

The next **Messy Church** is
on **Sunday 19th February 2023**
3:30 as usual in the hall.

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

Other Messy Churches coming up are....
on the 3rd Sundays of each month BUT not in March
**as the March service falls on Mothers day and there will be a
Special Mothers Day service at 10:30 in main church.**

Back to normal then for
April 16th; May 21st and June 18th which is Father's Day
Also July 16th but we will not meet in August.
Back in September 17th, October 15th, November 19th
and December 17th

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 team? Talk to Peter or one of the
other leaders for more information or to offer to help.*

**Next Sunday is Morning Celebration
for families and everyone Breakfast
from 10:00 service starts at 10:30 in
the main church building!**

**It includes songs, an activity and lots more.
It will finish about 11:30**

For more information email or visit our website

messychurch@allsaintscoton.org www.allsaintscoton.org
www.facebook.com/allsaintscoton/



**All Saints,
Chilvers
Coton**

**Sunday 15th January 2023
in the Parish Hall**

Welcome to Messy Church

**Theme this month is
Are you willing?
Read more inside....
WELCOME !**

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: Are you willing? (to do what Jesus did)

Bit from the Bible. Based on Luke 5:12-16

While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged him, 'Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.'

Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. 'I am willing,' he said. 'Be clean!' And immediately the leprosy left him.

Then Jesus ordered him, 'Don't tell anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.'

Yet the news about him spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their illnesses. But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

Some thoughts.... What does it feel like to be side-lined and left out? In Jesus' time, people with leprosy (a skin disease) were excluded from society as they were seen to be unclean. This meant they were not able to earn money or have help from society. People with this skin disease lived on the edge or the margins of society, often in poverty.

Jesus was asked if he was willing to help the man to be healed, to which Jesus enthusiastically said, 'Yes!' This broke the norm and traditions of the day because Jesus touched the man in his uncleanness.

Jesus chose not only to heal the man, but to touch him. In those times this would have meant that Jesus became ritually unclean too. Touch is so important to inclusion or feeling part of society. By touching the man, Jesus broke that barrier and made the man part of society again.

How can we reach out and touch those in our society who are excluded or on the margins? What can we do today to make excluded people feel part of society again? How can we make a difference today? What can we do to make a difference to those who are in need?



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

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

1 Thankful hands

You will need: coloured card or paper; scissors; pencil; coloured pencils/ crayons/ felt-tip pens; stickers

Draw around your hands and on each finger write something you are thankful for.

Talk about how life might seem hard sometimes and how we might struggle to find the joy sometimes, but, like the man in the story, when we meet with Jesus we can find joy and things to be thankful for. Jesus can help us to see how to use our hands to help others. What do you need help with? How can you help others?

2 Gingerbread people

You will need: gingerbread people shapes (two each); icing pens; round sweets and sugar decorations; fondant icing in various colours

Make one sad person and one happy person

Talk about how it might feel for the sad person in the story, who is excluded from being with other people. How can we make a difference and help them to be happy again? God cares about all our feelings and wants to help us. Are you willing to let him help?

3 Hands Challenge

Play the game See how well you do when not able to feel things with your fingers.

Talk about how doing those everyday tasks with gloves on is really challenging -just like how leprosy affected the man in the story and just like it still does today. Leprosy damages the skin and nerves in people's bodies, making completing everyday tasks really difficult.



4. Random Acts of Kindness

You will need a stone and permanent markers (CAUTION)

Talk about how Jesus helped the man in the story to become part of society again, which sets an example to us about the way we need to treat each other: with kindness. How can we show kindness in our homes, workplaces, churches and communities?

5 Soap Carving

We use soap to clean us from dirt. Jesus can clean us in other ways as He did in the story.



Talk about how Jesus transformed the life of the man with the skin disease. By making him clean, Jesus enabled the man to experience joy and inclusion. How can we help people to feel included?

6 Thankfulness Cross

Fill the empty cross with the scrunched tissue paper. Think about what you are thankful for while you are filling the cross with colour.

Talk about how the man was full of thankfulness after Jesus healed him. He went to the temple to give thanks to God and he told people about what Jesus had done for him. What are you thankful to God for?

