

# Children, Youth & Families

OCTOBER 2025

St George's - Claines - St Stephen's

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As the clocks change and the nights grow longer, this season can feel a little darker — outside, and sometimes inside too. But it's also a moment to pause and remember the light and hope we have in Jesus.

Whether we're watching fireworks sparkle in the sky, wrapping up warm for an autumn walk, or gathering together in church or community, His love continues to shine — steady, comforting, and bright.

*"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."* — **John 8:12**

This month, let's take time to celebrate that light — at home, in our prayers, and in the everyday moments that remind us we're not alone. Let's hold onto the good things ahead, together.

This newsletter is written to let you know things of interest for your families, however children are most welcome at any of our services. Please don't worry about the noise! Each church has a children and young persons space, with toys, books and activity sheets to keep little ones occupied. For information email **[cypfwr3@gmail.com](mailto:cypfwr3@gmail.com)**



# Light Trail

SUNDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

5-7PM

START AT CLAINES PARISH HALL,  
CORNMEADOW LANE, WR37NY

CLAINES, ST STEPHEN'S & ST GEORGE'S CHURCH ARE  
JOINING TOGETHER TO HOST A FAMILY LIGHT TRAIL  
REFLECTING ON THE LIGHT OF CHRIST!

FOLLOW THE TRAIL TO UNSCRAMBLE A SPECIAL SENTENCE  
THEN HEAD BACK TO THE PARISH HALL FOR

**FREE HOT DOGS AND HOT CHOCOLATE**

EVERYONE WELCOME - COME AND ENJOY THE FUN!

*Free Event  
Book Online using QR Code*





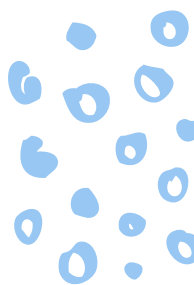
# Half Term Highlights

## FAMILY FILM NIGHT: A SWEET SUCCESS!

*St Stephen's was filled with warmth and laughter as 60 of us gathered to enjoy Wonka together during half term.*

*Children in pyjamas nestled into bean bags and cushions at the front, snuggled under blankets as the story unfolded. Popcorn, fizzy drinks, and hotdogs were devoured, while adults sipped tea and coffee and shared in the fun.*

*A heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who made this evening possible – your care brought joy to every corner. And thank you to all the families who joined us. Your presence made the night truly special.*



## PUMPKIN PARTY

*Families came together this half term for an autumnal celebration, filled with crafts, tasty treats, and joyful moments at St George's Church Pumpkin Party, hosted by St George's Mother's Union.*

*Thank you to everyone who joined us – and to all those who helped make the event happen. Your time, care, and enthusiasm brought the celebration to life.*





# BUBBLE CHURCH

**Launching this January at Claines Church!**

A joyful early morning Sunday Church service bursting with fun, faith, & croissants, created especially for babies, toddlers & young families!

**What to expect:**

It's a puppet-packed  
Jesus-centred

Coffee & croissants fuelled  
30 minute children & family adventure





# BUBBLE CHURCH

BUBBLE CHURCH BEGAN AT ASCENSION BALHAM IN 2020, DURING A TIME WHEN CHURCHES WERE CLOSED DUE TO COVID AND ONLY ALLOWED TO REOPEN FOR SOCIALLY DISTANCED “BUBBLES.” WITHIN JUST A FEW MONTHS, BUBBLE CHURCH AT ASCENSION WAS WELCOMING OVER 100 PEOPLE EACH WEEK. WITH SUPPORT FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND, IT HAS NOW LAUNCHED IN MORE THAN 80 CHURCHES ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

BUBBLE CHURCH IS A SERVICE JOYFULLY DESIGNED FOR PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES AND THEIR FAMILIES. FAMILIES SIT TOGETHER ON A “BUBBLE MAT” (A SMALL CIRCULAR CARPET) AND TAKE PART IN A SHORT, INTERACTIVE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE. EACH SERVICE INCLUDES:

- ACTION SONGS
- A BIBLE STORY (WITH PUPPETS!)
- A CREATIVE RESPONSE
- A “GOD SPOT” WHERE CHILDREN OFFER PRAYERS OF THANKS AND PRAISE
- BEAUTIFUL LITURGY, ALL WRAPPED INTO A 25-30-MINUTE SERVICE

LAST MONTH, SEVEN OF US—A SMALL BUT MIGHTY TEAM LED BY LORRAINE, OUR BUBBLE CHURCH CHAMPION—TRAVELLED TO LONDON FOR TRAINING AT ASCENSION CHURCH. WE CAME AWAY INSPIRED AND EXCITED, AND WE’D LOVE TO INVITE YOU TO BE PART OF THIS MISSION.

IF YOU FEEL CALLED TO JOIN US IN DELIVERING BUBBLE CHURCH SERVICES, WE’D BE THRILLED TO WORK TOGETHER.

IF YOU’D LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT BUBBLE CHURCH AND HOW IT WILL RUN AT CLAINES, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO REACH OUT TO ANY OF OUR CORE TEAM: LORRAINE, HEATHER, REV SARAH, ANNETTE, JUDY, TAM AND GAYE.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR TAKING THE TIME TO CONSIDER THIS—WE’D LOVE TO JOURNEY TOGETHER WITH YOU IN THIS JOYFUL MINISTRY.





# Stay and Play Update

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At a recent St. George's PCC (Parochial Church Council) meeting Heather proposed starting a stay and play morning for pre-school children. This was approved but the discussion turned to practical matters and one of these was storage particularly of larger pieces of play equipment. A shed was agreed upon, and a donation was offered. From this an area was selected but it had a huge buddleia bush, a large mound of compost, wood, bricks and various other items on it.

So, a working party was organised and the buddleia cut down and chopped up before being dispatched to the tip. Then the stump was taken out.

All the wonderful, old bricks were looked at and it was decided they could be reused as a solid foundation for the shed.

We also wanted to be part of the solid foundation so we wrote our names on the bricks. They won't be seen again after the shed is erected but just as our faith is our solid foundation we know they're there and they will give this shed (and the stay and play group) a strong, faithful base.

The compost was cleared and all the other stuff removed after a second working party.

We are now at the point of finishing laying the base and a path. The shed has been ordered and will be erected on the 2nd January, 2026. It will be called 'Geoff's shed' and we are grateful for the donation to enable this to happen. We are also grateful for all the hard work that has gone into this project for the love, energy and care that has helped bring it to life.

**Lyn Crowther**



# FOREST CHURCH

"THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD; THE  
SKIES PROCLAIM THE WORK OF HIS HANDS.  
DAY AFTER DAY THEY POUR FORTH SPEECH;  
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT THEY REVEAL KNOWLEDGE.  
THEY HAVE NO SPEECH; THEY USE NO WORDS;  
NO SOUND IS HEARD FROM THEM.  
YET THEIR VOICE GOES OUT INTO ALL THE  
EARTH, THEIR WORDS TO THE ENDS OF THE  
WORLD."

—PSALM 19:1-4

ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH PCC HAS APPROVED THE  
INTRODUCTION OF FOREST CHURCH—A NEW WORSHIPPING  
COMMUNITY FOR ALL AGES, MEETING OUTDOORS WITH  
WORSHIP SHAPED BY THE NATURAL WORLD, THE CHANGING  
SEASONS, AND THE WONDER OF GOD'S CREATION.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT MORE AND WOULD LIKE TO  
BE INVOLVED, EMAIL [HEATHER.CYPFWR3@GMAIL.COM](mailto:HEATHER.CYPFWR3@GMAIL.COM)



# Salt & Light

## Chocolate Slabs

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*This activity offers you and your family a chance, in the darker days of the year, to pause together, share conversation, and bring the light and love of Jesus into the heart of your home.*



## INGREDIENTS

A bar of chocolate, or two  
(vegan, milk, or dark will  
all work)

Pretzels

Sprinkles

Chocolate chips

Marshmallows/sweets

## DIRECTIONS

1. Melt your chocolate—microwave or bowl over boiling water.
2. Pour onto a lined tray and spread to 2–5mm thickness.
3. Sprinkle your chosen toppings and chill in the fridge to set.
4. While it sets, gather your family around the toppings.

Use each ingredient to spark reflection:

- Pretzels: What's salty in your life? What annoys or upsets you
- Sprinkles: Where can you sprinkle love and light?
- Chocolate chips: They're strong—Psalm 27:1 says, "The Lord is the stronghold of my life." What does that mean to you
- Marshmallows/sweets: They bring comfort. The verse reminds us not to be afraid. What comforts you?

*Psalm 27:1 Of David.*

*1 The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?*

*The Lord is the stronghold<sub>1</sub> of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?*



Join us for an exciting Autumn Term of fun activities!

# PATH OF GOD YOUTH GROUP



**16:00–18.00**

**14<sup>th</sup> September, 28<sup>th</sup>  
September, 12<sup>th</sup> October,  
2<sup>nd</sup> November, 16<sup>th</sup> November,  
30<sup>th</sup> November**

**The Bishop Allenby  
Hall, St Stephen's  
Church, WR3 7HS**

**for 9–15year olds**



# Upcoming Events

16th November  
Normal POG

30th November  
POG All IN

## Join Us!

Come be part of POG, where fun meets faith! Dive into exciting activities, build lasting friendships, and grow spiritually in a welcoming and vibrant community.  
Don't miss out—there's a place for you here!

EMAIL HEATHER - CYPFWR3@GMAIL.COM

# Relaxed Services

## CONNECT

*St Stephen's Church*  
WR3 7HS

First Sunday of every month.  
10.00am

A more relaxed and informal Service of the Word, suitable for all and any ages. You're invited to stay for refreshments after the service.



## CAFE CHURCH

*St George's Church*  
WR1 1HX

Second Sunday of every month  
10.30am

We aim to provide an inclusive and accepting space for everyone. Cafe Church is an informal service where there is discussion, creativity, prayer and contemporary worship led by the Worship Band. We value hospitality and there is toast, tea and coffee available throughout the service.

Cafe Church is held in the Magdalene Room so that we have the space for tables as well as chairs and play mats.



## CAFE CHURCH

*Claines Parish Hall*  
WR3 7NY

Third Sunday of every month,  
10.30am

Come and share great coffee, warm toast and fresh fruit. We invite you to a new start on Sunday where families and all ages can share music and conversations about life and faith, within a relaxed cafe setting.





# Regular Groups

## JAM: JESUS AND ME

*St George's Church  
WR1 1HX*

Our children and young people's worship takes place during the 10.30am Sunday service on the first and third Sundays of each month. It's a dedicated time to learn about God and faith and get to know one another.



## SUNDAY STARS

*St Stephen's Church  
WR3 7HS*

An interactive church service for pre-schoolers and their families held in the church hall (Bishop Allenby Hall) from 9.00-9.30am with coffee and croissants on arrival and breakfast for the little ones.

**Sunday Stars is now every 4<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday of the month!**

## MESSY CHURCH

*St George's Church  
WR1 1HX*

Messy Church is church for families and others. It is Christ-centred, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration. Join us for worship, food and messy fun! Messy Church takes place the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every other month excluding August. (February, April, June, October, December)



## LITTLE FISH

*Claines Parish Hall*  
*WR3 7NY*

A midweek toddler church for little ones and their carers. Every third Tuesday of the month during term time. 10-11.15am. It's usually in the parish hall but special services at Easter and Christmas happen at Claines Church. Join us for stories, songs, crafts and games telling the children of God's love for them.



## LITTLE STARS

*St Stephen's Church*  
*WR3 7HS*

A stay and play baby and toddler group meeting weekly during term time on Thursday afternoons. 1.30-3pm. Refreshments, snacks, toys, craft, singing and story time.



## LITTLE FRIENDS

*Claines Parish Hall*  
*WR3 7NY*

A stay and play baby and toddler group meeting during term time on Tuesday mornings (excluding the third Tuesday of each month) 10-11.30am, £1.50 for the 1st child and 50p for each additional child. Enjoy hot drinks, toast, healthy snacks, toys, activities, crafts, story time and music.





# Baptism & Confirmation

## Baptisms

### All Three Churches

If you have a new baby in your household, many congratulations! It's a time when many parents want to thank God for their child's arrival, marking that occasion in a special way with family and friends.

A clergy member from any of our three churches will be happy to discuss your child's baptism service and will usually visit you at home by arrangement.

We also perform adult Baptism services

## Confirmations

### All Three Churches

Confirmation is a special church service in which a person confirms the promises that were made when they were baptized. As a young person or adult, you may be ready to affirm these promises for yourself and commit your life to following Jesus Christ. At a confirmation service, you make these promises for yourself. Your friends and family, as well as the local Christian community will be there to promise to support and pray for you.



# We're looking for our next Junior Bishop and Bishop's Chaplain!

We're looking for two young people to be our next Junior Bishop & Chaplain. The roles are varied and run right throughout December. You'll be given opportunities to be involved in all sorts of services and Christmas events! Both roles are great fun and deeply encouraging for all involved.

## **Want to find out more?**

Email [revsarahcarwardine@gmail.com](mailto:revsarahcarwardine@gmail.com) for info or to ask for an application form.

Aimed at ages 10-16, but younger ages considered.

Installation service: 23rd November, 10:30am.







Fly a  
kite



Find a twin  
conker

Jump in  
leaves



Find the  
largest leaf



Forage  
for fruit



Take  
a crunchy  
leaf walk



Eat soup

Raindrop  
window  
race



Feed the  
birds



Create a  
wind chime



Make a  
scarecrow



Splash in a  
puddle



Bob for an  
apple



Go for a  
sunset  
wander



Make a  
leaf  
wreath



Create  
noughts &  
crosses with  
conkers and  
acorns



Build  
a den



Spot a  
squirrel

Find an acorn



Make a  
rainbow of  
leaves



Make a  
leaf crown



Drink hot  
chocolate  
outside

Go on a  
toadstool  
hunt



(don't eat them!)

Find a



feather

Find the  
biggest



pinecone



Go on  
a bat  
hunt



Star gaze

Make a  
mud pie



Make a hedgehog  
house



# Autumn

## CHALLENGE

