

St James the Less

Aug 2018

Messy Church

Our next Messy Church is on Wed 8th Aug 3.15pm to 5.30pm. See you there!

The Church Hall, (Mill Road, Lancing, BN15 0PT) is available for hire for all sorts of occasions. Contact the Parish Office for further information. 01903 750286



Issue 6

Its all about the



Who Let the Dads Out?

Our next session will be on Saturday 15th September between 9.30 am and 11.00 am. It will take the same format offering a scrummy, yummy breakfast of cereals, bacon rolls, sausages, croissants, preserves, coffee and tea and juice. As always, it's as much as you can eat and at no charge. There are papers for the adults and toys and games for the children. It is one way in which the church reaches out to the Community. Please bring lots of friends.

Toddlers' Group

The Toddlers have toddled on this year undertaking a variety of activities and with friendships being made amongst the parents. The last meeting of the year will be on Monday 16th July when there will be a little party. Restarts in September Term Time only



Messy Church Prayer

Heavenly Father, guide us gently each day In our thinking and planning for Messy Church.

Help us to create something wonderful which can Inform and bring joy to local families.

Give us strength and willingness to work to your will With humility and modesty.

May we strive fearlessly to give our best

For Jesus Christ's sake, Amen.

Contact us:

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Messy Church

A member of the Messy Church Committee writes: - I love it when children ask impossibly difficult questions – you know the ones that adults haven't the faintest idea how to answer. Year 5 genius. "Mum, (or Dad), If by the time I'm 35 and Quantum Physics has coalesced with the Hadron Colider which would make space travel possible, does that mean I might be able to go to Mars for my 2 week Summer holiday instead of Margate?" Mum, (or dad), stirring the Bolognese, "I haven't the faintest idea, dear. How long is a piece of string?" Ah! The piece of string. It's got many adults out of difficult situations when they can't quite own up to the fact that they haven't a clue what the answer could be! Yet pieces of string are immensely useful; before Velcro was invented, string came in very handy if a shoelace broke, and it saved many an embarrassment if a piece was required, urgently, to substitute for a belt, and, ofcourse, it is used to tie up flowers and plants that need to be kept upright. When I began to enhance my reading repertoire, I was immediately drawn to the Greek Myths. One of my favourites was *Theseus and the Minotaur*. The myth tells of how King Minos of Crete kept a terrible beast, a minotaur in the middle of a maze. The king sent his slaves in to fight him; needless to say, none came out. Theseus, a handsome prince, offered to go and engage in battle with the horrific creature. Meanwhile, Ariadne, King Minos' daughter, had fallen in love with Theseus. When she realised that he was to enter the maze, she gave him a ball of string so that he could make a path with it so that if he was successful in slaying the minotaur, he would be able to follow the string to find his way out. This he did. In the Bible, what Jesus required his followers to have was faith. Once, after teaching, Jesus espied some fishermen who had had rather a fruitless night fishing. Jesus ordered them to go back to the deepest part of the lake, (the sea of Galilee), and again cast their nets. Simon Peter protested that not one fish had been caught, previously, but, knowing that this was what Jesus wished, they went and let their nets down one more time. To Simon Peter's amazement the nets were so full that he needed the help of his colleagues, James and John, to help haul in the catch. Simon realised that this was a miracle and fell on his knees before Jesus.

Jesus' response to this was that from that day forwards they would catch people not fish. They left all they had and followed Jesus. Being a Christian is all about following. It is following in the footsteps of Simon Peter, James and John and the rest of the Apostles and introducing others to the words of Jesus. Sometimes it may be a successful undertaking, at other times people may turn away, but you will be doing as Jesus requested and following him, and...oh yes, there are no strings attached!

On Sunday 17th June, 2018, Abigail Hacker and Francesca Evans – Jones two of our young Servers, were confirmed by The Right Reverend Mark Sowerby, Bishop of Horsham. Francesca writes of the experience. My Confirmation date was set for Sunday 17th June, 2018 at 6pm in St. Matthew's Church, Worthing. I'd had a few confirmation lessons with Father Stephen who talked me through the routine of what would happen on the night. The day finally arrived.....on my Confirmation Day, I served at church, plus I did a reading from the Book of Samuel. It was Father's Day, so after a lovely pub lunch for dad, I got ready for the Confirmation service. I wore a pale blue and silver dress and my mum and dad gave me a special silver cross necklace to mark the occasion. On arrival at St. Matthew's, the candidates met the Bishop who quickly calmed our nerves. He seemed a really nice person and put us all at ease. We then waited in our assigned seats with our family and friends for the service to begin. We'd already had a rehearsal the previous night so we knew what to do and what was expected of us. The service itself was beautiful with upbeat music from a live band and song. When we were at the Font at the back of the church, the Bishop gave us all a soaking with Holy Water which was great fun! We then returned to the front of the congregation and were then blessed and anointed individually by the Bishop which was the confirmation part. We had to kneel on a step directly at the Bishop's feet and I was a bit nervous about falling over but I was fine!

To conclude the service, we were all given a tall white candle which we lit and then proceeded to follow the Bishop past our families and out of the church which indicated the end of the service. Sandwiches, savouries, cakes and tea were served to everyone in the church hall which gave us a chance to speak to others about our experiences. Being confirmed, it has made me feel more connected to the Church. I received so many good wishes, cards, prayers and support from my family, friends and members of the Parish, it has made me feel blessed and I thank them all. Thankyou, Francesca. I was there and I know what a memorable and moving evening it was. I don't think Abigail and Francesca will mind if I include one "honorary youth." Chris Diebel, who has recently stepped down from being the Church Treasurer and who makes our wonderful Church banners was, also confirmed. It doesn't matter about age; taking another vital step along God's path is life – enhancing. God bless you all.

Family Services: They are held on the 3rd Sunday of each month starting at 10.00am. It is a delight to see families in Church. The more children get involved in the Service, the more the Church is making an inclusive statement. There is an activity corner if drawing is required, but we leave it very much to parents or grandparents as to what should be happening. It cannot be reiterated enough that all are welcome.

Nursery School

As so often happens in life, the old order changeth and a new era is ushered in. This is the case with the Nursery. After many years Christine Marchant, who has been the Nursery Supervisor, is retiring. I know that there are many parents who went to the Nursery as young children and who now send their own. There are many children in Lancing who must be thankful for their journey into learning so ably supported by Christine. We are delighted that Sara Barrett is now running the Nursery. This she has been doing since Easter. As she says, she has had great fun learning the ropes from Christine and has found everyone supportive and helpful. Sara has worked at the Nursery for six years and is looking forward to the future and taking it forward with the lovely ladies with whom she works. Sara iterates that that childcare is a daily changing job and that all who have the privilege of working with the children enjoy and relish watching the children grow, thrive and learn. As Sara points out, the Nursery is fortunate to have such a lovely space in which to offer their facilities, and all who are involved look forward to a continued, positive relationship with the people they encounter through the nursery and the Church. Thankyou for this, Sara; I look forward to more magazine inserts as you take the Nursery forward. Good luck in your new role. **St James the Less Nursery School. Monday to Fridays term time only. Age 3 to 4 years**

Apart from Messy Church, St. James has its thriving uniformed organisations.

www.3rd5thlancingseascouts.org.uk www.girlguiding.org.uk

For more information on these groups:

Beavers: Beavers are our youngest members, and generally meet for an hour per week. 6-8 years Contact: 3rd/5th Lancing Website

Cubs: For Cubs, excitement and adventure are key. 8-10.5 years Contact: Gary Hornbuckle 07801 549232

Scouts: Scouts aims to build and develop young people's confidence, sense of adventure and outdoor skills, as well as encouraging them to explore their beliefs and attitudes and be creative. 10.5-14 years Contact: Shaunmoleoliver@gmail.com

Barracuda Explorers: With the support, direction and guidance of Unit leaders, Explorer Scouts are encouraged to lead themselves. 14-18 years Contact: Andy Fellingham 07545 084208

Rainbows: Rainbows learn and grow through a programme of age-appropriate activities, trips and adventures. 5-7 years Contact: www.girlguiding.org.uk

Brownies: Brownies is about getting together regularly 7-10 years Contact: www.girlguiding.org.uk

Guides: You'll create your own campaigns, learn and share new skills and fly down the occasional zip wire. 10-14 years Contact: www.girlguiding.org.uk

The Brownies

It would seem that, as ever, the Brownies have been having the most marvellous time. We have had lots of outings this year so far. We joined in the Brownie Day at Amberley Museum, in May we went to Applesham Farm and had a very interesting walk around looking at the wild flowers, and some of the Brownies got to feed the new born lambs. In June we played a wide game, collecting string from around Halewick Lane Park - then all the sixes tied their pieces together to determine who had collected the most. We have had a family game of rounders at Brooklands Park, where Mums, Dads, brothers & sisters all joined in a really fun evening. We have worked on our Artist badge at the Hall and this week we will join in with the Guides Summer Fayre.

Our last evening at the Hall will be a Bollywood Dancing tutorial.

We were very sad to hear that one of our very much loved young leaders, Lara Williams-Lourenco died in April: she was just 17 and had been a part of our Brownies pack for 10 years. Her Mum, Julie, is one of our Leaders and we attended her memorial service on 17th May. Thankyou for this, Bev, and thankyou for offering to help with the Christmas Fayre. We are sorry to hear of the passing of Lara. May her soul live in eternal light, and may her family gain comfort from the precious memories they hold of her.

And finally: Baptisms: - Sunday 10th June – Charlie Patrick Attfield

Sunday 1st July – Rosamund L'Anson; Hugo Charles L'Anson

And finally finally: - Lord God, Guide those who, through Baptism are at the beginning of their spiritual journey and those who are continuing their journey through Confirmation. May we who are, also, part of your family, reach out a loving hand and generous heart as they, like the fisherman before are called to follow your son. In your name, Amen.



DIARY DATES

Mondays (term time only) 1.30pm Toddler Group at our Church Hall, Mill Road, Lancing.

Monday 16th July Toddlers Party – 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm

Saturday 21st July – Summer Fayre – 11.00 am – 2.00 pm. Children's games and a jolly jelly bean count.

Wednesday 8th August – Messy Church – 3.15 pm – 5.30 pm.

Sunday 26th August- Tea Party

Saturday 15 September – Who Let the Dads Out? – 9.30 am – 11.00 am

Wednesday 24th October – Messy Church – 3.15 pm – 5.30 pm

Saturday November 24th – Who Let the Dads Out? 9.30 am – 11.00 am and Sea of Lights

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