

TALK ABOUT and TAKE HOME IDEAS

Mealtime card

- Which of the characters in the nativity story are you most like?
- Will you ask God to use you to do mighty things?
- Which part of the nativity story do you like the most?

Take-home idea

If your Messy Church is at the beginning of December, you could follow the 'Love Life Live Advent' challenge here: liveadvent.net. It gives a challenge for each day of Advent. You can get involved in our Reverse Advent Calendar where each day we put some item of food in a box for the **Nuneaton FoodBank**. Please bring them into church each week or to the Parish Office (open 8am to 12:30 each weekday) if you can or back to Messy Church in January

The next **Messy Church** is

on **Sunday 19th January 2020 3:30** as usual in the hall.

Messy Church Christmas Party

Please put the date in your diary and invite another family to come with you.

Other Messy Churches next year, 2020 are....

16th Feb; 15th March; 19th April

At All Saints Messy Church, we are aiming to offer something for families who want an opportunity to be together in a relaxed, supportive and creative environment. We try to make our programme an imaginative mixture of family, fun, friendship, food and faith. Feedback welcomed.
In the coming weeks, please think about Messy Church and if you could be a helper. We usually run 6 activities each month but we need more helpers, could you be one of our helpers? Talk to Peter or one of the other leaders for more information.

Next Sunday, 22nd, join us for our

Morning Celebration service for families and everyone!

Morning Celebration is in the main church building we will have our **Morning Celebration Service** which will start with **breakfast at 10:00 am**. It includes **puppets telling part of the story, songs, an activity and lots more. It will finish about 11:30**

January Morning Celebration will include our Christingle Service

For more information email or visit our website

messychurch@allsaintscoton.org www.allsaintscoton.org

ASCC Messy Church No 69



All Saints, Chilvers Coton

Sunday 15th December 2019 in the Parish Hall

Welcome to Messy Church

Theme this month is

Small is Mighty

Jesus arrived on earth as a tiny baby but even today he still affects the daily lives of millions of people. After Read more inside....

From 3:30pm **Welcome, Drinks and Craft Activities**
Please register then help yourself to a drink and take part in the activities. Please take time to read the bible story and the reflection before you start the activities and take time to do the **"Talk about.."** for each of the activities.

4:30 pm **Celebration Time....**

4:50 pm **Meal Time**

You can find more information about the theme & activities inside

Please take this home with you

Today's theme: Small is Mighty

Bit from the Bible So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.' So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. Luke 2:4-20

The basic story that Christmas Day is when we celebrate the birthday of Jesus is well know. But most people fail to remember just how important event that first Christmas was. Over 2000 years ago, Mary, a young woman who was going to marry Joseph, a skilled man with a trade as a carpenter. It would be a good match for her. Suddenly, and angel just appears and tells her that she is pregnant and going to have a baby. Not just any baby but GOD's baby. God has a way of using small people to do very BIG things. God loved the people of the world so much that he wanted to give them the biggest and best present anyone could ever get. To be his children to be part of his family. To do that he sent Jesus, who would experience what it was like to be human. Then Jesus paid for our rescue from a world where too many things are wrong. The price was paid in blood, his blood poured out once for everyone who lived or was going to live. Yes that includes you and me. I don't know if anyone has done something really kind or good to or for you without expecting anything more than a thank you? What I do know is that Jesus has done something better that any friend or family member can ever do. He has offered us the chance to live forever in his kingdom when our time on earth is over. The price? No money can buy it, all you have to do is invite Jesus to be part of your life and to become part of his family. If you want to know more talk to any of the ministry team or the helpers or just come along to church and become part of the amazing family of God.

May God bless you and all those you love and care for this Christmas. Peter



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

See the table activity sheets for more details about doing the craft activity

1. Bethlehem stable

You will need: cardboard box, brown paper; scissors; sticky tape; pens; finger puppet cut-outs. Take one of the boxes, on the brown paper draw lines to make it look like wood. Stick the long piece inside the box to make the walls look like wood. Stick the smaller piece on the floor. Colour in the characters, roll into a tube and use sticky tape to hold it together. Stick the top of the tube as well. (see picture) to make the finger puppet.

Talk about how Bethlehem was a small village but God used it to be the birth place of Jesus. God can use the places we live in today for mighty things too, if we trust him and follow his plan.

2 Take a Nativity Scene activity card and use the small pieces of foam to create a mosaic on it.

Talk about how the stable in the Christmas story was a tiny, insignificant place where animals slept - and yet God chose it to be the place where the baby Jesus would be born. God used that lowly stable to become one of the most important places in history!

3 Angels: Create an Angel

Talk about how, when God chose Mary and Joseph to be parents to Jesus, he knew they were perfect for the job. How do you think Mary felt when the angel told her that she would have a baby called Jesus? How do you think Joseph must have felt when God used him to look after Jesus as his own son? How do you think you would feel if God asked you to do something he knew you were perfect for?

4 Create a Star.

Take a craft stick star and decorate it.

Then put a ribbon on it so you can hang it on your Christmas Tree.

Talk about how the journey to Bethlehem must have been a difficult one for Mary and Joseph. The star guided the wise men to where Jesus was so they could bring him gifts.

5 Gifts station

You will need: a sheet of paper, gift tag, felt tips pens, and some sticky tape.

Take the piece of paper and decorate it to look like Christmas wrapping paper.

Decorate one side of the gift tag and write a Christmas message on the other side.

Use the paper to wrap a bar of chocolate, stick on the gift tag and hand it to the table helper so they can pass it on to one of the homeless people who sleep on our Winter Night Shelter on Monday nights.

Talk about how each of the people we have wrapped a gifts for and prayed for are special to God and if we trust him, he will use our gifts in a very special way.

6 Cup Cake Nativity

You need a cake, some icing and the edible nativity scene. Create your own Cup Cake Nativity.

Talk about how the nativity story is full of people who had to choose to trust God. If they had made different choices, maybe the story would have been different - but they chose to follow and to trust God and he used each of them to be a part of the most amazing story.

7 Take a star and please write a prayer or the name of someone you want God to look after on it. You might just want to draw something and share with God what your prayer is.