

JUNIOR CHURCH NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2011

Welcome back & we hope you all had a lovely Christmas

Sunday routine

The parish centre opens at 9.20 for dropping off & to give parents time to get back to church for the 9.30 service.

We gather on the carpet for a welcome prayer, collection & sharing news. Then we have the main story. We use support material from Godly Play, which retells the bible stories using wooden figures, or Roots, which is a lectionary based resource programme. Both are especially for children.

After this we usually split into 2 groups for age appropriate crafts relating to the story. Sometimes we have a feast which is a drink & a biscuit.

We aim to return to church for the peace as the Clergy like the children to receive communion/blessing with the main congregation. The children are encouraged to sit with the junior church group in the front pews & are there for you to collect at the end of the service to go into coffee & cakes together.

On the second Sunday of the month there is a family worship service at the main Church & there is no junior church. Each church group takes a turn at the family worship service to do the 'sermon slot'. Junior church's turn is in July.

At either the end or the beginning of term we have a party. On these days you will need to pick up your child from the parish centre.

We also have a turn on the coffee Rota. This our main way of raising funds for use in junior church activities. Any cake donations are gratefully received.

Junior church is involved in a wide range of activities in church. This year we have been involved in Good Friday 'walking with Jesus', the summer fete, the pumpkin festival, christingle, & the nativity.

Every Sunday we take a collection from the children. This goes towards our chosen children's charity for the term. We usually take it in turns to choose a home charity & then an overseas charity. In the past we have made donations to the smile train, race for life, mizpah homes (an Indian charity providing shelter, a place of safety, food & education for homeless street children). Recently we have been sponsoring a Kenyan boy called Daniel through Action Aid.

Parents are welcome to stay with their child to settle them or even stay for the whole session.

If you think you would like to become a junior church leader. We currently have 10 leaders & more are always welcome. Please contact Michelle Hudson @ michelle.hudson.home@ntlworld.com

TERM DATES

9th January ✓	16 th January Family Worship	23rd January ✓	30th January ✓
6th February ✓	13 th February Family Worship	20th February Half Term	27 th February ✓
6th March ✓	13 th March Family Worship	20th March ✓	27th March ✓
3rd April ✓	10 th April ✓		

Please complete a **child registration form** - these are available when you drop off your children. All children attending Junior Church **MUST** have one completed by their parents or guardians.

COFFEE ROTA DATES

This term we have 6 Feb., 6 March, 3 April. Cake donations are most gratefully received. If you have one then pop it on the table in the annex. Be sure to collect your plate/tin before you go.

DIARY DATES

Has ST. Michaels got talent? Talent show open to all ages is on Saturday March 18 @7pm. Contact Lynn Lovejoy on 07758838091 for details.

Ash Wednesday service is on 9 March. See the pew sheet for details.

Sunday 8 May is junior church's' welcome back party. Please pick up from the parish centre after church.

OTHER CHILDRENS GROUPS

Toddlers, Thursday morning term time at church at 9.30. Contact Sally Bottomer 0796 7208181

Church 4 u, 3rd Sunday of the month at ST. Michaels at 4pm. Contact Sally Bottomer

4th Sunday of the month at Jennets Park at 4 pm. Contact Sally Bottomer

Youth Emmaus, 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month in the annex. Contact sally Bottomer

PLEASE ENSURE WE HAVE A COMPLETED, VALID REGISTRATION FORM. THIS IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT.

PLEASE NOTE NO TOYS OR SWEETS ARE ALLOWED IN EITHER JUNIOR CHURCH OR MAIN CHURCH AS IT CAUSES DISRUPTION TO THE GROUP. YOUNG CHILDREN MAY HAVE A COMFORTER.

IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE EVACUATION, WE WILL GATHER AT THE MEETING POINT, HAVE A ROLL CALL & YOU MAY COLLECT YOUR CHILD FROM A LEADER.