

For the people of: Franklands Village

For prayer: Julian, Sally

From the Prayer Board: Pray for: Footsteps International and the work of helping disadvantaged children in Kenya; for Naomi and all who have asked for prayer for themselves and their families

In memoriam: Neville Gooding, Gladys Coppard, Alan Fall, Harold Ellmer, Kathleen Lake, Jean Eldridge

To keep our prayers up to date please let Janet or Martin know about people to

PLASTIC POLLUTION

The hope is that in the end the whole of created life will be rescued from the tyranny of change and decay and have its share in that magnificent liberty which can only belong to the children of God! ... At the present time all created life groans in a sort of universal travail.' ROMANS 8:21,22 (PHILLIPS)

Creator God, we ask for Your mercy upon our world which has been marred because of harmful human activities. Please teach us to be the good stewards You intended, especially addressing the problem of plastic pollution. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

Lord our Healer, please grant understanding to those researching long-term health implications of micro- and nano-plastic particles that are present in human bodies. May they find solutions that can reverse and prevent further harm. In Your mercy. Amen.

Dear Father, please help us all to be diligent in caring for our environment by choosing reusable and plastic-free items instead of single-use ones, avoiding excess packaging, recycling waste and joining 'cleanups' in our community. By Your grace. Amen.

Gracious God, thank You for organisations like Ocean Cleanup that aim to rid the oceans of 90% of floating plastic by 2040 and intercept as much of it as possible in rivers. Please prosper all projects seeking to protect sea life from its harm. For Christ's sake. Amen.

Saviour, we intercede for solutions to end the devastation of plastic on wildlife. Especially marine mammals, fish, seabirds and the corals and other habitats that are being destroyed by entanglement in fishing gear and other debris, and ingestion of microplastics, killing a million birds and 100,000 marine animals each year. In Jesus' name. Amen. www.care.org.uk



Ascension Weekly

Sunday 20th September 2026 **The 16th Sunday after Trinity**

8.30am Said Communion

10.00 a.m. Worship Service

Readings: Philippians 1.21-30, Matthew 20.1-16

AMAZING GRACE

In today's Gospel Jesus tells a parable about labourers in the vineyard who had worked all day and grumbled when they were paid the same as those who had arrived only at the end of the day.

Let's be honest, many of us would feel that they had good cause to complain and would do the same.

However, it's all about how we look at it. Was the landowner in the parable being unfair, or was he being generous? Perhaps, in a sense, the answer is both, because there are two very different ways of seeing what happened.

By our usual human standards, it does not seem fair. Those who had worked through the heat of the day received no more than those who had worked for only an hour. Yet the landowner was also remarkably generous. He could easily have paid the latecomers less and saved his money, but instead he gave them a full day's wage. *(Continued inside)*



This Week

Sunday 20th September

8.30am Said Communion

10.00am Worship Service

Tuesday 22nd September

9.30 -10.00am Food Larder

7.00pm PCC Prayers

7.30pm PCC Meeting

Wednesday 23rd September

1.30pm Tiddlers

3.30pm Home Group in church

7.30pm Home Group

Thursday 24th September

8.30am Morning Prayers

11am Open Space after
Up & Amble

12noon – 12.30pm Food Larder

7.30pm Home Group

Saturday 26th September

9.00am Church Coffee

Sunday 27th September **GIFT DAY**

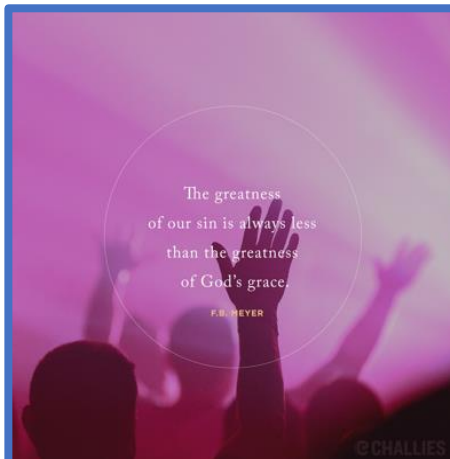
10am Family Communion

Please see the website for more information

www.ascensionchurch.co.uk

Birthdays This Week

Happy birthday to Freddie



For the Diary

27th September.

Gift Day

11th October.

Harvest Sunday

8th November.

Remembrance Sunday

15th November.

Safeguarding Sunday

29th November.

Advent Sunday

13th December.

Community Carols

(Continued from the front page)

Seen through the eyes of those who had laboured all day, the outcome feels unfair. But from the latecomers' perspective, it is a happy story: they received far more than they could have expected.

This parable challenges us to look beyond our instinct to compare ourselves with others. It is not really about wages or workplace fairness; it is about God's grace. God's grace is not something we earn, measure out, or deserve more than anyone else. It is freely given, generously and lovingly, beyond our human calculations.

That is surely good news for all of us. After all, would we rather receive only what sin deserves, or receive the abundant undeserved and unearned grace of God, given to us through Jesus Christ?

Martin

Access Ramp

Thank you once again for your generous donations to the access ramp appeal.

Our initial intention had been to build a simple ramp quickly, then continue fundraising for wider work needed to level and resurface the area in front of the church doors, thereby replacing all the broken and uneven tarmac.

However, we identified a grant for which we were eligible to apply. While we waited for a decision, we paused our original plans to install a basic ramp straight away using the funds already raised. We are delighted to share that our grant application has now been approved. Subject to meeting the necessary conditions, we will receive a grant of £5,000.

This means that we can now develop a more comprehensive and improved scheme for access. The PCC will consider the updated plans on Tuesday evening, and we will share the final details as soon as possible afterwards.

(All money already donated to the appeal remains ring-fenced specifically for the access ramp project.)

The work has therefore taken a longer time than we originally expected, but with this grant now in place, we can now complete a larger piece of work, and as intended, significantly improve access to the church for everyone.

CONTACT US

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