

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY

For the people of	Cheales Close, Pullman Avenue
For prayer	Sally, Julian
Prayer Board	Footsteps International, Naomi, Danny and all who have asked for prayer for themselves or their families
In memoriam	Don Bryant

To keep our prayers up to date, please let Janet or Martin know who to add to, or keep on, this list.

PRAYERS - Precious human lives

25-31 OCTOBER 2026

'For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.'

JOHN 3:16-17 (ESV)

Father God, you love all that you have made, watching over every human being and drawing us to turn to you for forgiveness and salvation through your Son. May many people respond to your Spirit and yield their lives to you. **In Jesus' name. Amen.**

Loving Shepherd, we remember the many 'forgotten' children and adults who live in abject poverty and other dire circumstances with little human hope of escape. Help them to believe that you have not forsaken them forever. **For Christ's sake. Amen.**

Lord Jesus, we pray for the estimated 49,000 children and young adults in the UK affected by a life-limiting or life-threatening condition. Please bless them and those who care for them with a sense of your loving presence. **By your grace. Amen.**

Lord, please comfort parents, siblings and other family members who have lost a baby during pregnancy, at birth or soon afterwards. Help those around them to support them sensitively in their grief. **By your grace. Amen.**

Thank you, Lord, for answering prayer, and for the defeat of the proposed assisted suicide legislation recently brought to the parliaments of both Holyrood and Westminster. Please inspire politicians and others to respond to the need for palliative care for all who need it. **In your mercy. Amen.**

SAT 31 Dear God, tomorrow is the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. Thank you for the many charities and organisations that serve the persecuted Church around the world — campaigning for those in prison, raising awareness, praying and providing support for our brothers and sisters who suffer. **For Christ's sake. Amen.**

Prayers adapted from [CARE \(care.org.uk\)](https://care.org.uk)



Ascension Weekly

ASCENSION CHURCH NEWS & NOTICES

Sunday 25 October 2026

Bible Sunday

10.00am Family Communion

Readings: Colossians 3.12-17 Matthew 24.30-35

Words that never pass away

We probably have more Bibles than we can count. Different Bible versions sit on the shelf; our phones often have Bible apps; perhaps you've got a Bible given at a christening or confirmation stashed away somewhere? With so many copies around, it is easy to take the Bible for granted, and to forget what a remarkable gift it is. Today, Bible Sunday, is a good opportunity to stop, recognise what we have, and thank God for his word.

In Matthew 24:35, Jesus says something astonishing: *"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away."* Kingdoms rise and fall, fashions come and go, and even the world around us will one day be made new. But the word of God endures.

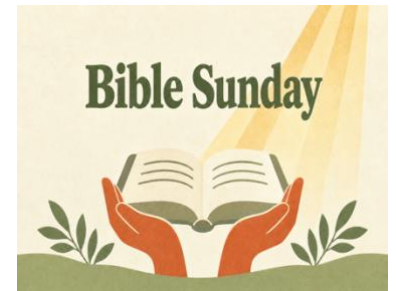
"Let the word of Christ dwell among you richly"

In Colossians 3:16, Paul encourages us to *"let the word of Christ dwell among you richly."* Not sit on a shelf, not gather dust, but make its home in our hearts and in our church family. So, the Bible is not meant to be a decoration or a lucky charm. It is a living word that speaks to us today.

Colossians shows us how it dwells in us: teaching and encouraging one another, singing psalms and hymns with gratitude in our hearts, and doing everything in the name of the Lord Jesus. The Bible is God speaking to us, and like all good gifts, it deserves more than a passing glance. The best way we can say thank you is to open it, read it together, and let it shape how we live.

Freely you have received, freely give. Matthew 10:8

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This week

Sunday 25 October	10.00am 1.00pm	Family Communion Baptism Service
Tuesday 27 October	9.30–10.00am	Food Larder
Wednesday 28 October	3.30pm 7.30pm	Home Group (in church) Home Group
Thursday 29 October	8.30am 12.00–12.30pm	Morning Prayers Food Larder
Sunday 1 November	8.30am 10.00am	Said Communion Family Worship

It is the half term holiday this week, so there is no Tiddlers on Wednesday, or Community Coffee on Saturday.

For more details follow the links above or visit our website: ascensionchurch.co.uk

For the diary

SUN 8 NOVEMBER
Remembrance Sunday

SUN 29 NOVEMBER
Advent Sunday

SUN 15 NOVEMBER
Safeguarding Sunday

SUN 13 DECEMBER
Community Carols

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Katie Church.

Contact us

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Vicar Revd Martin Jones · revdmartin@ascensionchurch.co.uk · 01444 415229

Churchwardens Jill Costello 07736 285995 · Jerry Whitehead 07540 599309

Authorised Lay Minister Jill Costello

Gift Day

Thanks are due for the hugely generous response to the Ascension Gift Day on the 27th of September. We should all be so grateful for God's provision enabled through the responses of generous people. The total has gone up again since last week and now stands at an extraordinary **£13,800** (including Gift Aid) which has been raised to support the life and ministry of the church.

If you would like find out more about Gift Day, please read the [Gift Day letter online](#), or pick up a printed copy at the back of church.

Ascension access ramp

Plans for the access ramp have developed over time. The project now includes building the ramp, installing new drainage and resurfacing the whole area between the church doors and the playing field.

This is a much larger project than originally envisaged, and the cost has increased accordingly and gone up from an initial estimate of £1,600 for a simple ramp, to £13,400 for the full scheme!

The good news is that, thanks to funds raised previously, generous Gift Day donations and successful grant applications (which raised £7000), **the full cost of the project has now been covered and the work can begin.**

Special thanks go to Jerry for coordinating the ramp project, including securing the necessary permissions; to David Cole and Jerry for their work on the successful grant applications; and to everyone who has donated so generously.

A contractor has been appointed and instructed to proceed and hopes to begin work in a couple of weeks. Once the start date is confirmed, we will share further information about access to the church while the work takes place.