

TALK ABOUT and TAKE HOME IDEAS

Mealtime card

- Who is your best friend?
- Who is the kindest person that you know?
- How can you be kind to others at Messy Church?

Take-home idea

Think of someone in your neighbourhood who needs a little gesture of kindness. What can you do to show them that Jesus cares about them? Perhaps you can make and drop off a card or some homemade cookies, or even just give them a smile. Challenge your family to complete one random act of kindness each week.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, you reached out to the woman in her mess and distress, with words of kindness and not condemnation. Help us to reach out to people around us with your gift of love, as together we can change the world one person at a time. Amen

The next **Messy Church** is
on **Sunday 19th May 2019 3:30** as usual in the hall.

Please put the date in your diary and invite other families to come with you.
Dates for other Messy Church services on the third Sunday of each month in 2019 are -

NO Messy Church in April - it's Easter Sunday

19th May ; 16th June; 21st July; 18th Aug; 15th Sept; 20th Oct; 17th Nov and 15th December

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.

In the coming weeks, please think about Messy Church and if you could be a helper. We usually run 6 activities each month, could you help with one of them? Talk to Peter or one of the other leaders for more information.

Next Sunday, 24th 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 **NCD survey 2019** follows the service please stay and help us identify what we as a church should do more of, less of or new. It takes 20 minutes.

For more information email or visit our website

messychurch@allsaintscoton.org www.allsaintscoton.org

ASCC Messy Church No 61



All Saints, Chilvers Coton

Sunday 17th March 2019 in the Parish Hall

Welcome to Messy Church

Dusty drawing

Jesus turns his attention to those who have so proudly brought a 'sinner' to public view by reminding them that they also are sinners.

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 Story: "Dusty Drawing"

Bible Bit.

But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered round him, and he sat down to teach them. The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, 'Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?' They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, 'Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.' Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. Jesus straightened up and asked her, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?'

'No one, sir' she said.

'Then neither do I condemn you,' Jesus declared. 'Go now and leave your life of sin.' John 8:1-11

At first reading, this story may seem to be about someone breaking their marriage vows. Interestingly, the other person with whom the woman was caught is not brought before Jesus, so we only have one half of the couple being accused. Rather than focusing on the woman and her actions, Jesus turns his attention to those who have so proudly brought this 'sinner' to public view. We have no idea what Jesus wrote in the dirt. While it might be fascinating to try to speculate, it would take away from the central focus of Jesus' active message.

By his action, Jesus demonstrated that this woman whom others had named as a 'sinner' was as much a person of worth as those who accused her. And Jesus goes further by demonstrating that he was someone who would accept her and not judge her.

Jesus' desire for all people is for each one, no matter their station in life, their background or anything, to live abundantly as people of worth. Each one is a daughter or son of God; each one is created in the image of God. By lifting up the woman as a person of worth and not focusing on her past action, Jesus was pointing to the power and wonder of forgiveness and grace. People's pasts do not have to dictate their whole future. Change and transformation are possible. Each person has a responsibility to live as a daughter or son of God and to treat every other person with the same respect. This is really hard and requires discipline and practice. The old Jewish understanding of 'sin' was 'not to live up to the potential for which you were created by God'. Living up to our potential in Christ, and enabling others to work towards becoming more and more like Jesus, is the aim or target of our lives and ministry. For me, this lifelong goal is possible only through the ongoing work of the Spirit in my life, I hope it is the same for you.

Messy reflection by Greg Ross



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

1 Decorating stones

Talk about how we can change potentially damaging objects into objects of beauty. Think about the words we use when we speak to others - do they hurt or heal? How did Jesus interact with the woman who was brought before him?

You will need; small smooth stones or pebbles; aprons; permanent markers; Use permanent markers to decorate smooth pebbles. Leave these to dry

2 Paperchain of friendship

Talk about different ways of being kind and how to be a good friend.

You will need: A4 sheets of paper; scissors; coloured pens

Fold the A4 sheet in half (from top to bottom) and then in half again, so that the original width of the A4 sheet is still available. Turn the folded paper so that it is tall and thin rather than short and wide. On the top column of paper, draw an outline of a person so that the arms and feet go right to the edge. Cut out the person shape so that the result is four people with their hands and feet joined. Think of four different ways to be kind and write each of these ideas on a paper person. You may like to display these.

3.Sand writing

Talk about what Jesus might have written in the sand, and what message you might want to write to Jesus. Shake the tray when you have finished so that someone else can have a turn.

You will need: a tray with a thin layer of sand. Use your fingers to draw or write a message in the sand.

4.Emoji biscuits

Talk about the emoji you have chosen. Who does it represent in the story? When have you ever felt like this?

You will need: round biscuits; yellow icing; black icing pens; small sweets (e.g. Smarties); print -out of different emojis; plates; spoons for the icing Choose an emoji that represents one of the emotions of the characters in the story, for example anger, worry or sadness. Ice the biscuit with yellow icing and suitable decorations.



5 Second-chance craft pencil and pen pot

Talk about how recycling gives unwanted items another chance. How did Jesus give the woman in the story another chance? How do you think that made the woman feel?

You will need: empty tin cans (make sure the exposed edge is not too sharp); strip of coloured card, felt tip pens and decorations. Wrap the card round the can and secure with sticky tape. Decorate it to make it look nice.

6 Friendship bracelets

Talk about the friends you have, what makes a true friend? How can you be a friend to those you meet? How is Jesus your friend?

- Take three strands of wool and knot both ends.
- Hold one end still (or tape it to the table) and then twist the strands until it is tightly twisted.
- Put the two ends together and it will twist itself together.
- Thread the knotted ends through the other end (middle) to make a bracelet



Extra time! Ball shot