

Prayers for the Community

For the people of Bolding Way (inc. Bolding Court), Holmbush Close

For prayer: Bunty, Chris J, David, Heidi, Ros, Simon, Simon

In memoriam: Georgina Horscroft, Barbara Warner, Roy Still, Brenda Wood, Ellen Pays, William Thorley, Samuel Dalrymple, Joan Baldwin

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.

THE WRITTEN WORD

'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart ... You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.'
DEUTERONOMY 6:5-9 (ESV)

Author of all truth, please send Your Spirit to help us to humbly accept and apply Your inspired Word to our lives, turning from sin, trusting in Your mercy, pursuing justice and following Your ways of goodness. May we bring honour to You as we seek to serve others. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Lord of freedom, please empower those who speak up on behalf of the voiceless by writing to promote justice and truth: through journalism, stories, poetry and songs, radio, television and film, online platforms and individual letters. May they look to You for inspiration for Christ's sake. Amen.

Creator God, we pray for writers of books, scripts, articles, speeches, websites, journalism, social media, training, Christian content, research and other educational material. Please help them to write with wisdom, integrity and skill according to Your purposes. In Your mercy. Amen.

Lord Jesus, we praise You that despite such historic opposition, Your Word still remains and transforms lives and is more treasured than any other writing. Please bless Bible translators and other ministries that send out the life-changing truth of Scripture across the world. By Your grace. Amen.

Thank You, Lord, for the rich written cultural heritage of Your Church – theology, liturgy, devotional texts, music lyrics and other literature that has inspired Christians down the centuries. We pray that your Spirit will guide today's writers as they seek to communicate the truth and grace of Your eternal Word. For Your glory! Amen



Ascension Weekly

Sunday 12th January 2025 **The Baptism of Christ**
10.00 a.m. Communion Service (Streamed via Zoom)

Readings: Acts 8.14-17, Luke 3.15-22

“You are my son”

Today, as we celebrate The Baptism of Christ, we are reminded of the wonderful words spoken by God the Father to Jesus and recorded in Luke's Gospel: *“You are my Son, the beloved: with you, I am well pleased”*.

We can learn a lot from Jesus' Baptism: First, by humbly submitting to baptism, sinless Jesus identified with our humanity and sin. Then the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus like a dove revealed the presence and filling by the Holy Spirit. Above all, let's remember the voice from Heaven, telling Jesus He was the Father's beloved son.

Until his baptism, Jesus lived an 'ordinary' life. His extraordinary ministry of teaching, healing and proclaiming the Kingdom of God only began after his baptism. As crucial as the equipping of the Holy Spirit was, and is, let's not lose sight that Jesus' ministry was built on even more than the power of the Holy Spirit. Before He began, Jesus heard that He was the Father's beloved son. Jesus embarked on His ministry and ultimately faced the cross with the confidence that the Father loved Him.

We can learn a lot from Jesus' baptism, but above all, let's remember, before anything else, that we too, are the beloved of God.

Martin



This Week

Sunday 12th January

10.00am Communion Service

Tuesday 14th January

9.30 - 10.30am Food Larder

Wednesday 15th January

10.30am Midweek Communion

1.30pm Tiddlers

Thursday 16th January

8.30am Morning Prayers

12.00 - 1.00pm Food Larder

7.30pm Cuckfield Deanery
Celebration Service at All Saints,
Lindfield

Saturday 18th January

9.00am Community Coffee

Sunday 19th January

8.30am Said Communion

10.00am Worship Service

Please see the website for links
for online streaming:

www.ascensionchurch.co.uk

Happy birthday to
Matt Hinton

God doesn't bless us just to make us happy;
he blesses us to make us a blessing.

Warren Wiersbe



First Communion Sunday.

Please remember
Emily, Madison and
Oscar who are
preparing for their
First Communion on
Sunday the 26th
January at the
10.00am Family
Communion Service.

CONTACT US

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ALMs: Jill Costello & Sally Martin



THE ASCENSION

Chichester Diocese 2025 'Year of Faith'

2025 is a year of celebration of the Christian faith across Sussex. It marks the 950th anniversary of the formation of the Diocese of Chichester and Chichester Cathedral, and 1700 years since the Nicene Creed first emerged.

There's a wonderful programme of celebrations throughout the year beginning with Deanery Celebration Services in every deanery in January and February. (See below for details of our Cuckfield Deanery Service)

For more information about the Year of Faith and all the events that are planned please see: <https://celebratingfaith.co.uk>

Cuckfield Deanery Celebration Service

The Cuckfield Deanery Celebration will be in All Saints Church, Lindfield on Thursday the 16th of January at 7:30pm. It's a service celebrating, with Bishop Ruth, the history of Christian faith in our Deanery, and it's an opportunity to join together in worship at the start of the Year of Faith. Please do come along.

Candles for Ukraine.

As well as continuing to pray for Ukraine there's now an opportunity to do something practical to help.

When the Russian army invaded Ukraine in early 2022, the Ukrainian military began making candles to help provide a little light, to heat food and drink, warm cold hands and feet, and even to dry out clothes.

Until the end of January, we're collecting candle stubs and any left-over wax, to make hand warmers and trench candles for soldiers on the frontline. If you have any old candles or left-over wax, please put in the box at the back of the church, then we'll add it to Cuckfield Church's collection of the same. If you would like to know more, please speak to Diana or Cathie. Thank you.