

Prayers for the Community

For the people of: Foundry Gardens, Southern View

For prayer: Sally & David, Heidi, Mark, Simon, Simon, Susan, Bunt

From the Prayer Board: Pray for Cheryl, Linda, Guy, Marie, Sandy, Annette and her son Louis, Danny

In memoriam: Stephen Coomber, Annie Seddon, Kathleen Exeter, Michael King, Molly Millward, Anthony Boots

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.

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS

'Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy'

PROVERBS 31:9 (NIV)

'Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress [and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.]' JAMES 1:27 (NIV)

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

God of compassion, we ask for wisdom and determination for those in church leadership to ensure that children and adults can feel and be safe in Christian communities. Please help them to put wise and workable safeguarding measures in place that will protect everyone. For Christ's sake. Amen.

Dear Lord, we intercede for children who enter the care system as a result of abuse, neglect, poverty, or because there is no one else to look after them. May as many as possible be placed in loving homes, and may social workers and other carers be given understanding and compassion for these often deeply disturbed youngsters. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

Father, thank You for Christian ministries and other organisations that reach out to abandoned children who are living on the streets, in modern slavery, recruited as child soldiers, and in many other perilous situations. Please help them to rescue and restore many. In Jesus' name. Amen

God of comfort, please strengthen widowed women and men, and bereaved children, as they carry burdens of grief, loneliness, vulnerability, and fear for the future. We thank You that many are surrounded by caring family and friends, and we pray for those who feel alone to find solace and hope amid their grief. In Jesus' name. Amen.

www.care.org.uk



Ascension Weekly

Sunday 16th November 2025

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

8.30am Said Communion

10.00 am Worship Service

Readings: 2 Thessalonians 3.6-13 & Luke 21.5-19

Faith beyond what crumbles

Luke 21:5-19 is unsettling to hear, especially in a world where change is relentless and uncertainty seems to deepen every day.

In the Gospel reading, Jesus stands with His disciples beside the magnificent Jerusalem Temple—a symbol of stability and certainty. Yet He warns them: *"The time will come when not one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down."* For Jesus' listeners, this was unthinkable, and even for us, it can be alarming. Reflecting on Jesus' words today reminds us of the many changes around us, which are often uncomfortable at best and sometimes even frightening.

Rather than offering easy reassurance, Jesus invites His followers to see beyond what is temporary. He doesn't promise to spare us from hardship. Instead, He is brutally honest: there will be shaking, opposition, and even betrayal. The world's great institutions and confident certainties will crumble. Yet into this reality, Jesus speaks hope and says, *"Stand firm, and you will win life."* Endurance becomes the mark of Christian life—an endurance not simply about gritting our teeth, but about a courage and peace born from trust in God's unfailing presence and the knowledge that all God intends and plans will be perfectly fulfilled. His Kingdom will come on earth as it is in heaven.

(Continued inside)



This Week

Sunday 16th November

Safeguarding Sunday

8.30am Said Communion

10.00am Worship Service

Tuesday 18th November

9.30 -10.30am Food Larder

Wednesday 19th November

1.30pm Tiddlers

3.30pm Home Group in church

7.30pm Home Group

Thursday 20th November

8.30am Morning Prayers

12.00 - 1.00pm Food Larder

7.30pm Home Group

Saturday 22nd November

9.00am Community Coffee

2.30pm Ladies Afternoon

Sunday 23rd November

Christ The King

10.00am Family Communion

Please see the website for links for
online streaming:

www.ascensionchurch.co.uk

Birthdays this week

Happy birthday to Winter

I don't always feel His presence.
But God's promises do not
depend upon my feelings;
they rest upon His integrity.

R. C. SPROUL



Christmas Services

Sunday 14th December

6.00pm Community Carols with
the St. Wilfrid's School Choir.

Sunday 21st December

6.00pm Blue Christmas Service.

Christmas Eve Wednesday 24th

4.00pm Christmas Carols and
Nativity.

11.30pm. Christmas Midnight
Service.

Christmas Day

10.00 a.m. Christmas All Age
Communion

(Continued from the front page)

We can be tempted to root our hope in things that cannot last: money, reputations, buildings, traditions. The loss of earthly stability can feel deeply threatening, but Jesus invites us to place our security in God alone.

When we face personal or global turmoil, Jesus calls us not to avoid hardship but to witness through faithful and courageous living. When we endure and stand firm, rooted in Christ, we grow in hope—confident that, in this uncertain world, nothing can stop God's plans being realised. **Martin**

Safeguarding Sunday

This Sunday, 16th November, marks Safeguarding Sunday—a time when churches across the UK are encouraged to focus on the vital responsibility of safeguarding. The theme this year, 'Action Speaks Louder', invites every church and individual to move beyond words and take tangible steps to create safer spaces for all.

Why Safeguarding Matters

Safeguarding is not simply a procedural requirement; it's a shared calling rooted in our Christian faith. In safeguarding, we live out the Gospel: loving God, loving each other, and fulfilling God's direction to "act justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8) and ensuring that everyone can worship and belong in a safe, caring environment.

Each of us has a role to play, whether through awareness, vigilance, action, or honest conversation.

Get Involved

Please do visit the Ascension Safeguarding web page to refresh your awareness and see what policies, contacts, and resources are available and be open to having honest conversations about safeguarding—transparency helps protect the vulnerable and strengthens trust.

Please see: <https://www.ascensionchurch.co.uk/safeguarding>

Remember, safeguarding is Gospel work: a visible expression of our love for God and neighbour, and part of responding to Jesus' teaching to love our neighbours. Taking action—however small—contributes to a church that is not only safe, but is also a genuine sign of God's kingdom in our community. Let's undertake again, this Safeguarding Sunday, to make sure our church is a safe place for all.

To find out more about safeguarding and Safeguarding Sunday please see:
<https://safeguardingsunday.org/about/>

CONTACT US

www.ascensionchurch.co.uk email: enquiries@ascensionchurch.co.uk

Vicar: Martin Jones revdmartin@ascensionchurch.co.uk 01444 415229

Churchwardens: Jill Costello 07736285995 Jerry Whitehead 07540599309

ALM: Jill Costello



THE ASCENSION