

Family Newsletter

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Summer term 2007



The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed of what is going on in and around our parish church, so you can join in activities and meet new people and old friends. Linda Hauxwell, who has recently been awarded a diploma in counselling, and I are running a parenting skills workshop starting in a months time. Why not come along and gain some really useful skills in a relaxed and friendly environment. Family services are planned for the months ahead. They are designed to engage with all ages a challenge in the planning stage but great fun on the day. Why not check them out? Thinking about having your baby baptised? Then the section on baptism should interest you. Oh yes and who am I? I am Mary, an ordinand in training, who, after June will be able to baptise babies as well as do the other things I do at the moment such as assemblies, preach, lead homegroups and deacon at communion services. I can still remember the joys and challenges of bringing up a family.

You may have met me at the Toddlers service. Forgive me if I don't know your name yet but do come and say hello on a Wednesday morning.

Easter Family picnic

Get together with other parents and carers at Fortyfoot Rd Recreation ground between 12-2pm. Bring your own picnic and join in the fun on 4th April. If wet, we will meet in Christ Church Hall, Epsom Rd.



Thinking of having your child Baptised?

At the end of each Baptism service the exciting time arrives for the congregation to welcome their newest member into the family of God. Often the child is paraded up and down the aisle as old and young alike strain to get a glimpse, amid sighs of ooh and ahh. What is happening is the result of a process that started much earlier when the parents first contacted the church office to ask about Baptism. One of four friendly mums, all of whom have had their children baptised at the parish church, will visit the home of the child to welcome and answer any questions parents may have. Sophie Bessant, our Pastoral assistant, coordinates the Baptism team pictured above. From the left they are Catherine Diffy, Jane Andrews, Susan Thomas and Sophie Bessant. Nicola Taggart, not pictured above, is also a vital member of the team



Sunday Club

Spent all week doing schoolwork, tidying your room and playing Playstation? . . . then it's time to get out into the real world. The best place to be on Sunday mornings is hanging out with other people just like yourself - at Sunday Club (3-13years). If you want to join us for great fun with games, music, craft and stories just turn up at the Parish Church Hall at 10.15am on Sundays. (On the first Sunday of the month there is a Family Service for everyone in the Church at 10.30am) Be there or miss out! Further details from Chris Stagg 374914

Leatherhead Trinity School

The school and children's centre have been up and running since September last year, enthusiastically supported by the Methodist, United reformed and Anglican churches. The children's centre offers education, family services, health service and day care. It has recently received a glowing unannounced Ofsted report to be made public at the end of March. If you have children and are looking for good local schooling or day care Leatherhead Trinity is the place to be.

Revd. David Eaton

Parenting skills – natural or learned?

We are resuming the popular parenting skills workshops which we first started running over 10 years ago. The workshops are based on a course developed by the Family Caring Trust and aim to help parents to learn new skills, to look at family power structures and to develop respectful relationships within their families. The sessions are very friendly and relaxed; you can talk about your own experiences of parenting and share ideas with each other. You'll probably make some new friends along the way.

Each participant has their own handbook with information on the skills we shall be using. The cost of the course, including the handbook, is £10. We may be able to provide a crèche at an additional cost.



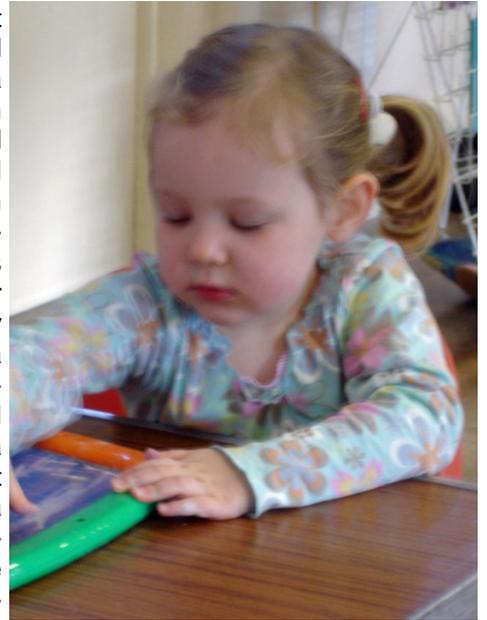
Linda Hauxwell & Mary Crudas are planning to run a weekly course of 6 to 8 workshops starting on Monday 4th June at 1pm including light lunch. If you are interested please email or phone the editors. Let us know your contact details, the ages of your children and whether you

would like a crèche provision.

Toddler Group

It is vital for children to interact with other children in order to help their development. At Toddlers there are opportunities for children to learn to share, take turns and to make friends with children in the same school year. Likewise, parents can chat to others who have similar concerns over sleepless nights, playgroups and more.

We provide a chance to get out of the house and have a cup of tea while the children play happily and have special events too such as Toddler Services, a Christmas Party and Easter Fun. On 30 May we will have a Children's Photographer so bring all your children for a group photo. Just turn up on a Wednesday morning in term time from 10am-12noon in the Parish Church Hall or call Jackie Burgess 278656



Summer Holiday Club

Summer may seem a long time away but already plans are afoot for an action packed week of fun, crafts, drama, singing and much more.....

The week begins on Monday 13th August at Christ Church, Epsom Rd, Leatherhead. This has always been a popular week so book early.

Booking forms will soon be available from Leatherhead Trinity School, the churches or Sue Friend on 813464



Keeping up to date

The children's group leaders from three Leatherhead churches got together recently for a days training in Godly play,. They were shown how to present stories that allowed children time and space to respond in their own way. Alison, the tutor is pictured using a variety of materials and models to bring the stories to life. There was time to chat over a home cooked lunch and to swap ideas over coffee and cake. Would you be interested in helping with children's work? If so, contact Chris Stagg.

Family Services

All age worship at 10.30am in the Parish Church with the music group

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| 1st April | Palm Sunday, Jesus arrives on a donkey |
| 8th April | Easter Day (11.00am) He is risen! |
| 6th May | Family Baptism |
| 3rd June | Golden Wedding Belles |
| 1st July | Family Service |
| 5th August | Family Service |

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