

## Messy Church at St Nicks

# Messy News

Fridays from 3.15pm at St Nicholas Church, The Linces, Dover CT16 2BN

Happy New Year!

We hope you had a lovely Christmas, it was great to see some of you with us for our Christingle and Carols round the Crib service on Christmas Eve.

Sean and I look forward to helping us explore together more of what it means to know Jesus and to be one of his followers today.

Between now and the summer, we will be taking a good look at the life of Jesus, starting with his early years and journeying towards his final days on earth and beyond. We are exciting about this because knowing Jesus in our lives has been such a life-changing experience we want to share.

You'll find more details in this edition of our Messy News.

*Nigel*



Christmas Eve – Carols round the Crib

## January to July - Journeying with Jesus

We normally meet from 3.15pm on Fridays during term time. The dates we intend to meet are shown below along with the theme, you will see that there are some additional weeks when we won't meet this is because Sean or I have other commitments.



### January

25<sup>th</sup> Jesus: the early days (The Nativity and Presentation of Christ in the Temple)

### February

1<sup>st</sup> NO MESSY CHURCH (Nigel/Sean away)

8<sup>th</sup> Jesus: the early years

15<sup>th</sup> Jesus and John the Baptist

22<sup>nd</sup> NO MESSY CHURCH (Half term)

### March

1<sup>st</sup> Jesus tests his calling

8<sup>th</sup> Jesus shares his calling

15<sup>th</sup> Jesus: teaching about himself

22<sup>nd</sup> Jesus: teaching about God

29<sup>th</sup> Jesus: teaching about the Kingdom

### April

5<sup>th</sup> Jesus: teaching about how to behave

12<sup>th</sup> NO MESSY CHURCH (Easter School holiday)

19<sup>th</sup> GOOD FRIDAY - NO MESSY CHURCH (Easter School holiday)

26<sup>th</sup> Jesus' signs and wonders: water into wine

### May

3<sup>rd</sup> Jesus' signs and wonders: healing a paralysed man

10<sup>th</sup> Jesus' signs and wonders: feeding a great big crowd

17<sup>th</sup> Jesus' signs and wonders: Lazarus

24<sup>th</sup> Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey

31<sup>st</sup> NO MESSY CHURCH (Half term)

### June

7<sup>th</sup> Jesus washes his friends' feet

14<sup>th</sup> Jesus shares a last meal with his friends

21<sup>st</sup> Jesus is arrested and crucified

28<sup>th</sup> Jesus is alive! (Nigel away in Brugges)

### July

5<sup>th</sup> Jesus leaves his friends with a promise

12<sup>th</sup> Jesus sends his friends a present



## Photo Gallery

Here are some photos mostly from last year...



### A prayer for each new day...

Lord be with me when I wake  
and guide me through the day;  
when I am stressed and troubled  
move closer Lord I pray.  
Even when I'm free from care  
never let me stray;  
then I'll feel your presence Lord  
a true friend along life's way.

## Celebrating a Birthday!

We love to wish you a happy birthday and to enjoy a birthday cake when we gather for Messy Church close to your birthday. Please let Nigel know your birthday (day and month) so we don't leave anyone out.



## Who are we & what do we do?

We are the 'congregation' that meets regularly at St Nicks' church; we strive to be...

An all-age worshipping community which is:

- centred on Jesus Christ
- warm, friendly and hospitable
- creative and fun

## What happens?

### 3.15pm - Arrival

Refreshments are available as people arrive and some colouring / quizzes which introduce the theme

### 3.45pm - Welcome & craft activity

We use crafts and our creativity to help us explore the theme a bit more

### 4.30pm - Act of worship

Consisting of a song, story/drama & prayer

### 4.45pm - "Bring & Share" Tea

We end with a simple sandwich tea (people bring food to share, drinks are provided)

### 5.15pm - End

You are welcome to take home anything you've made at Messy Church

**There is NO COLLECTION** - but if you'd like to make a donation as well as bringing some food to share that would be lovely.

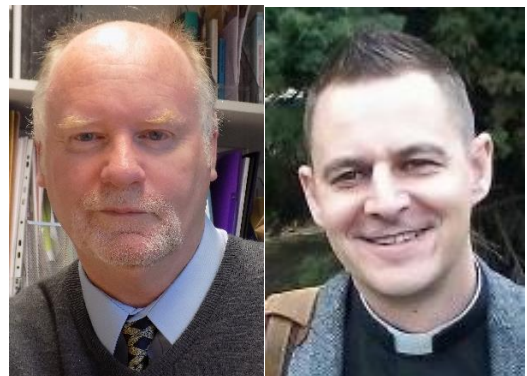
## Who is Messy Church for?

There is a focus on families, but really it is for **ANYONE!**

It is a church 'service', but perhaps not like one you've been to before. You would be most welcome to come and give it a try.

## Messy Church Leaders

**Nigel Collins** (below left) is the lay minister of Cross-Links and assistant minister of Buckland parish. He set up our Messy Church some years ago. **Revd Sean Sheffield** (below right) is the curate of the Dover Town parishes.



**All are welcome**