CONTACT

AUTUMN 2023

stmoluasonline.com



Church Services

Sundays

- @ 10.30am Morning Worship
- @ 4pm* Messy Church (2nd Sundays)
- @ 6.30pm* / Cafe Church / The Bible
 Course

(*For all service details, see weekly Pew News sheet)

Wednesdays

@ 10.30am Holy Communion (BCP Order One)

Keep up to date with our website:

stmolugsonline.com

Services are also broadcast live on Facebook, and will be uploaded later in the day to our website. You can also listen to the service by ringing the dedicated phone line on 028 9124 9396 (local rate call). Your call will be answered with an automated message confirming that you are through to St Molua's and that the service will start shortly.





Please do not hesitate to

let the Rector know if you or
a family member are in need
of pastoral support and
require a call or visit.
Please telephone the Rectory

(028) 9573 9347

CONTACT DETAILS

Revd. Emma Rutherford tel. 028 9573 9347 (Rectory)

Church Office: 028 9041 9171

Parish office open Wednesdays from 10am-12noon (during term time)

St Molua's Church, 645 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3LR

stormont@down.anglican.org

The Rectory,
3 Rosepark,
Belfast BT5 7RG

If the Rector is unavailable, details of Clergy providing pastoral cover will be on the Rectory answerphone.

What's on During term-time

ST MOLUA'S

Sunday

10.30am Morning Worship

4-6pm Messy Church (2nd week each month)

6.30pm Cafe Church (weekly, except 2nd week)

Monday

10am Little Angels Toddler Group 6pm Zumba with Gill

Tuesday

10am Men@10 (1st & 3rd week)
8pm Badminton
8pm Healing Service (1st week)

Wednesday

10.30am Holy Communion

2.30pm Craft & Chat (1st & 3rd week)

7.30pm Stormont Community Choir

7.30pm Dundonald Arts Club (1st & 3rd week)

Thursday

2.30pm Ladies Guild (2nd & 4th week)
7pm Zumba with Gill

Saturday

10am Sole Mates Walking Group (3rd week)
12noon Souper Saturday Lunch (2nd week)

For more information see: stmolugsonline.com

The Rector writes...



New term - new things!

The summer months have been great for rest and refreshment, but have also been a very busy time behind the scenes at St Molua's - as you'll see in this edition of Contact we have a busy term ahead!

NEW! **Little Angels** - our new Baby & Toddler group starts on Monday 11th September at 10am

NEW! The Bible Course starting on Sunday 17th September at 6.30pm

Groups are starting back: Community Choir, Badminton, Ladies Guild, Craft & Chat, Soup-er Saturday lunches, Messy Church, Men@10

Our Midweek Holy Communion services & Healing Services resume

Our **Harvest Thanksgiving Service** will be on **Sunday 1st October** at 10.30am when we will gather to give thanks for the abundant blessings of our lives. We give thanks to Almighty God for the food we eat, for the people who fill our lives



with love and happiness, and so much more. Please do plan to join us [and if you can, please bring some items for the **Food Bank**] and why not use the opportunity to invite someone to come along with you?

It's exciting when new things are happening, and other groups and events are back in the weekly and monthly schedule.

However, with so many things starting all at once (and perhaps feeling a little overwhelmed at the ever increasing workload) it was rather timely that I came across this little reflection on The Parish Pump resource website entitled:

'A grain of sand at a time'

This autumn, do you feel overwhelmed with all the things that you need to get done?



Then think of your life as an hourglass.

There are thousands of grains of sand in the top of the hourglass; and they all pass slowly and evenly through the narrow neck in the middle. We are like that hourglass.

When we start in the morning, there are hundreds of tasks which we feel that we must accomplish that day. But if we do not take them one at a time, and let them pass through the day slowly and evenly, as

do the grains of sand passing through the narrow neck of the hour glass, then we are bound to break our own fragile physical and mental structure. **Do not attempt more than God designed you to do**.

Wise advice. I must take note...!

Learn to be still before our God in the middle of the busyness. In Psalm 46:10 He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

When you're busy and burdened, know that you can find rest in God. Jesus says "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.(Matt.11:28-29)

Do take care of yourselves.

With every blessing,

Emma



Our 'Souper Saturday' lunches return on Saturday 14th October at 12noon. Come along and enjoy delicious soup and great hospitality. No charge, but there will be a donations tub for Christian Aid again this year.

We're back for a packed programme at **Messy Church** with our friends from Stormont Presbyterian. Join us on Sunday 11th September from 4-6pm at Stormont Presbyterian - check out the full 2023-24 programme



Stuck for Christmas gift ideas?

Why not purchase a St Molua's fundraising Flower Festival souvenir **calendar** which will be a great Christmas gift and keepsake! Priced at £10 it would be a great gift for family overseas - let's see how far our calendar can go!





"I'd love you to join me for the first of a new series of events for women in Down and Dromore. These will be times to gather together, to worship, hear God's word taught and applied to our lives, and to encounter Him in prayer and ministry. I do hope to see you on 30 September."

Hilary McClay

Hosted by: Hilary McClay

Speakers: Susan Heaney and

Nicola Moy

Programme

9.30am Coffee & registration

9.50am Welcome & worship

10.30am Talk 1

11.15am Brunch

12.00pm Talk 2

Worship: Jude Frame

The event will end at approximately 1.00pm, although prayer ministry may continue.

Tickets are £10 per person and include brunch.

Please book early as space is limited.



The Bible Course

Explore the BIG story

New to the Bible or want to go deeper? The Bible Course is for you. It shows how the key books, famous characters and epic events form one **BIG** story, from Genesis to Revelation. The course also provides **tools** and **skills** that help apply the Bible to everyday life.

This eight-session course is ideal for groups – big and small. Each session includes video content, discussion time, personal reflection and daily readings. Explore the BIG story and discover its relevance for today.

Come and discover more about this interactive course:

Where:

When:

At:

For more information and to book your place, contact:

Name:

Number:

Visit biblesociety.org.uk/thebiblecourse to find out more.

Prayers for Autumn



Dear Father in Heaven,

September is a time of change, a change of season, changes in many areas of our lives as a new term begins and new opportunities present themselves. It can be a time of challenge and uncertainty for many of us as well as excitement.

Thank you, Lord, that You never change, Your promises never change, Your Holy-Spirit inspired Word never changes. You are constant and rock-solid, always.

Help us to remember that You make all things new when we put our trust in Jesus, You give us new life and new ways of understanding. But help us also to remember that You never contradict Your revealed self. Help us always to check out our thinking with what You say in Your Word. Help us to be faithful to You as we take each step forward, each new day.

In Jesus name, Amen By Daphne Kitching



Dear Father,

Thank you for teachers. Thank you for their gifts of knowledge and communication. Please give them patience and understanding in their work and most of all the wisdom to listen to you and to be directed by your Kingdom values. Thank you for Jesus – the best teacher of all. Help us all to learn from Him that greatest of all lessons, that you are the living God, His Father and ours, and that you love us and want us to know you.

Father, as we pray and trust in the name of Jesus, our teacher and Lord, may that close knowledge of you become our reality. Amen.

The Secret of Living

The secret of living
Is learning to pray –
It's asking our Father
For strength for the day!

It's trusting completely
That His boundless grace
Will overcome care
And each problem we face!

It's walking by Faith
Every mile that we plod
And knowing our prayers
Bring us closer to God.
Anon









'craft & chat'

1st & 3rd Wednesdays 2.30 - 4pm

> Join us for Craft & a 'cuppa' in the Minor Hall.

Learn new crafts, or bring along whatever craft you're working on.

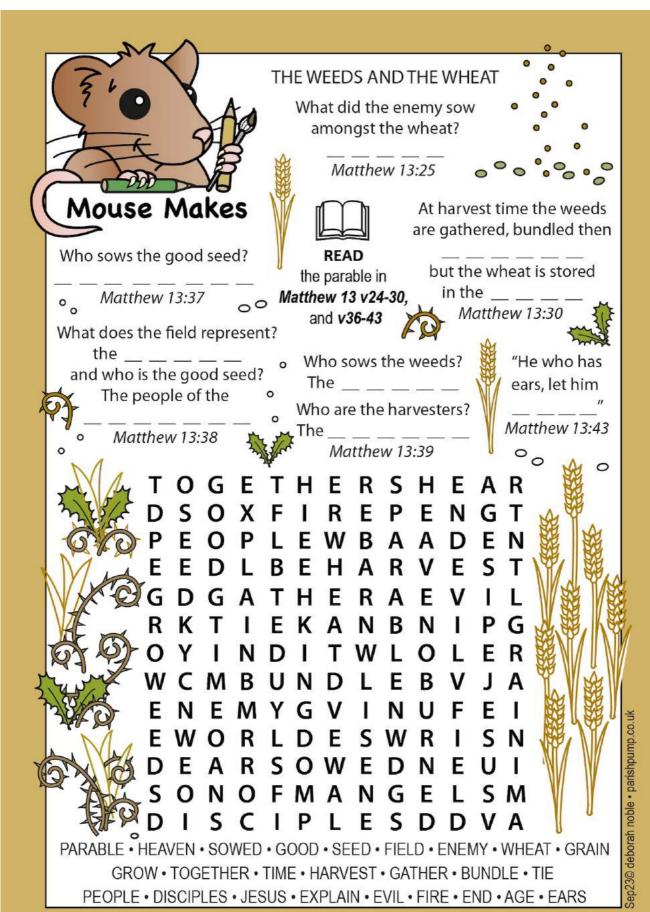
everyone welcome

Our 'craft & chat' group have been very busy during 2023. In addition to producing knitted flowers, bunting and cupcakes, for the Flower Festival in May, we have been knitting for the 'Reaching Hand' charity in Bangalore, India. These hats were delivered to 'New Home' - a shelter home for both boys and girls.

How lovely it is to see the pleasure on the children's faces in the photo below!

Over the summer our hands are not idle! At the end of September there will be a collection of 'Trauma Bears' (patterns available in church office), so if you are wishing to contribute we will gratefully receive all the bears we can get.



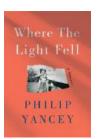


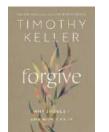
Find the words from the questions too!

Bookworm

Where the Light Fell by Philip Yancey. Hodder & Stoughton, October 2022

In his very readable and honest writings on many of the toughest Christian questions Philip Yancey has often alluded to a poor and difficult childhood in a Bible Belt fundamentalist church. Now his autobiography tells the fuller story of his upbringing and journey to a faith which has made him a beloved and highly respected author the world over. Recently diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease he also writes candidly about that and current issues in his blog at *philipyancey.com*





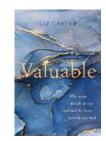
Forgive: Why should I and how can I by Timothy Keller. Hodder & Stoughton, November 2022

Timothy Keller, New York pastor, author and global speaker died in May this year aged 72. In this last book he argues for the necessity to forgive and accept forgiveness in personal and public life. He discusses the balancing of forgiveness and justice, the

cost of forgiving and of the individual and social costs of not doing so. And offers practical help with the difficult task of achieving it.

Valuable: Why your worth is not defined by how useful you feel by Liz Carter. The Good Book Company, June 2023

The author is a writer, poet and blogger who lives with long term chronic illness. For those feel who feel they're not useful enough to God, who are busy and tired, who are ill or have low self-esteem, this book is a compassionate and vehement assertion that God loves us for who we are, not for what we do. A valuable and very readable book.





The Final Lap by John Wyatt. 10Publishing, March 2023 This summer, at the Keswick Convention, the author led a series of seminars on the subject of this, his latest book, exploring how as believers we can live faithfully and joyfully through the transitions from work to retirement, from independence to dependence, and finally from life to death. How can we run the

race God has marked out for us, with perseverance, as the pace

inevitably changes as we age? You can view these on his website johnwyatt.com and read about a fascinating career from neonatal medicine to researching the practical, philosophical and theological challenges at the other end of life.

Eco Congregation

The Eco Group at St Molua's were pleased to host our first Repair Café on the last Saturday morning in June.

Early in 2023, as we looked for new ways to spread the message of "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, we were introduced to the concept of Repair Cafe, and feel privileged to have partnered with members of the Belfast branch to facilitate their first visit to St Molua's.

Repair Cafe is a global movement with its origins in Amsterdam, and driven by local volunteers who are passionate about helping us all to be more sustainable in our everyday living. Through offering their skills to make repairs to all kinds of items, they are prolonging and rejuvenating the life of our "stuff", and in the process perhaps giving us the confidence to tackle it ourselves in the future.

Our morning was a great success, and saw many and varied repairs to lamps, bikes, curtains, coffee makers, trouser hems, replacement zips etc... the list goes on. Many visitors came from well beyond the local area, and it was hugely satisfying to witness the delight of those who had been lucky enough to have a well loved item restored and made serviceable again.

Bookings for "repair slots" were made through Belfast Repair Cafe's own online system. There was also provision for a limited number of "walk-ins" on the day and volunteers admitted to always enjoying the surprises they got in the mix of items brought through the doors!

A vital feature of the Repair Cafe concept is that the owner of the item sits with the volunteer while the Repair is carried out in the hope that they might gain knowledge and skills for the future. Inevitably, some items will not be repairable, or the job might just be too lengthy in the time available. In such cases appropriate advice is always given.

And let's not forget the other important feature of all such events... the pop up "Pay as you Feel" Cafe, especially appreciated by those waiting for their appointed slot. Thanks are due to the parish volunteers who provided the tea, coffee and sweet treats for the cafe, and then made sure that the repairers were given a welcome soup lunch after their hard work.

All in all a really worthwhile event which we plan to repeat, hopefully Spring 24 by Heather Loughridge

Eco Group Members – Camryn Hill, Aimee Anderson, Heather Loughridge, David Watkins and Sharon Beck



















St Molua's Ladies' Guild

Mount Stewart was the venue for this year's summer outing, on Friday 14th July 2023 and although the weather not favourable the company more than made up for it. Good fun was had exploring the house, a National Trust property and previously owned by generations of the Londonderry family.





Whilst admiring the inside, it was impossible not to look out of the windows in awe at the beautiful gardens, created by Edith, Lady

Londonderry in the early 20th century.

Lunch was then consumed at

Harrison's of

Greyabbey, where everyone enjoyed an energetic atmosphere, and the generous helpings of food!





The Ladies Guild meet on the 2nd and 4th
Thursdays of each month and starts at 2.30pm.
Visitors are always very welcome.

Ladies Guild

MEETING ON THE FIRST & THIRD TUESDAYS FROM 10AM

In June Men@10
successfully navigated
NI Railway's on-line
booking system and
had an end of term day
out to Dublin.

As usual, food was top of the agenda and immediately on arrival we repaired to The Bank on College Green for a leisurely lunch.



Next up was a whirlwind tour of Trinity College with interesting facts about the campus, and reminiscences by one of our members. Then off along Grafton Street to look, (unsuccessfully) for Molly Malone who had wheeled her wheel barrow to a new location! However the route taken led us to Saint Stephen's Green where we completed a circuit of the park and worked up an appetite for coffee and scones before heading home.

Men@ 10 gets underway again on **Tuesday 19th September**.

Everyone will be very welcome to drop in for a game of indoor bowls, a read at the papers, a yarn or two and of course tea and biscuits.

Des Loughridge

For further information contact Graham Rutherford (on 028 9573 9347)



ST MOLUA'S WALKING GROUP



Crawfordsburn Coastal Path 22.4.23



Donaghadee 17.6.23



Divis Ridge Walk 27.5.23



Lady Dixon Park 15.7.23

We have enjoyed wonderful walks and fellowship over this past year, as shown in the above photographs, and are looking forward to the last two walks of the current season. It would be lovely if you could join us.

Saturday 16th September Tollymore Forest Park Saturday 21st October Shaw's Bridge

For all walks we meet in the church car park at 10am – unless otherwise arranged. For information and updates on 'Pew News' or check out https://stmoluasonline.com/walking-group/

We will be back again with a full programme in Spring 2024.



SOUPER SATURDAY

12 noon on: 14 Oct / 11 Nov / 9 Dec



Hot soup & a warm welcome awaits you!

Each month you are invited to join us for a simple lunch of soup, bread, tea/coffee

in the Parish Hall

Lunch & chat

Everyone welcome!

~ No charge ~

donations are always welcome, proceeds will go to our chosen charity: Christian Aid

St Molua's Church, 645 Upper Newtownards Road Belfast BT4 3LR

CCNI Reg. NIC102374

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Across

Where the Ark of the Covenant was kept for 20 years (1 Samuel 7:1) (7,6) One of the parts of the body on which blood and oil were put in the ritual cleansing from infectious skin diseases (Leviticus 14:14–17) (3) 10 Uncomfortable (3,2,4) 11 'Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have — ' (Malachi 1:3) (5) 13 Where Paul said farewell to the elders of the church in Ephesus (Acts 20:17) (7) 16 'Jesus bent down and

— to write on the ground with his finger' (John 8:6) (7) 19 Prophet from Moresheth

(Jeremiah 26:18) (5) 22 Comes between

Exodus and Numbers (9)

24 and 2 Down 'Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy ministered before the Lord under — the — ' (1 Samuel 2:11) (3,6)

25 There was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7) (4,3,6)

Down 1 Rough drawing (2 Kings 16:10) (6)

- 2 See 24 Across
- 3 Underground literature (including Christian books) circulated in the Soviet Union (8)
- 4 Lo, mash (anag.) (6)
- 5 The Bible's shortest verse: 'Jesus ' (John 11:35) (4)
- 6 'Can a mother forget the baby at her and have no compassion on the child she has borne?' (Isaiah 49:15) (6)
- 7 Can be seen in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (6)
- 12 'Send me, therefore, a man... experienced in the of engraving, to work in Judah and Jerusalem' (2 Chronicles 2:7) (3)
- 14 Second city of Cyprus (8)
- 15 United Nations Association (1,1,1)
- 16 One of the women who first heard that Jesus had risen from the dead (Mark 16:1) (6)
- 17 Braved (anag.) (6)
- 18 of Evangelism, outreach initiative in the 1990s (6)
- 20 'Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and in their own sight' (Isaiah 5:21) (6)
- 21 'Neither nor depth... will be able to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (6)
- 23 What Jesus shed in 5 Down (4)

(Answers on 'Notices' page)

Smile Lines



Back to school

Mother to young daughter after first day at school: Well, dear, what did they teach you today?" Daughter: Not much. I ve got to go back again tomorrow."

I was the supply teacher for a class that was learning about groups. In one exercise, pupils were asked to label a group of items according to their common characteristics. Pictured were onion rings, doughnuts, and party biscuits. The correct answer would have been that all the items have holes in the centre.

But one health-conscious boy pointed out: "All of those things contain far too much cholesterol."

A little boy in church for the first time watched as the ushers passed around the offering plates. When they came near his pew, the boy said loudly, Don t pay for me, Daddy, I m under five."

Bent over and obviously in pain, the old man with a cane hobbled laboriously through the sanctuary and into the pastor's office while the choir was practicing. Ten

minutes later he came out, walking upright and moving with grace and speed.

"Good gracious," the choir director exclaimed. "Did the pastor heal you by faith?"

"No," the old man said with a smile. "He just gave me a cane that wasn't six inches too short!"



vicar - does the church have a position on the donation of GM vegetables for the Harvest Festival?"

Early one morning the husband and wife were arguing over who should get out of the warm bed to make the coffee. Finally, the wife folded her arms and said decidedly, You have to make the coffee. It s in the Bible!" The husband was shocked. Is not! Show me!"

Pulling out her Bible, the wife opened it to one of the New Testament books and declared, It says right here — HEBREWS!"



Bring joy this Christmas

Blythswood Care Shoe Box Appeal 2023

Throughout October we will be collecting shoeboxes for the annual Blythswood Care Christmas appeal. Your kindness and generosity makes such a difference, receiving a shoebox brings so much joy. Things we take for granted are like luxuries to people living in poverty.

Please use average sized shoeboxes and decide who to fill it for (man/woman/teenager/child), fill with a selection of products from the suggested list as shown on next page (also in church or online). Donate £3 minimum to cover the cost of transporting, and secure with rubber bands.

It may be that you have difficulty in finding empty shoeboxes. If this is the case, please use a drawstring bag instead (like a gym bag). The maximum size should be 400mm x 300mm which can hold as much as an averaged sized shoebox. We also request that the bag is not plastic as the bag itself is a really useful item to give to people.

For all you knitters out there – there is a pattern available on the Blythswood website for hats & gloves to include in the shoeboxes.

CHECKLIST ESSENTIAL ITEMS (ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW)

- Toothbrush & toothpaste
- Hat, scarf, gloves
- Soap
- Underwear

- Small toy for boys & girls such as cars, dolls, balls. Please only include new shop-bought toys.
- Sweets (No chocolate or any other food) 'Best before' no earlier than March next year. No loose sweets, lollies or undated bags of sweets.

Do not include used or damaged items; war related items such as toy guns or knives or military figures; hand-made or knitted stuffed toys; chocolate or any other foods than sweets. Chocolate Eclairs and Chocolate Limes are not allowed; books that are mainly words should also not be included.

Toiletries (NO TALCUM POWDER)

Shampoo
Soap/Shower gel
Face cloth/moist wipes
Deodorant
Moisturising cream
Comb/Brush
Sanitary Products
Shaving Foam/Razors

Socks/Tights

Household Candles Screwdrivers/Pliers Kitchen Utensils

Stationery

Pens/Pencil/Sharpner Notepads/Colouring books Rulers/Rubbers

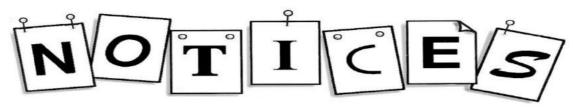
<u>Miscellaneous</u>

New Make-up Sewing equipment

Clothes and other items

(T-shirts/Pyjamas/Jumpers/Shirts) etc.

Please specify the age of the	boy or girl you have filled your box for.
Girl yrs	Boyyrs
Teenageyrs	Teenageyrs
Woman	Man
Elderly woman	



Our sorrows;

Funeral: 16th June 2023 Mrs Olga Hamilton

Interment of Ashes: 24th July 2023 Mrs Pat Blair

Memorial Service: 28th May 2023 Mrs May Gault



COFFEE ROTA

SEPT. 3rd Valerie Watkins Sylvia Clarke

10th Margaret Turner Audrey Healey 17th Dorothy McLean Lynn McCance

24th Carole Hunter Heather Loughridge

OCT. 1st Frances Hastie Winnie Hill

8th Grace Blemings Margaret Jackson

15th Stella Bell Man Chu



FULL ROTA POSTED IN KITCHEN & PARISH OFFICE

Many thanks for our regular coffee and tea volunteers, you are very much appreciated.

If you can help, please contact Frances 07968740467

SUBMISSIONS: Articles for submission to the Contact magazine are always welcome! You may want to contribute some ideas, an article or clipping, maybe something not already covered.

We look forward to hearing from you, thank you!

Deadline for copy for next edition: Sunday 5th November 2023

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 8, Kiriath Jearim. 9, Toe. 10, III at ease. 11, Hated. 13, Miletus. 16, Started. 19, Micah. 22, Leviticus. 24, Eli. 25, Mary and Joseph.

DOWN: 1, Sketch. 2, Priest. 3, Samizdat. 4, Shalom. 5, Wept. 6, Breast. 7, Embers. 12, Art. 14, Limassol. 15, UNA. 16, Salome. 17, Adverb. 18, Decade. 20, Clever. 21, Height. 23, Tear.

St Molua's Church, Stormont & Stormont Presbyterian Church





2023 - 2024 DATES

Sundays 4 - 6pm

10.09.23 @ Stormont Presbyterian | 08.10.23 @ St Molua's

12.11.23 @ Stormont Presbyterian | 10.12.23 @ St Molua's

14.01.24 @ Stormont Presbyterian | 11.02.24 @ St Molua's (no March meeting - Mother's Day)

14.04.24 @ Stormont Presbyterian | 12.05.24 @ St Molua's

09.06.24 @ Stormont Presbyterian - Messy Church fun day

Messy Church in the Stormont area is held on a Sunday afternoon when everyone gets together to enjoy crafts, learning about our amazing God who loves us.

Messy Church provides an opportunity for people of all ages to worship together, to be creative and to have fun. We want to share the love of God in a way that's as accessible as possible to families - and for all ages. A typical Messy Church has: drinks/biscuits on arrival, crafts and activity time, celebration time with stories and songs, food to finish.

For more information email: stormont@down.anglican.org office@stormontchurch.org

or: οπιce@stormontcnurcn.org

fun - food - games - stories - craft - celebration for all the family - an opportunity for people of <u>all ages</u> to worship together

everyone welcome! (all children must be accompanied by an adult)

Little Angels

Toddler Group



FUN

CRAFTS

PLAY

SNACKS

MONDAYS

DURING TERM-TIME

10 -11.30am

£1 PER ADULT

CHILDREN FREE

EVERYONE

WELCOME



645 UPPER NEWTOWNARDS ROAD BELFAST BT4 3LR

STMOLUASONLINE.COM