

Anglican Parish of Christ Church Essendon

# Children & Family Ministry 2020



## Anglican Parish of Christ Church Essendon

Cnr Mt Alexander Rd and Marco Polo St, Essendon

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### WHAT IS MESSY CHURCH?

Messy Church (started in an Anglican Church in England) has successfully spread all around the world including Australia. Life can be complicated especially for families. It can be difficult to find time to do things as a family. Messy Church is a place for families to do things together in a safe, Christian environment that is fun and meaningful and messy. Messy Church is not Sunday School or kid's club but a monthly event for children and their parents or carers.

### WHO COMES TO MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church is for families (Mum and Dad, primary aged children and younger) to come and enjoy being together with other families. We make things together, eat together and celebrate God together.

**You do not have to be a Churchgoer to go to Messy Church.** It is open for adults who bring a child / children and come as a family.

### LEADERS

We have a leadership team (all with 'Working with Children' & Police checks) who monthly plan sessions. Our leaders love God and enjoy doing Church differently. They are very excited about this opportunity for families to celebrate together. We provide a welcoming environment for learning and sharing. Messy Church is one way to enable your children to make an informed religious choice when they are older.

### COSTS?

There is no cost for Messy Church, however we welcome a donation towards the meal.

### WHAT HAPPENS AT MESSY CHURCH?

Messy Church is usually on the first Sunday in the month at Christ Church Anglican Church Essendon. We start in the Parish Centre – enter through the door next to the Op Shop in Mt Alexander Rd, Essendon.

We meet Jesus when we

4pm CHILL TOGETHER welcome & chat

4.15pm CREATE TOGETHER simple messy crafts

5pm CELEBRATE TOGETHER simple worship

5.15pm CHEW TOGETHER share simple meal

6pm FINISH TOGETHER

### DATES FOR 2020

#### First Sunday in Month

**Sunday 2nd February 2020**

**Sunday 1st March 2020**

**Sunday 12th April 2020**

Easter Sunday (2nd Sunday)  
come to 9.30am Sunday service  
for simple Messy Easter for children

**Sunday 3rd May 2020**

**Sunday 7th June 2020**

**Sunday 5th July 2020**

**Sunday 2nd August 2020**

**Sunday 6th September 2020**

**Sunday 4th October 2020**

**Sunday 1st November 2020**

**Sunday 6th December 2020**

**Sunday 20th December 2020**

5pm Parish BBQ &  
7pm Carol Service



# **FAMILIES@4**

## Church with a difference

### **WHAT IS FAMILIES@4**

Families@4 is an opportunity for young families to connect with our Anglican Church but do it differently in a child friendly environment.

### **WHO COMES TO FAMILIES@4?**

This service is for young families who want to connect with the church in a meaningful way, and new families wishing to participate in a child and family focussed service with time made available for fellowship with other young families. All members of the family unit encouraged to come along including mums, dads, children, grandparents &c...

All people are welcome as we are all part of God's family.

### **LEADERS**

We have a leadership team (all with 'Working with Children' & Police checks) who monthly plan sessions. Our leaders are very excited about this opportunity for families to celebrate together.

### **COSTS?**

There is no cost, however we welcome small donations to maintain this program.

### **WHAT HAPPENS AT FAMILIES@4?**

Families @ 4 is usually on the third Sunday in the month at Christ Church Anglican Church Essendon. We start in the Parish Centre – enter through the door next to the Op Shop in Mt Alexander Rd, Essendon.

4pm	Fun Activity
4.15pm	Afternoon Tea
4.30pm	Family Worship
5pm	Finish

### **FAMILIES@4 DATES FOR 2020** Third Sunday in Month

4pm Sunday 16th February 2020

4pm Sunday 15th March 2020

4pm Sunday 19th April 2020

4pm Sunday 17th May 2020

4pm Sunday 21st June 2020

4pm Sunday 19th July 2020

4pm Sunday 16th August 2020

4pm Sunday 20th September 2020

4pm Sunday 18th October 2020

4pm Sunday 15th November 2020

Sunday 20th December 2020  
5pm Parish BBQ & 7pm Carol Service

We are a child safe church  
meaning we want all children  
to feel safe & welcomed

We are a child safe church  
meaning we listen to and act  
on any concerns children,  
or their parents, raise with us



## CHRIST CHURCH KIDSPACE

The Kidspace is run during the  
9.30am Sunday Eucharist service

and has activities which are done at the back of the church in an area allocated for children and family. Children remain within the body of the church during the service and participate in activities based on the theme of the day. All children are encouraged to go to approach the altar for a blessing during communion time. Following the service all gather in the Church Hall with light refreshments and fellowship. There is someone rostered on each week so that parents can participate in the worship service and focus on their prayers and the liturgy. The children remain with the congregation during the service so you will always be able to look back and see how your children are going.

## CHRIST CHURCH CHILDREN & FAMILY SPECIAL ACTIVITIES



### 1. FAMILY BBQ

Friday 28th February 2020

6pm to 7.30pm Family BBQ

Bring a salad to share & drinks

Chance to meet other young families

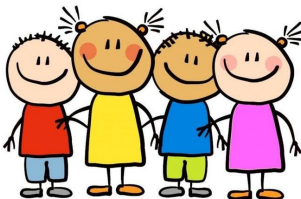
### 2. FAMILY FILM NIGHT

Friday 26th June 2020 - 7pm to 9pm Special family film night in Parish Hall with large screen  
Family Film to be announced.

### 3. FAMILY PICNIC

Sunday 25th October 2020 - 12noon to 2pm Special family picnic at Woodland Park.

Bring your pets and your food and drink plus a folding chair and chat to other families.



## CHRIST CHURCH PLAYGROUP

The Christ Church Essendon play group for mothers, dads and / or grandparents and preschool children runs on Wednesdays 10.30am to 12noon during the School term in the Parish Hall – enter via path in Marco Polo Street Essendon – all families are very welcome

### Our commitment to child safety

We commit ourselves to valuing diversity and do not tolerate any discriminatory practices. We are taking steps towards promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of **all** children and families including children of Aboriginal descent, children of culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds and children with a disability. We actively encourage the participation of children of all levels of ability and their families.