

Prayers for the Community

For the people of: Vale Road, Southdown Close

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

From the Prayer Board: For Joy, Wendy, Louis and all who have asked for prayer for themselves and their families

In memoriam: Harry Birch, Lilian Honey, Hazel Berry, Peggy Coates

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.

RISING COST OF LIVING

'Share your food with the hungry and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them, and do not hide from relatives who need your help.'
ISAIAH 58:7 (NLT)

SUNDAY 12th APRIL: INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR STREET CHILDREN

Father, we commit to Your loving care the millions of homeless children on the streets, sleeping in parks, doorways, or bus shelters. Please send people to rescue them from danger and destitution through advocacy, emergency provision, and long-term help. In Your mercy. Amen.

Lord, please inspire those in the Department of Health working with the food industry to advance 'a healthy food revolution' that will help tackle the obesity epidemic (28% of adults and 26% of 2–15-year-olds) and improve health. By Your grace. Amen.

Dear God, we intercede for individuals, businesses, organisations, and governments across the world who are reeling from the effects of soaring bills for energy and other commodities, and from the human costs and economic burdens of war and other disasters that diminish resources. In Your mercy, please provide ways to navigate these international crises, especially to sustain those in greatest need. Amen.

Jehovah Jireh — the Lord our Provider — thank You for every opportunity given to Your Church to minister to people in material need through food provision, housing projects, debt support, warm spaces, advice, and compassion. Please help each of us to share what we can. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

Compassionate God, we intercede for the millions of people who are in debt and bearing the deprivation, anxiety, and hopelessness this can bring. You have redeemed us through Christ, and we pray that the same spirit of mercy might spread through our society. In His name. Amen.

www.care.org.uk



Ascension Weekly

Sunday 12th April 2026

The 2nd of Easter

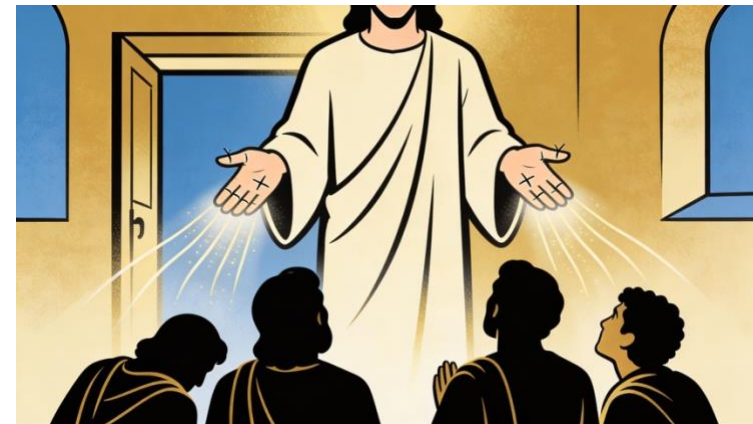
10.00 a.m. Communion Service

Readings: 1 Peter 1.3-9, John 20.19-31

"So I send you"

On the evening of the first Easter Day, the disciples, full of fear and doubt, were hiding behind locked doors. Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." He then did something remarkable. He took the same peace He had received from the Father and turned it into a calling for his friends. "As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

This is a beautiful picture of what the risen Jesus continues to do with his church today.



He meets us where we are, in our worries, disappointments and doubts, and He speaks peace to us. Not a vague feeling of calm, but the deep peace of knowing that He is alive, that our sins are forgiven, and that death is not the end. Then He breathes his Spirit upon us and sends us out to share that peace and to go and make disciples.

So, Easter is not only about what happened to Jesus. It is also about what is happening to us now and how we respond to what Jesus has done for us.

(Continued inside)

This Week

Sunday 12th April

10.00am Communion Service

Tuesday 14th April

9.30 -10.30am Food Larder

Wednesday 15th April

1.30pm Tiddlers

3.30pm Home Group

Thursday 16th April

8.30am Morning Prayers

12 noon - 1.00pm Food Larder

7.30pm Home Group

Saturday 18th April

9.00am Community Coffee

Sunday 19th April

8.30am Said Communion

10.00am Worship Service

Please see the website for links to
online streaming:

www.ascensionchurch.co.uk

Birthdays this week

Happy Birthday to Pat Hough

Life with God is not immunity from difficulties,
but peace within difficulties.

C.S. LEWIS



Lord Jesus,
on that first Easter
evening you came to your
friends who were afraid
and said, "Peace be with
you."

Thank you that you still
bring peace today to our
hearts, our homes and our
church family.

Send us out with your Holy
Spirit, to share your love,
your kindness and your
forgiveness with everyone
we meet.

Amen.

(Continued from the front page)

The disciples moved from fear to joyful purpose as they realised they were being sent in the same way Jesus had been sent, to show God's love, to speak God's truth, and to offer God's forgiveness. In our own very ordinary lives, we are invited to do the same in homes, workplaces, schools, and neighbourhoods.

Perhaps this week we could each ask a simple question in prayer: "Lord Jesus, where are you sending me with your peace today?" I suspect we may be surprised by the opportunities He has given us when we let him show us.

Martin

Home Groups

Home Groups will resume this week, meeting in the church on Wednesday at 3:30 pm and on Thursday at 7:30 pm. The venue for the Thursday group is still to be confirmed.

Between now and Ascension Day on 14th May, the Home Groups will be following a series of Bible studies. The first session will focus on today's Gospel reading, John 20:19–31, exploring five key questions among other themes:

- What are the 'locked doors' in your own life, places you hide because of fear?
- In what practical ways does being 'sent' shape how you approach your daily life at work, at home, in your neighbourhood?
- When have you been like ('Doubting') Thomas? Is that honourable, dangerous, or both?
- What does it mean that the Spirit is the breath of new creation in you?
- What does it mean to you personally to call Jesus both Lord and God?

Thanks

Thanks are due to so many people who work away behind the scenes. This week, particular thanks are due to Doreen for the beautiful church flowers, and to Katie Church, who has been cleaning the church on Saturday afternoons as part of her Duke of Edinburgh Award.

CONTACT US

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THE ASCENSION