

## TALK ABOUT and TAKE HOME IDEAS

### Mealtime

- How can we love and serve others in a meaningful way?
- Is loving and serving others easy?
- Is Valentine's Day all about love?

### Take-home idea

Have a think about ways in which we can love and serve others in a meaningful way through Messy Church. Is there something you can think of that would benefit from loving service, maybe a charity or local scheme you could help?

The next **Messy Church** is  
on **Sunday 15th March** 2020 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 next year, 2020 are....**  
19th April; 17th May; 21st June; 19th July; 16th August

**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, 23rd, 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**

**For more information email or visit our website**  
[messychurch@allsaintscoton.org](mailto:messychurch@allsaintscoton.org) [www.allsaintscoton.org](http://www.allsaintscoton.org)  
[www.facebook.com/allsaintscoton/](https://www.facebook.com/allsaintscoton/)

ASCC Messy Church No 71



# All Saints, Chilvers Coton

## Sunday 16th February 2020 in the Parish Hall

Welcome to Messy Church

**Theme this month is**

**Loving and Serving: Jesus told a story to help us understand that if we listen to him and follow his advice we will have a loving and sharing world to live in.**

**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: Loving and Sharing

### Bit from the Bible

*'Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it. 'And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes. Matthew 7:24-29*

God calls us to obey him. He says that those of us who hear his words and obey them will be like 'a wise man who built his house on the rock'. What does this mean? Think about the way sand shifts when you manipulate it. Can you imagine a house standing strong on a foundation that is unsteady? Without a strong foundation on God, our lives will be like the unsteady home. Now picture a house built on a rock foundation. It won't move and cannot be shifted or rearranged. A foundation where God is our rock, where we rely solely on him and his word, is a house built for life.

So today we look at how we might we show love and service to others in our communities in a real and meaningful way. Loving and serving others as a Christian means we must take Jesus' teachings seriously and apply them to our everyday lives. The reading reminds us that we have choices to make which influence the words we say, the things we do, how we respond to others and how they respond to us. In many ways, our choices form some of the foundations of who we are- like the foundations or lack of them in the story. Our foundations will be stronger and more stable the more we listen to and try to follow Christ's example and teaching. Listening more carefully to the things that Jesus teaches and trying to let his teaching influence our lives will change us and help us choose wisely. Loving others is one of the key parts of Jesus' teaching. We are challenged to find opportunities to share his love with others more choices to make here, too.



## TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

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

### 1. Linking hearts

Link the hearts together and stick the cut edges back together with sticky tape. You could make a short chain of hearts and maybe use this as a decoration or give it away to someone. You could also write on the hearts the names of friends or family you would like to come to know God's love.

**Talk about** how God loves everyone and how we are all linked with each other as part of God's family. He wants us to show love to others. If you have written names on the hearts, you could also talk about how we can show God's love to them.

### 2. Bird feeder heart

Take a pipe cleaner and thread the breakfast cereal loops on to it. Bend in the middle and then twist the two ends of the pipe cleaner together to make a heart shape. Thread a piece of string to make a hanger for the bird feeder heart. Take it home and hang it outside. Enjoy watching the birds eating the cereal loops.

**Talk about** how we need to be loving in service to birds and other animals as well as people. Feeding birds is an important job and is something we can all do easily. We are all responsible for caring for the world around us.

### 3. Tissue paper sun catcher

Peel the backing off the sticky heart and put small pieces of tissue paper onto the sticky surface to completely cover the heart. When you have created your coloured heart, stick the other piece of sticky backed plastic over the tissue paper to seal it.

**Talk about** how the light shines through the heart and shows all the colours that are there. All the different pieces of tissue have worked together to fill the heart and create something special. Are our hearts full like this one?

### 4. A church full of love display

Use the foam heart dipped in paint to print hearts in your church, use different colours, to show that your church is full of love. You may write something too - such as 'All Saint's is full of love!' Use the wipes to clean the paint from your fingers.

**Talk about** how when we talk about 'the church', it is the people, children and families who make up the church that we are talking about - and in this activity we can demonstrate that our churches are places full of love, because each one of us who go to church has God's love inside us. God's love is something that we should share with others, and God wants us to share his love with everyone.

### 5 Angel Bread

Cut 2 large hearts from the two slices of bread. The cut a small heart from one of the hearts. Butter both large hearts. Take the one which does not have a hole in it and sprinkle sprinkles over it. Then place the other heart on top to make a sandwich.

**Talk about** how love is meant to be given away. Maybe by giving someone angel bread, you can show them that they matter - to you and to God.

### 6 Wise and foolish builders

Take your card, colour in the sky etc. Then build a house on the rock out of foam and put foam pieces on top of the sand to look like a fallen down building.

**Talk about** how we can try to make sand into some thing like a sand castle, but it will always stay soft. It doesn't have a firm, stable structure like rock. Today we learn the story Jesus told about our faith and how it needs to be built on a firm foundation like a house does.

