

# All Age Worship @ St Cuthberts



A Guide for parents and carers

**Hey everybody**

**'All Age' Worship - or 'family Worship' as it has sometimes been called - has had a bit of a chequered history in our Church. We've tried various things over the years, some have worked well for a time, others have been less successful...**

**This year we are making a real attempt to create a fresh start for All Age Worship. We are being blessed by God with a good number of families and children at the moment and very much want to try to do the best that we can to build and support our all age worship.**

**The following Sundays have been designated as All Age Worship Sundays. There will be All Age Worship at 'The Gathering' (11.00 am) on these days**

**March 1st**

**July 12th**

**September 27th**

**December 13th**

**Of course, children are ALWAYS welcome in Church. We are grateful for the fantastic work done by our children's ministry leaders. We also now have a weekly creche again at Church. All-Age worship is additional and complementary to these important ministries!**

## 8 ways in which parents and carers can help

1. Mark the dates of each of this years all-age services in your diaries or on your calendars, and plan to **definitely** be at church on those Sundays
2. We will produce a lively **worksheet** for you to use before you come to church - this will introduce the theme or topic for the service. It will be given out the week before, or download from our web site
3. Create a **positive vibe** about the service before you get there. *'Hey, we're going to be spending time worshipping Jesus together this morning... won't that be fun?'* is so much better than *'Oh, it's family worship today, I suppose that means you're going to be bored stiff in church this morning'*.
4. **Don't** bring books, comics or games consoles to *'keep them quiet'*. Instead, promise lunch at Pizza Hut afterwards if they participate! In other words, reward positive behaviour instead of assuming bored or disruptive behaviour...
5. Sit in near the **front**. The front row is even better! It is soooo much easier for us to engage the children if they are closer to the people leading. Why else do teachers get children to come and sit on the carpet at the front of class?
6. **Don't** take children out if they are noisy. It is All Age Worship - if older people don't like children being children then they can come to the 9.30 am service!
7. Sit **with** your children and work with them during the service. Help them to find pages, point out things on the screen, explain what is happening...
8. Encourage children to **participate**. If service leaders call for volunteers to come to the front, please encourage them to take part - maybe even come with them!

# Join us for our next All Age Worship



**Sunday March 1st @ 11.00 am**

**with special guest : Julie Wilkinson**

*Julie is a professional children's storyteller with the Zephaniah Trust and will be known to many of the children through her work in schools with John Froud*

STORY TELLING

PUPPET MINISTRY

SINGING

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

**A FAST-MOVING 50 MINUTE SERVICE FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS** (JUICE / SWEETS for the KIDS!)

**Coming Soon...** Messy Church

Creative play and all-age worship evangelistic outreach

*Would you like to be part of a team working (together with Noah's Ark leaders and others) to plan and deliver 'Messy Church' at St Cuthberts?*

Please chat with Nasreen Walker for more information