



Holy Habits *Sept. 2109*

I hope you had a good summer break and that the children are happy to be back at school.

This school year we are looking at 'Holy Habits' along with our Sunday congregation. What are Holy Habits I hear you asking?? Luke describes 10 habits in his account of the first Christian church community in the book of Acts (the 5th book in the New Testament section of the Bible). They are about how to be a disciple, a follower or learner of Jesus Christ. Being a disciple has been described as 'a journey of following Jesus throughout the whole of your life'. We never stop learning. The Holy Habits can be explained as 'ways to help us do this'. They are challenging and exciting and we will try to unpack them over the next few months so that we, together, learn how to be the best type of learner we can be.

The 10 habits are:

- Biblical teaching
- Fellowship - sharing our lives with each other
- Breaking of bread - sharing bread and wine at communion
- Prayer
- Giving - of our resources, money, property and time
- Service - Jesus only has our hands to do his work
- Eating together - sharing meals changes the dynamics of relationships
- Gladness and generosity - in our approach to God and living as disciples.
- Worship - a way of life but also learning how to respond to the wonder of God as individuals and collectively
- Making more disciples.

Apart from 'Eating together' and 'Gladness and generosity' they all sound a bit dry and churchy!!! But hang in, they are just words and sometimes we need words to succinctly describe something that is far more interesting than it may appear at first glance!!! Trust me....I have to prepare a lot of this stuff and I refuse to be bored! So, we will tackle them in our usual Messy Church way with activities, short story services and lots of food. We will not be doing them in the order above either and Christmas and Easter will still be Messy. Each month there will be a take home activity to do and maybe bring back next month to 'show and tell' - which is a way of encouraging each other. Put the activity in your prayer box and if you haven't got one or it has got battered, then I have a few spare...just ask.

Let the adventure begin..... Liz

Dates for your diary:

The Preston Community event will be held on **Saturday 14th September, 12-3pm in Preston Park**, Preston Manor Road, Stalls , activities and cake...

Sunday@Ten our monthly, family all age service. The next one is Sunday 15th September when we will launch our annual Shoebox appeal. The theme is generosity - looking at the story Elijah and the widow of Zarephath - does being poor stop you being generous?

St. Mark's Community Cinema

Sunday Sept. 29th Green Book (12) 7:30pm. Doors open at 7:15. Film finishes at 10pm. Break for refreshments.

Sunday 6th Oct. Rocketman (15) 7:30 pm. Doors open at 7.15. Film finishes at 9:45pm. Break for refreshments.

No admission fee - donations invited to cover costs

Tattenham Market returns after it's break on Saturday October 5th from 10 until 1pm,.....various stalls, coffee and cake cafe and hotdogs sold from mid day.

Gin Night Friday 11th October here at St. Marks. 7:30-11pm Tickets £20 from Des. Ticket price includes 3 Gin and Tonics on the theme of Autumn plus a create your own G&T, Ginformation, nibbles and fun!

Next **Messy Church** Tuesday Oct. 1st

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