



DEC '25 - ISSUE 9

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Messy Church in November

Our theme for November was "Remembering".

The outside of the Church was decorated with a beautiful waterfall of Poppies. Each Poppy was individually made, then they were all sewn together ready for Shirley's Remembrance Parade.

Remembrance Sunday is where a service is held to remember those who bravely gave their lives to protect the people of our country. It is celebrated throughout the country. King Charles attends the one held in London.



LAST TIME

- We made **Bubble Pictures**, the bubbles disappeared but the pictures remained.
- We made **Stained Glass Windows**. Stained glass windows are seen inside churches and help us remember the Bible stories,
- We made **Poppy biscuits**, as we remembered those who served to protect us.
- We made **Kings and Camels**, to remember the birth of Jesus. These are decorating the Messy Church Christmas Tree as part of the Christmas Tree Festival at St James the Great. Our theme was "We Three Kings"
- We did **Dove's of Peace Prayers**, to remember the importance of peace as taught to us by Jesus.
- We played a **Memory Game**.
- We built a Lego Bridge



Joseph's Dreams

Joseph has dreams of the future and he brags to his brothers that one day they would bow to him.

The brothers were already jealous of Joseph as their father, Jacob, favoured Joseph and had given him a special coat.

When Joseph went out searching for his brothers one day, they stripped him of the special coat and threw Joseph into a pit.

They then sold him to Ishmaelites.

They dipped the special coat in goat's blood so that their father would believe that Joseph had been killed by wild animals.

They didn't see him again for many years. Joseph had a troubled life and even spent time in jail. But, his belief in God never failed. He continued to experience dreams of the future.

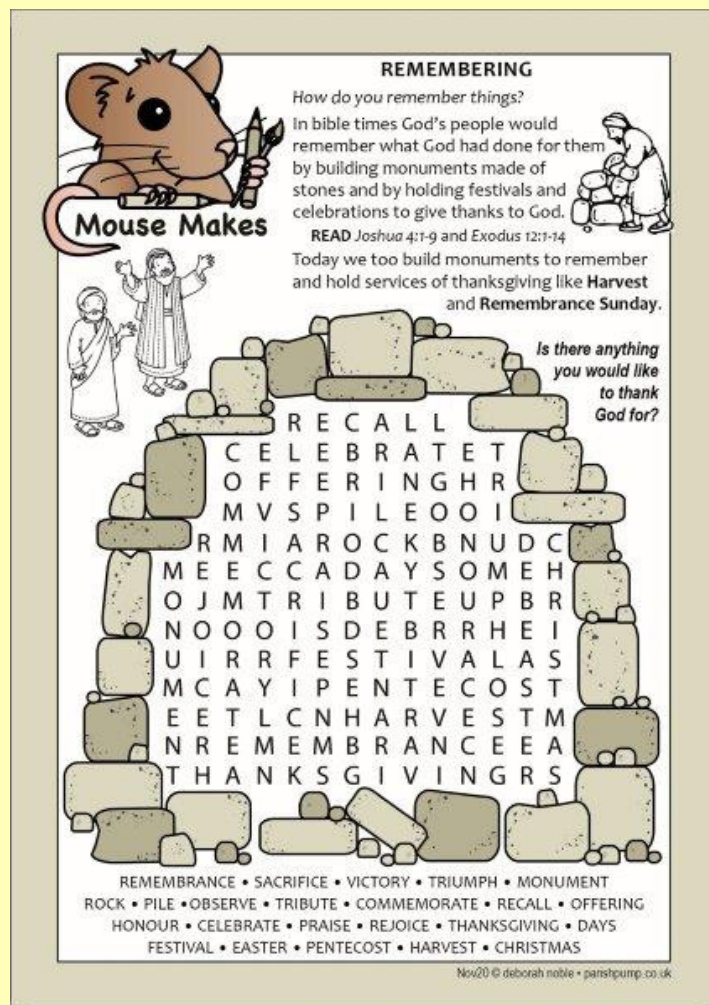
One day he had become a powerful governor.

At a time of famine his brothers unknowingly came to their brother Joseph for help.

Joseph came to forgive his brothers, who remembered what they had done to him and had changed their ways.

Joseph promised to help and care for them.

We would love you to write a prayer, or to draw a picture about our Messy Church activities, that we can put in our Messy Church Newsletter.
Give them to Rosemary at our next Messy Church.



Our Messy Church Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
you are awesome.
Show us who you are,
and who you want us to be.
Make earth more like heaven.
Please give us what we need to keep
going each day.
Help us when we are wrong,
and clean us up on the inside.
Help us to forgive others and to move
on.
Keep us from bad stuff.
You're in charge!
You're strong and powerful and always
there. Forever!
YES!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Messy Church - 20th December, 17th January

Worship4Everyone - 28th December, 25th January

Meet the Team

(With a difference!)

It's not a person I am talking about this month.

We hold our monthly Messy Churches at our Church, St James the Great.

St James was built in 1831, as part of the Parish of Solihull. In 1843 Shirley became a parish in its own right.

We have some lovely Victorian stained glass windows that tell Bible stories to us.

It has a simple stone font used for baptisms, some of which have taken place during Messy Church.

The graveyard has 23 war graves and a war memorial, where we remember those who died during our remembrance parade in November

Its a beautiful, historical building. But, more recently we have had a disabled toilet and kitchenette installed.

Those who were at November's Messy Church will also have felt the benefit of those cleverly designed heating chandeliers.



Remembrance Sunday



The New Heating Chandeliers



**Wishing you all a Very Happy
Christmas.
See you next Year.**