospitality"

Bible Readings: 1 Kings 17:8-16;
Luke 4:16-30

UPCOMING

26 Jan
(Sun)
1.30pm

"How to be an Effective Witness"
Session 1
Ps Samuel Phun
Ascension Hall, Level 3

2 Feb
(Sun)
8am
&
10.30am

Presentation of Christ
in the Temple (Candlemas)
"Zaccheus -
The Salvation of Hospitality"
Luke 19:1-10; Luke 2:22-40
Ps Edward Zaccheus

6 Feb
(Thu)
9.45am

ComLink
Lunar New Year Lo Hei
LKC Hall, Level 1

8 Feb
(Sat)
2.30pm

Men's Network
CNY Lo-Hei
Swatow Restaurant (Toa Payoh)

Connect with the Ascension Family

 13 Francis Thomas Drive



Email: admin@ascension.org.sg

Website: www.ascension.org.sg

Events Calendar:

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

The Vicar and staff would like to
wish everyone a blessed
Chinese New Year!



新年快乐



VICAR'S MESSAGE

Dear COA Family,

Blessed Chinese New Year!

According to the Chinese zodiac, this is the **Year of the Snake**. There are many superstitious beliefs associated with such a view which I shall not detail.

However, for the Christian, what do the Scriptures say?

According to the Gospel of Luke, quoting from the prophet Isaiah, each year that we live in this world is the **Year of the Lord's favour** (Luke 4:19). It is not a year of God's condemnation or judgment for all of our wrong thoughts and behaviours. That only comes about when the Lord Jesus returns physically on the earth. So until then, we live under the grace, forgiveness and favour of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

What does the Year of the Lord's favour mean?

It means that God's wisdom, provision, strength and help are present for each and every one of us in all circumstances to turn to Him and accomplish His good will in our lives. There is no distinction or discrimination – God's favour is for all members of the human race!

Why is this important?

As we go around visiting or hosting relatives and loved ones, it is such a good opportunity to extend God's welcome and hospitality to them. But first, let us view others afresh with the Lord's perspective. His favour is abundantly extended towards them. Even the most hardened of hearts or wayward of men can be touched and convicted by the love of God. We must never limit the Spirit's power to save or heal.

How can we appropriate God's favour for others this year?

Commit those you are reaching out to each day to the Lord in prayer. Believe that God will grant you divine opportunities and use them wisely and courageously when they appear. Listen to their struggles, empathise with them and share God's promises and the gospel when appropriate. Invite them to our church services or cell groups. Urge them to respond to God's invitation urgently if they are hesitant. Finally, always end with a spoken prayer of blessing for them. This way, we are sowing seeds that will bear fruit in ages yet unknown.

May the words of the Apostle Paul serve as a good reminder for us this year:

*"We are therefore **Christ's ambassadors**, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God" 2 Corinthians 5:20.*

Have a favourable CNY!

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>

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/telegram-messenger/id686449807nger&hl=en_SG&gl=US



@ASCENSIONAIRES

CLOSURE OF CHURCH OFFICE – 28-30 JAN 2025

The church office will close at 1pm on 28 January, and will remain closed on 29 and 30 January. It will reopen on Friday, 31 January. For urgent matters, please contact 81002203.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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

Little Gems: Sunday School room (L2)
Kids For Christ: MPH (Lower L2)

Enquires: [Shirley Kwek](#)

Please click 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.



EVENTS CALENDAR 2025

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

OUTGOING STAFF


Ms Jennifer Chean has tendered her resignation as Administrative Staff and her last day will be 31 January 2025. We thank her for her years of contribution and may God bless her in her future endeavours.

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

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



CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION WISHES YOU A

**BLESSED
CHINESE NEW YEAR**

"The Year of the Lord's Favour"

主悦纳人的禧年

Luke 4:19



COMLINK - CNY LO HEI - 2025

Lunar New Year Lo Hei

DATE: 6 FEB 2025 (THURS)

TIME : 9.45AM TO 11.30AM

COST: \$10 PER PERSON
(INCLUDING LO HEI & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS)

VENUE: LKC HALL, CHURCH
OF THE ASCENSION

REGISTER BY : 31 JAN 2025

TO REGISTER, PLEASE CALL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION AT 62833988 (OFFICE HOURS ONLY, CLOSED ON MONDAY).

ENGLISH AND CHINESE ALPHA COURSE

Explore
Life
Faith &
Meaning

ENGLISH & CHINESE ALPHA
STARTS 13 JULY 2025,
SUNDAYS, 12.30PM-2.30PM

Alpha

CHURCH OF THE
ASCENSION
DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

YOUTH ALPHA 2025 (2 MAR - 4 MAY)



Alpha Youth (open to all aged 13-25) is for you to explore questions about life, faith and purpose on your own terms.

Everyone is welcome, regardless of their background or beliefs.

This series will consist of 10 sessions and introduce the core ideas of the Christian faith in a relevant and engaging way.

Overview:

- 2 March: WELCOME TO THE CONVERSATION
- 9 March: JESUS IS... ?
- 16 March: WHAT DOES REAL LOVE LOOK LIKE?
- 23 March: WHY WOULD I WANT A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD?
- 30 March: WHAT DOES A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD LOOK LIKE?
- 5 April (Sat, 9am-3pm) - *Combined Day Away:*
 - (i) WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?
 - (ii) HOW CAN I BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?
- 13 April: HOW DOES GOD HELP US OVERCOME EVIL?
- 27 April: DOES GOD HEAL TODAY?
- 4 May: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Time: 12.30pm- 2pm (Lunch will be provided)

Location: Ascension Hall (Level 3), 13 Francis Thomas Drive, Singapore 359339

For any queries, kindly contact Angel at 81390411 or angelina.lim@ascension.org.sg

Register today at <https://tinyurl.com/YouthAlpha2025>

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

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

DIOCESAN DIGEST – JANUARY 2025



Diocesan Digest January 2025 is out!

Download your copy from the Diocesan website at
www.anglican.org.sg/diocesan-digest/

The latest issue of the Diocesan Digest is out! Look out for our featured article "**Vocare: Heeding the Call of God**". Find out the latest news and developments within the Diocese. Download your copy at www.anglican.org.sg/diocesan-digest/.

JOB OPENINGS WITHIN THE DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

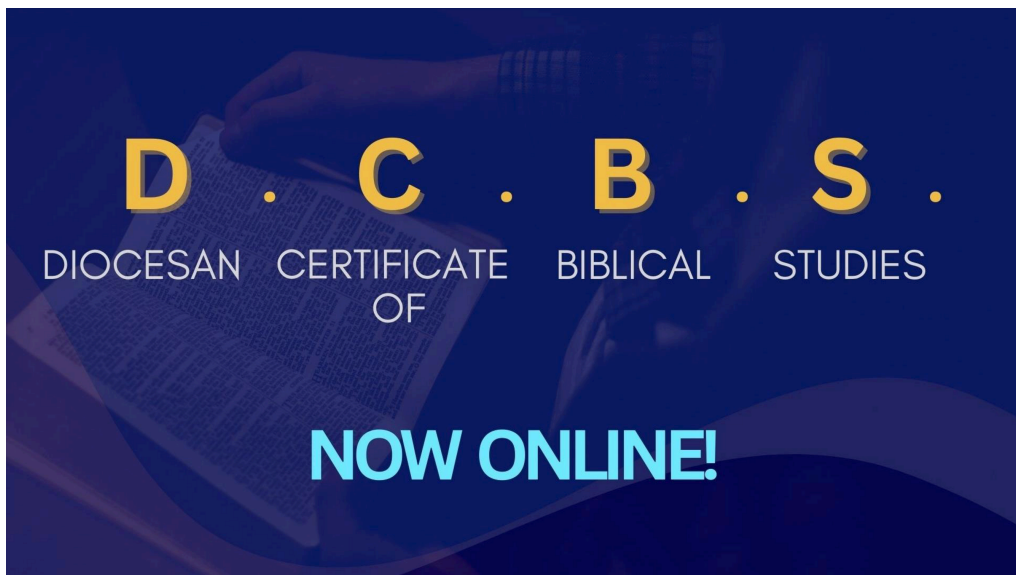
St Andrew's Cathedral is recruiting for two positions:

1. Operations Manager
2. Audio-Visual Technician.

Interested applicants may visit:
www.anglican.org.sg/work-with-us/
for details.



DIOCESAN CERTIFICATE OF BIBLICAL STUDIES (DCBS)



St Peter's Hall is transitioning the Diocesan Certificate of Biblical Studies (DCBS) programme online, making it easier for the wider church community to access the programme at their convenience.

The programme consists of 18 modules, each module features 8-12 videos that provide comprehensive coverage of the entire Bible. Modules will be released periodically over the next six months, with the Gospel Modules already available.

Simply create an account on the St Peter's Hall website (at <https://sph.org.sg/>) and purchase tokens to enrol in courses. Each new account comes with free tokens to get started.

Stay tuned for more upcoming releases! For more information on DCBS, please visit: <https://sph.org.sg/upcoming-diocesan-certificate-of-biblical-studies-dcbs/>

CHURCH OF THE TRUE LIGHT -- CHILDREN'S CONCERT

音乐 SING DANCE PLAY

ACSO

\$16
INCLUSIVE OF BOOKING FEE



Victoria Concert Hall
8 February 2025 (Sat)
3.30PM & 7.30PM

Step into a world of musical wonder and venture on an orchestral journey that promises to connect children and parents through melodies.

With many children's songs and nursery rhymes played, it's an easy way for parents to introduce children to MUSIC

CHOIR LESSONS
ATV GO ONLINE

PIANO LESSONS
ATV GO ONLINE

VENUE SUPPORT:

SINGAPORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Tickets can be purchased via this [link](#).



Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers

PRAYER FOCUS FOR WEEK: 26 - 1 FEB 25

1) DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

CHAPEL OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Vicar:

Revd Glenn Chan

English, Mandarin, and Cantonese congregations:
St Hilda's Primary and Secondary Schools:
St Andrew's Nursing Home (Tampines North):

Clergy, staff and parishioners
Principals, staff, and students
Executive Director, staff,
residents, and volunteers.

1. Leadership renewal: New mindset and farsightedness for leaders.
2. Chaplaincy work in St. Hilda's Schools: Wisdom for chaplaincy team to anchor the work. Provision of manpower and other resources.
3. Church ministries: The love of Jesus to be in the members' hearts as they serve.

2) SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD

- 1) **Singapore:** The General Elections is slated to be held this year. Pray for God's wisdom on the Electoral Boundaries Review Committee to come up with a fair proposal. Pray too for God's guidance on all the political parties to pursue what is right and good for the citizens of Singapore during their campaigning.
- 2) **USA:** Donald Trump is now the 47th President of the United States of America. Pray that God will give him and the new administration wisdom, guidance and the courage to make decisions that will lead all Americans in God's will and bring peace and growth among the people.

3) PARISH

1) COA Theme for 2025

As we enter into the new year, may we embrace our 2025 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) Lunar New Year

Pray for God's Spirit to guide us to extend heartwarming hospitality in our interactions with friends and families.

3) Kardia Talk on How To Be A Good Witness

Pray for COA youths to be equipped to be good witnesses and challenged to apply what they have learned from the talk over the festive period.

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: Protection of vision in the left eye, and healing of retina detachment and scarring in the right.
- Steven Syn: Restoration of consciousness and health
- Rosalynn Lim: Full recovery from brain tumor operation
- Nancy Chan (Low): Stroke and heart issues
- 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