

Prayers for the Community

For the people of Rocky Drive, Northern Platt, Old House Lane

For prayer: Kathy Ford and her family, Brenda T, Bunty, Chris J, David, Heidi, William and Miranda

In memoriam: Don Bryant, Marjorie Cordell, Beatrice Waters, Ivy Lymer

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.

LIVING AND DYING

'If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me..." even the darkness is not dark to You ... For You formed my inward parts; You knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!' PSALM 139:11-14,17(ESV)

God of hope, please draw near to patients in hospital intensive care units who are seriously ill or recovering from life-threatening conditions. Pour out Your healing power and equip those who are caring for them with the skill and vigilance they need to save their lives. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

Father, please bless all who work in palliative medicine and care in hospitals, hospices and people's homes to alleviate pain and provide dignity and comfort for those nearing the end of their lives. We pray for this to be available for everyone in every part of the UK. For Christ's sake. Amen.

God of compassion and grace, please comfort anyone who is grieving for a person who has taken their own life. Grant them Your peace that passes understanding in the midst of their grief, and strength and courage to live each day with family and friends to support them. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Lord, thank You for the thousands of local and national charities and groups that support those with life-limiting illnesses, providing research, information, advice and practical support. Please encourage everyone involved as they reach out to people and their families. By Your grace. Amen.

Loving Redeemer, we grieve over every unborn life that is lost and for babies who die at birth or soon afterwards. Please comfort mothers, fathers and others who remember and grieve, and especially draw close to those who live with deep regrets because of an abortion. Thank You for the forgiveness and peace You give. Amen.

www.care.org.uk



Ascension Weekly

Sunday 27th October 2024

Last Sunday after Trinity

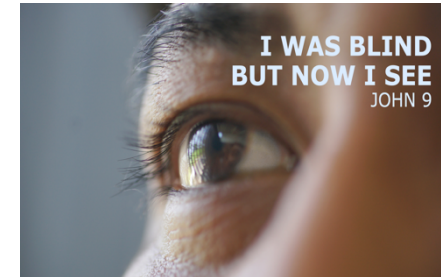
10.00 am Family Communion (Streamed via Zoom)

Readings: Romans 8.14-19, 31-32, 38-39 & Mark 10.46-52

"Your faith has made you well"

Although Jesus said, as he healed Bartimaeus, "*Your faith has made you well,*" it is important to be clear that it was Jesus who healed Bartimaeus. This might sound like stating the obvious, but it's essential to say because, tragically, a failure to be cured can be wrongly blamed on a lack of faith.

Faith in itself has no power to heal. The healing came from who Bartimaeus had faith in, not from the faith itself. That's why a failure to be cured shouldn't be blamed on a lack of faith, and a lack of healing doesn't necessarily mean we need to somehow summon up 'more faith'.



Faith does, though, have a critical role: Bartimaeus demonstrated remarkable faith in seeking Jesus' help. - *'Many sternly ordered him [Bartimaeus] to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"'* Without the faith to persist in calling out to Jesus, Bartimaeus would never have received his sight but that still doesn't mean his faith healed him. When Jesus said "*Your faith has made you well,*" He was acknowledging the faith that brought Bartimaeus to Him so that He could heal him.

Faith alone doesn't have the power to heal, any more than it could be said an ambulance makes someone better. Faith brings us to Jesus, an ambulance takes people to hospital. In neither case does faith or an ambulance heal anyone by itself. **Jesus heals us; faith will bring us to Him so that we can be healed.**

Martin

This Week

Sunday 27th October

10.00am Family Communion

Tuesday 29nd October

9.30 -10.30am Food Larder

6.30pm Alpha 5

Wednesday 30th October

10.30am Midweek Communion

3.30pm Home Group in church

7.30pm Home Group at Janet and Jerry's

Thursday 31st October

8.30am Morning Prayers

12.00 - 1.00pm Food Larder

2.00pm - 4.00pm **Light Party**

7.30pm Thursday Home Group at Jill's

Sunday 3rd November

8.30am Said Communion

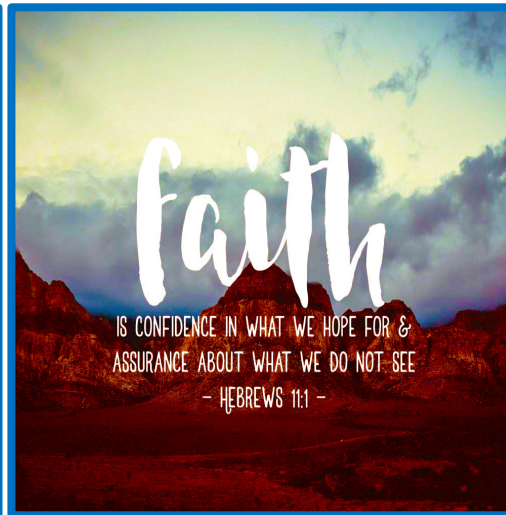
10.00am Café Church

Please see the website for links for online streaming:

www.ascensionchurch.co.uk

Birthdays this week

Happy birthday to Katie Church



Café Church

Sunday 3rd November



Who might you
invite?

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

ALMs: Jill Costello & Sally Martin



THE ASCENSION

Light Party



The children's Light Party is in the church from **2pm to 4pm on Thursday 31st October** as an alternative to the usual Hallowe'en events going on outside.

Help is needed please. Jill would be grateful if all those willing to help could join her around a table over coffee in the hall after the 10.00am Family Communion to discuss details of the help needed. Many thanks.

A message from Kathy

Kathy Ford and Family would like to thank everyone for all their prayers, thoughts, kind words and support over the last few weeks. - "It has made a real difference. We have felt very loved. Thank you. Love Kathy."

Gift Day 2024

While we're still waiting to confirm final pledges and gift aid calculations it is clear that this year's Gift Day total is **now over £15000** (Including gift aid tax reclaim).

£15,000 bears testament to God's extraordinary provision expressed through people's wonderful generosity. Thank you to God and to everyone who has contributed.

UK Harvest

UK Harvest will be running a Food Hub in church next Friday, the 1st of November, from 10.00am to 11.00 am.

UK Harvest is a charity which collect surplus food and distributes it through its Food Hubs. The aim is to prevent food waste as well as providing wholesome food where is needed most. The Food Hub is open to everyone. All that is asked is a donation of £3.50.

For more information please see:

<https://www.ukharvest.org.uk/aboutus/about>