

## Prayers for the Community

**For the people of:** Kilbarn Way, Kilbarn Court

**For prayer:** Sally & David, Heidi, Mark, Simon, Simon, Susan, Bunty, Simon, Eva.

**From the Prayer Board:** For all our regular church activities & all who have asked for prayer for themselves and their families

**In memoriam:** Timothy Sidwell, Ron Parsons

*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.*

## OVERCOMING EVIL

*'The devil has been sinning from the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the devil's work.'* 1 JOHN 3:8 (NIV)

Father, we rejoice that through Christ's cross and empty grave our sin was taken away, death was cancelled and evil overcome. We long for this good news to spread throughout the world, transferring millions more people from the domain of darkness into the eternal kingdom of Your beloved Son.\* May we be Your faithful messengers. Through Your mercy. Amen. (\*Col 1:13)

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY – Bridging Generations  
Holy Spirit, as memories inevitably fade, we pray that our generation will not forget the six million people murdered in the Holocaust and in genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur. Help us always to honour them, and please comfort survivors and bereaved families. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Holy God, Your Word says that as time goes on 'evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.'\* May we in our day respond by preaching the gospel, loving others, standing up for justice, and interceding for Your will to be done. In Your mercy. Amen. (\*2 Tim 3:13)

Almighty God, we lift to You all those in authority who desire to govern with justice, equity, and peace. Please strengthen their hearts and equip them to oppose corruption, oppression and other wrongdoing, that we might lead peaceful and quiet lives, godly and dignified in every way.\* In Christ's name. Amen. (\*1 Tim 2:2)

Lord, please reveal to our police and security services any criminal plots to harm others. We pray that individuals, gangs, terrorists, and hostile states seeking to steal, destroy, and disrupt society will be prevented from this. We ask for Your protection over our land. In Christ's name. Amen.

[www.care.org.uk](http://www.care.org.uk)



# Ascension Weekly

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026. The Third Sunday of Epiphany**

**10.00 a.m. Family Communion**

**Readings: 1 Corinthians 1.10-18, Matthew 4.12-23**

## Immediately?

Today's Gospel reading gives us Matthew's account of Jesus calling Peter and Andrew, the first disciples, and then James and John. We're told that they all

responded immediately to His call.

At first glance, it can seem like a chance encounter; as if Jesus happens to pass by, sees a few fishermen, and chooses them at random. But look a little deeper, and we see a fuller picture. These men already knew Jesus. And, Jesus knew them too. They had met. They all lived in a small community primed by John the Baptist's message about the one who was to come. Peter, Andrew, James, and John would have heard Jesus speak and would have known John the Baptist had pointed to Him as the one who was to come. So, when Jesus called, they were prepared and ready.

*(Continued inside)*



## This Week

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January**

**10.00am** Family Communion

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January**

**9.30 -10.30am** Food Larder

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January**

**1.30pm** Tiddlers

**3.30pm** Home Group meeting  
in the church

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January**

**8.30am** Morning Prayers

**12 noon – 1.00pm** Food Larder

**7.30pm** Home Group meeting  
at Jill's house.

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January**

**9.00am** Community Coffee

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February**

**8.30am** Said Communion

**10.00am** Café church

Please see the website for links for  
online streaming:

[www.ascensionchurch.co.uk](http://www.ascensionchurch.co.uk)

### Birthdays this week

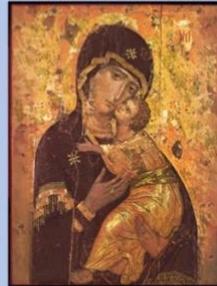
Simon Elliott, Allison Jones &  
Jerry Whitehead



*Cuckfield Deanery Morning 2026*

## ART and PRAYER

How do Art and Christianity talk to each other?  
How can Art broaden our approach  
to prayer and Bible reading?



To lead our morning, we welcome

**The Revd Charles Pickstone**

Anglican priest, freelance art critic, trustee of  
Art & Christianity, and secretary of AICA-UK

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**10am to 1pm**

at **The Ascension Church, Vale Road,  
Haywards Heath. RH16 4JS**

*(Continued from the front page)*

Jesus also knew whom He was calling and saw a willingness to leave behind the familiar and step into the unknown. What mattered was not their abilities, or skills, or understanding, but their willingness to say “yes.”

That same call now comes to each of us. Jesus still invites people to follow Him, not because we're good enough to be called, or especially capable; He knows us perfectly after all. He calls us because He knows what He can do. Above all, He loves us and wants the best for us. The question is: will we, like those first disciples, respond immediately, wholeheartedly, and without looking back?

**Martin**

“When Jesus says, ‘Follow me,’ he means, ‘Adopt my overall way of life to experience the life I have on offer.’ His call is an invitation into the goodness of his kingdom.”

– John Mark Comer, in *Practicing the Way*

## New Songs

*Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. - Psalm 96.1&2*

Discussions at the PCC meeting on Tuesday evening recognised the benefit of repeating over a few Sundays, songs that are new, until they become more familiar. We've set ourselves the aim of introducing a new (to us!) song every month.

If you have a worship song or hymn that you'd like to see added to our database of church music, please let Martin know. However, please be aware, copyright regulations and the availability of usable backing tracks can mean that we can't use everything we might want sing.

### CONTACT US

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ALM: Jill Costello



THE ASCENSION