



SEP'26 - ISSUE 18

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

LAST TIME

We were at Saint John the divine Church. This church is part of Shirley Parish. We followed the theme of "Messy Forest Church" and had great fun.

- We did **Leaf Printing** - using an old-fashioned technique to get the sap out of the leaf.
- We made **Clay Plaques** - using natural materials to decorate them.
- We made **Bug Biscuits**.
- We made a **Big Bug Hotel** - (We had made a bug hotel for St James Church Previously.)
- We made **Butterflies** - We used paper plates for these.



Saint John the Divine Church, Tidbury Green.

St James the Great Church, and St John the Divine churches currently form Shirley Parish.

We work closely together and so it was great to be able to hold a Messy Church Session here in August.

It started life as a World War One Army Hut and was established as a "Mission Church" for the rural areas of Shirley, particularly Major's Green and Tidbury Green.

Saint John was one of Jesus' 12 disciples. He played a leading role in the early Christian Church. (One of the "Son's of Thunder" that we have talked about previously.)



Did you get your plants to grow in your bottle terrariums?
If you did send a photo to me to include in our next Newsletter.



Dear Jesus

Please help us to care for the beautiful plane you gave us,
Help us to appreciate the role of the mini beasts and to not be scared of them.

Help the mini beasts find our Bug Hotel so that they have a safe place to live.

Amen



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 - 19th Sep, 17th Oct

Worship4Everyone - 27th Sep (our Harvest Festival), 25th Oct

Why Mini Beasts Matter

Sometimes mini beast scare us, or annoy us, but they are a vital part of the ecological system.

Mini beasts eat dead leaves, droppings and dead animals and the waste goes back into the soil as nutrients that living plants use to survive.

They pollinate plants.

Lots of animals, like birds and bats for example, eat mini beasts as their food source.

Some mini beasts like bees can produce food for us (honey). Silk, a product that can be woven into textiles is made by the Silkworm larva.

We hope our local mini beasts love our Buginham Palace we made them.

