

ST MARY THE VIRGIN RIVERHEAD WITH DUNTON GREEN SUNDAY CLUB REPORT - APCM 2019/2020

This year has like many of the clubs been a game of two halves. We commenced the 2019 summer with a Sunday Club BBQ at Daphne Harrison's house which was well attended with over 50 attendees including SC numbers and those newly baptised in the Parish. We had a fun filled and thankfully Sunny afternoon enjoying sausages and burgers, playing football and cricket.

In October 2019 we ran our annual harvest lunch for the congregation making and serving an array of soups (7 varieties this year) jacket potatoes and apple pies and crumbles for pudding. All proceeds were donated to SKET. This was well received by all who attended and the children did a fabulous job of taking orders and serving food. Over 60 attended making for a fabulous lunchtime get together.

We then commenced preparing for our Sunday Club nativity service. Similar to last year we joined forces with the choir to recreate the Christmas story with solo's from Lily (Sunday Club) and Mark (choir). It was such a heart warming service, with the choir leading on the lesser known songs and full congregation participation for the classics.

All of Sunday Club attended and thoroughly enjoyed the Christingle services, with leaders and parents supporting at the later session.

We celebrated Epiphany in church by taking part in the crib service and in the Sunday Club session which started us thinking about the importance of doing the right thing even when, like the three kings, you are expected to take a different path.

Whilst we started our Lenten journey in a Sunday Club session focusing on the things we would try to do more of and those things we could do less of (returning to the theme of the year of want v need, how we can help locally and what we wanted to do for charity), we ended our journey on Easter Sunday joining the All age zoom service. It was such a positive and engaging service to be a part of with Sunday Club being involved in readings. It was such a euphoric feeling to be part of our congregation again.

We quickly realised that we could offer a SC zoom service each Sunday during the 9:30 service which we did right the way through to the summer holidays. We explored many themes during that time with leaders from St Luke's as well as St Mary's hosting the sessions.

We completed the Thy Kingdom Come virtual map with lots of virtual activities over two sessions. We took part in a scavenger hunt, a virtual bible based quiz and explored what it meant to be a Good Samaritan as well as to always pay attention to what's going on for you (as your tail may have grown back as happened to the lizard who thought he had no tail).

With the help of the leaders we were able to host 10 virtual zoom sessions in the period with attendance from 5 to 11 families week on week.

We ran the sessions from 9:30 to 10:10 returning to the regular church service after prayers to share all that we had learned.

September will bring a fresh start with the hope of some face to face activities which we are very much looking forward to.

As leaders we are mindful of our safeguarding responsibilities and have all been DBS checked. Ali Wakefield has signed up to the newly launched leadership course as host of the virtual zoom sessions with the other leaders expecting to complete the course when we return to face to face sessions next year.

Sunday Club Leaders