

Prayers for the Community

For the people of Acre Close, Rumbolds Lane.

For prayer: Bunty, Chris J, David, Heidi, Ros, Janine and Alan, Simon, Simon, William and Miranda

In memoriam: Violet Mattinson, Charles Croft, Bernard Turner and Stanley Catt
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.

RESTORING OUR WORLD

'I am about to do something new ... I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland. The wild animals in the fields will thank Me ... for giving them water in the desert. Yes, I will make rivers in the dry wasteland so my chosen people can be refreshed. ISAIAH 43:19-20 (NLT)

God, we praise You for the order and beauty of Creation as You originally made it. Now as our world is suffering from the effects of global warming and exploitation that threaten the balance of nature, please help us to undo as much harm as we can and discover Your ways of restoration. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Merciful God, we intercede for fundamental changes to reverse the contamination of the millions of tons of plastic entering our oceans each year that destroys marine life, pollutes other ecosystems and affects human health. Please cause powerful global companies to stop using single-use plastics and for recycling systems to become more effective. In Christ's name. Amen.

Lord, we intercede for solutions to be found and implemented to reverse the shocking effects of water shortage and pollution affecting one in ten people on the planet. Please grant success to projects to conserve water and protect crucially important wetlands. In Your mercy. Amen.

Heavenly Father, as a new year begins, please grant us the mercy and grace that we need for every single day. We cannot live without You – so give us an increasing desire to know You more that we may fulfil Your purposes in and through our lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

www.care.org.uk



Ascension Weekly

Sunday 5th January 2025 Epiphany

8.30 a.m. Said Communion Service. (Streamed via Zoom)

10.00 a.m. Café Church. (Streamed via Zoom)

Readings: Ephesians 3.1-12, Matthew 2.1-12

Epiphany

Today is the Sunday in the church calendar when we celebrate Epiphany and commemorate the Magi's journey to find "The King of the Jews" (v2). It's the time when we remember the Magi (sometimes referred to as 'the Three Wise Men' or 'the Three Kings') following the star and bringing their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

The word 'Epiphany' means *a moment of great revelation or a realisation*. Epiphany's true significance lies not in the Magi's journey, or even in their gifts, but in the revelation they experienced upon encountering Jesus.



The Epiphany is about the revelation that Jesus is the Son of God, the Messiah, and the realisation that He is not just King of the Jews, but that God's plan is for the salvation of *all people* through Him.

The Magi's worship upon recognising God in Jesus marks the end of their search. As we remember them, may we too recognise God in Jesus, trust Him, and find encouragement in God's plan unfolding through 2025 in Jesus Christ.

Martin

This Week

Sunday 5th January

8.30am Said Communion

10.00am Café Church

Tuesday 7th January

9.30 - 10.30am Food Larder

Wednesday 8th January

10.30am Midweek Communion

1.30pm Tiddlers

Thursday 9th January

8.30am Morning Prayers

11.15am Open Space with Up & Amble

12.00 - 1.00pm Food Larder

Saturday 11th January

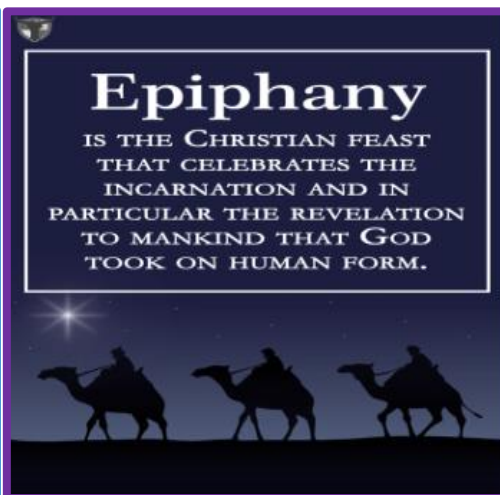
9.00am Community Coffee

Sunday 12th January

10.00am Communion Service.

Please see the website for links
for online streaming:

www.ascensionchurch.co.uk



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.



**Celebrating
Faith** 'Year of Faith' 2025

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