### **Prayers for the Community**

For the people of: Sheppeys

For prayer: Chris J, David, Heidi, Lesley, Sally, Simon and Simon

In memoriam: Violet Gooding, Evelyn Moss, Frankie Cochrane, Elsie Smith,

Esme Grace Marklew

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

and keep listed in Prayers for the Community.

### **OUR LAW COURTS**

'The Lord has told you what is good, and this is what He requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. Fear the Lord if you are wise!' MICAH 6:8,9 (NLT)

Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established fairness. You have acted with righteousness!\* We praise You that Jesus stood in our place and paid the penalty for our sin; so that anyone trusting in Him is justified before Your throne and may receive eternal life. Thank You, Lord. Amen. (\*Psalm 99:4)

Father God, please grant insight and impartiality for those who serve on juries to discern the truth as they hear evidence and discuss the case among themselves. Help them to balance this important civic duty with the demands of everyday life and protect them from any harm. By Your grace. Amen.

### Thursday 20th WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Sovereign God, please raise up more leaders of true faith and integrity to bring about a fairer world where people everywhere can benefit from the many resources, opportunities and privileges that You have provided in Creation. We long to see societies where everyone is valued and regarded. In Your mercy. Amen.

Almighty God, we thank You that the British justice system is founded on biblical principles. Please inspire those in authority to maintain every individual's right to equal basic liberties and help them to ensure that each case is judged fairly. For Jesus' sake, Amen.

Lord, we intercede for justice for tens of thousands of victims and defendants who are waiting years for justice because of the backlog of cases in UK criminal courts. Grant wisdom to the Ministry of Justice to find solutions to this and other major challenges facing our judicial system. In Jesus' name. Amen.

www.care.org.uk

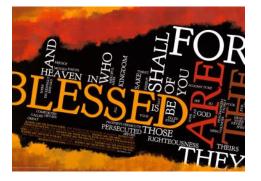


# Ascension Weekly

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025 The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Lent 8.30 a.m. Communion Service (Streamed via Zoom) 10.00 a.m. Worship Service (Streamed via Zoom) Readings: 1 Corinthians 15.12-20 & Luke 6.17-26

# **God's Blessings**

In today's Gospel reading, Luke records an account of Jesus speaking to the crowds in what we now call the 'Sermon on The Plain'. Unlike the Sermon on The Mount in Matthew's Gospel, Luke includes a series of warnings to the rich, well-fed and those who are laughing now.



In His sermon Jesus was speaking to

the poor and hungry and those who were weeping and being insulted because of Him. He tells them they are blessed and contrasts their blessings with the woes to be faced by those who were so comfortable they can't recognise their need for Him and the Good News of the Kingdom of God He is proclaiming.

Poverty, hunger, tears and insults obviously aren't blessings in themselves, but they do open us up to recognising our need for God. The blessings come once we recognise that need and act to follow Jesus. Being rich and well-fed can mask our need for God and thereby cause us to miss out on the blessings God desires for each of us. Jesus warned of the consequences of the wealth and contentment that masks our need for Him and turns the blessings He intends for us to woe at missing out on His blessing.

Lord, help each one of us to see our need for you!

Martin

## This Week

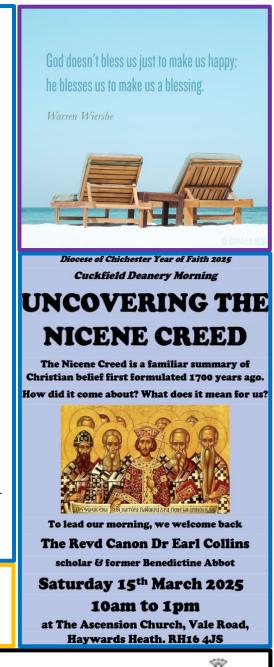
8.30am Communion Service
10.00am Worship Service
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February
9.30 - 10.30am Food Larder
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February
10.30am Midweek
Communion
3.30pm Home Group in
Church
7.30pm Home Group at Janet

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February
8.30am Morning Prayers
12.00 - 1.00pm Food Larder
7.30pm Home Group at Jill's
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February
10.00am Family Communion

Please see the website for links for online streaming:

www.ascensionchurch.co.uk

Happy birthday to Leza Whitfield Doreen Fall, Laurie Moss, Martin Jones, Zach Fitzpatrick



THE ASCENSIO

### **Food Larder**

Thanks to an extraordinarily generous donation when the Food Larder was set up it has been possible to buy in additional provisions to give out through the Food Larder. Even though the Larder has been continuously supported by generous donations of provisions and money, that original donation has nearly been spent.

Financial support and donations of long-life milk, tea and coffee, tinned meats, tins of tuna, pasta and soup would all be especially appreciated. Please do keep the donations coming in and once again huge thanks for all the wonderful generosity of time and effort, provisions and money that keeps the food larder going.

If you would like to help to financially support the Larder please speak to Jill or Jerry (Churchwardens) or David (Treasurer).

# **Cuckfield Deanery Morning**

The Ascension Church will be hosting the 2025 Cuckfield Deanery Morning on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March, when the Revd Canon Dr Earl Collins will be leading the morning. Volunteers to serve tea and coffee are needed please and donations of cakes will be very much appreciated. Please let Jerry, Jill or Martin know if you can help.

# Thanks for the milk bottles.

Thanks for the donations of the empty milk bottles which Tiddlers turned into a herd of (vaguely) Elmer like Elephants.



### **CONTACT US**

& Jerry's

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