

Prayers for the Community

For the people of: Sheppeys

For prayer: Sally & David, Heidi, Mark, Simon, Simon, Bunty

From the Prayer Board: Please pray for William and Miranda, and for all who have asked for prayer for themselves and their families

In memoriam: Violet Gooding, Evelyn Moss, Frankie Cochrane, Elsie Smith
To keep our prayers up to date please let Janet or Martin know about people to list and keep listed in Prayers for the Community.

CHRISTIAN LIGHT AND SALT

'You're here to be salt...seasoning that brings out the God-flavours of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colours in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill.'
MATTHEW 5:13,14 (MESSAGE)

Holy Spirit, we know that the gospel alone offers hope for our dark and broken world. Revive Your Church to shine brightly and live for Christ! May Your people infiltrate every sphere of society with Your grace and truth, that many may believe that Jesus is Lord. In Your mercy. Amen.

Sovereign God, we remember Christians who serve in local and national government as elected representatives and civil servants, responsible for the ordering of society and the welfare of all people. Please guard and guide them to be able to make a difference, by the power of Your Spirit. Amen.

Wednesday 18th LENT BEGINS

Loving God, let the light You have brought to the world shine in the darkness of our hearts, and bring new life, new hope, and new possibilities. Help me to walk more closely with Jesus, to know that I am deeply loved, and to share His love with others. Amen. (Prayer of former Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby)

Our Redeemer, please grant us boldness to share the gospel, and support more evangelists to faithfully preach the Word so that many will trust in You. We ask too for Your blessing on church leaders, who are called to equip the saints for the work of ministry. * By Your grace. Amen. (*Eph 4:12)

Lord, thank You for enabling Christians to be Your faithful ambassadors in workplaces, homes, and other environments – walking in wisdom towards outsiders, our speech always gracious, seasoned with salt,* and shining so others see our good works and give glory to the Father. **. By Your grace. Amen. (*Col 4:5-6 **Matt 5:16).

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Ascension Weekly

Sunday 15th February 2026 The 1st Sunday before Lent

8.30 am Said Communion

10.00 am Worship Service

Readings: 2 Peter 1.16-21, Matthew 17.1-9

Jesus - fully divine, fully human

Our Gospel reading for today tells of the Transfiguration; the extraordinary moment when Jesus' appearance was transformed, revealing the radiant glory of God.

The gospel reading begins, "Six days later," referring to the time after Jesus had stunned his disciples by foretelling his suffering and death. Peter, in

particular, had resisted the idea that the Messiah would die, and no doubt the others shared his confusion and fear. Their faith was shaken; trust felt fragile.

Jesus could see that they needed reassurance. So he took Peter, James, and John up a high mountain, and there their eyes were opened to a deeper reality as Jesus was transfigured before them with his face shining like the sun and his clothes dazzling white. In that moment they glimpsed his divine nature and saw the glory that had always been his but had remained hidden. For the three disciples, this was both a revelation and a reassurance. The glory they saw would eventually sustain them as they as they came to realise the cross was not a defeat but the very means through which God's redeeming purpose would be fulfilled

(Continued inside)



This Week

Sunday 15th February

8.30am Said Communion

10.00am Worship Service

Tuesday 17th February

9.30 -10.30am Food Larder

Ash Wednesday 18th February

1.30pm Tiddlers

3.30pm Home Group in church

7.30pm Ash Wednesday
Communion Service

Thursday 19th February

8.30am Morning Prayers

12 noon – 1.00pm Food Larder

Saturday 21st February

2.30pm Ladies Afternoon

Sunday 22nd February

10.00am Family Communion

Please see the website for links for
online streaming:

www.ascensionchurch.co.uk

Birthdays this week

Leza Whitfield, Doreen Fall,
Laurie Moss, Martin Jones
& Zac Fitzpatrick

Lent



"Lent is a time for discipline, for confession, for honesty, not because God is mean or fault-finding or finger-pointing but because he wants us to know the joy of being cleaned out, ready for all the good things he now has in store."

— N.T. Wright

(Continued from the front page)

The Transfiguration can speak to us today. Faith can falter when things are hard and the way ahead is unclear, but the Transfiguration reminds us that Jesus is both fully human and fully divine and is the crucified and risen Lord who holds glory and suffering together. When our trust wavers, we too can look to him and find strength in the assurance that God's light shines, not even the cross could dim it.

Martin

Lent Starts on Wednesday

Lent starts on Ash Wednesday (18th February) when we will have a Communion Service with the Imposition of Ashes in church at 7.30 pm.

Thanks for the cake

Thank you for all the donations of a cake for last Saturday's Deanery Study Morning. They were much appreciated by everyone who attended.

Ladies afternoon

Saturday 21st of February 2:30 pm

Come along for tea/coffee,
cake and a chat.

CONTACT US

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THE ASCENSION