

## St Mary's Church Family Newsletter

Bringing you events and ideas from St Mary's and beyond,  
all suitable for families with children.



### Term Time Activities 2019/20:

**NOAH'S ARK** – for toddlers and pre-school children with their parents/ carers. Games, chat and a thought for the day. Lots of toys available and coffees/teas and soft drinks are on sale. Bring friends! Thursdays from 9:30am. **Thursday 12 December Noah's Ark Christmas Party!**

**FAMILY SERVICES** – short informal services suitable for families with young children. The children will participate in the service by sitting around the altar, and will move into the chancel for crafts during the talk. All year round on 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month.

**FAITH & FUN** – our Sunday morning group for children age 4-11 will be meeting during the 10am service in the Rutherwyke Room every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. Children will be called to join the group with the lighting of their special Faith & Fun Candle. Bible stories, songs, crafts, drama and children's prayers.

**HELPERS NEEDED** – for the above events. No prior experience needed. Interested? Contact Margaret Alderson: 01784 435292

**FOR PARENTS:** Do you have questions about life or faith? We are running a variety of courses twice a year. For more info or to express your interest/discuss dates and times, contact us via the mailer or [stmaryschurchthorpe@outlook.com](mailto:stmaryschurchthorpe@outlook.com) or speak to Fr Damian at the Vicarage: 01932 565986.

### Special Events:

**ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS FAMILIES DISCO** – Friday 6 December, 4–6pm. Great fun with disco lights, music and games, bring & share finger food buffet and Secret Santa for Fr Christmas to deliver. Don't forget to bring a plate of snacks and wrapped up present (one per child please). Do let us know if your children can come: [stmaryschurchthorpe@outlook.com](mailto:stmaryschurchthorpe@outlook.com)

**WINTER WONDERLAND** – Sunday 8 December, 2 – 6pm  
Stalls, food, games, tombolas, mulled wine, Grand Prize Draw – great prizes... 4pm Christingle Service followed by Santa's Grotto and BBQ!

**CRIB SERVICES** – Tuesday 24 December, 3pm + 5pm  
Interactive child-friendly services with nativity – everybody can play a part! Come dressed up as a donkey, cow, shepherd or angel, or apply for one of the characters (application form see page 2).

### Outside the Parish of Thorpe:

**WINTERSHALL NATIVITY** – Wintershall Estate, Bramley GU5 0LR.  
Wednesday 18 December – Sunday 22 December at varying times  
Bringing the story of Jesus' birth life in a stunning decorated barn in the Surrey hills! Perfect for families and unforgettable for all ages. Book your visit via the [Wintershall website](http://Wintershall website). Family tickets (2 adults/2 kids) £50.

**TEDDY CONCERT** – St John's Church Egham – Sunday 24 Nov – 3pm  
The Kings Orchestra presents a fun Christmassy interactive musical afternoon and you are invited to bring a teddy or dress up as one!  
For tickets please contact the Church Office on 01784 605400.