

Baptism/Christening

Baptism (often known as Christening) is a special service to mark the beginning of a person's journey in faith. Many of the baptisms we do are of young children but anyone of any age can be baptised.

The heart of a baptism service is the moment when the minister pours water over the candidate's head three times in the name of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

For more information please see the separate "Baptism at St Alkmund's" leaflet.

Confirmation

Confirmation at St Alkmund's is about deciding for yourself that you want to be a Christian within the Church of England and to be able to take Communion (the bread and wine at services).

Confirmation services take place every 2 years and are for young people in year 6 and above and also for adults. Those wishing to be confirmed attend a course where we explore the basics of Christian life and faith.

The heart of the confirmation service is the moment when the Bishop lays hands on the candidate's head and prays "Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit"

For more information please speak to a member of the Clergy.



We started a Messy Church group in Autumn 2016.

Messy Church is a mix of crafts, activities, worship and food and is for all ages but is especially aimed at families.

Messy Church sessions generally take place on Sunday afternoons, 3-4.30pm in Bargates Hall (behind Church), look out for our publicity to find out when the next session will be.

Child Protection

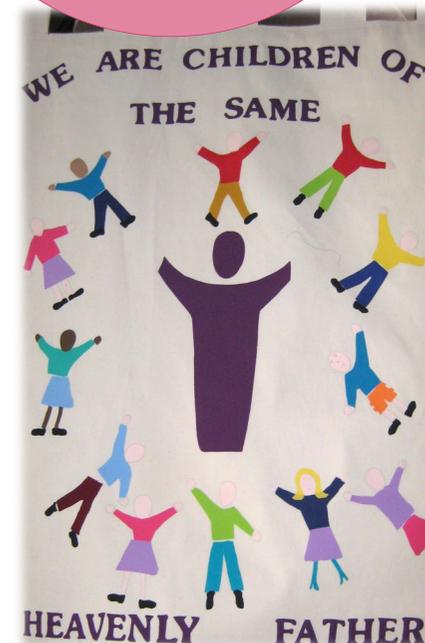
St. Alkmund's puts a very high value on all it's work with children and young people. The Parochial Church Council has a Code of Good Practice for all those who work with children and young people in church. This has been accepted by all our leaders and helpers. Everyone working with children and young people has had a DBS check.

The Church Safeguarding Officer is Mrs Meriel Edge.

Individuals and organisations mentioned in this leaflet can be contacted via the Church Office, on 01948 665413 or at ftwstalkmunds@gmail.com
Contact telephone numbers may be found in the Parish Magazine, published bi-monthly and available at the back of church, also accessible at www.stalkmunds.com

ST ALKMUND'S CHURCH

Children & Young People



We believe that every child is made in God's image and has a special place in God's church.

There are lots of ways for children and young people to learn about and worship God at St Alkmund's Church.

We hope this leaflet helps you to find out more about the place of children and young people in the life of our church.

Groups and Activities for Children on a Sunday Morning



Young Children

At the back of Church there is a rack holding a wide selection of books which children may choose from to enjoy, as well as "busy bags" full of interesting things for the children to explore and play with during the service.

There are also clip boards with stencils and puzzle sheets attached. The puzzle sheets are often based on the seasons of the churches year or on the Bible readings for the day. Take time to look at these with your child.

The Vestry (the room in the centre at the back of church) is available if you need somewhere quiet to take your child. There is a nappy changing table by the toilet in the back corner of Church.

Do ask if you need help finding anything!

Under 11s

St. Alkmund's Junior Church meets during the first part of the 10.00am service in the Church Office. They go out at the end of the first hymn and come back into church to join the congregation for the sharing of the Peace.

During the session the children will take part in a prayer activity and hear one of the Bible readings for the morning.

*Sometimes we act the story out,
sometimes we make something to
remind us of the story, sometimes we
talk about the story and think about
what it means for us today,
sometimes we play games,
sometimes we have a puzzle sheet or
craft to take home with us.*

*Hopefully we learn more about
Jesus and his amazing love for us!*



11-18s

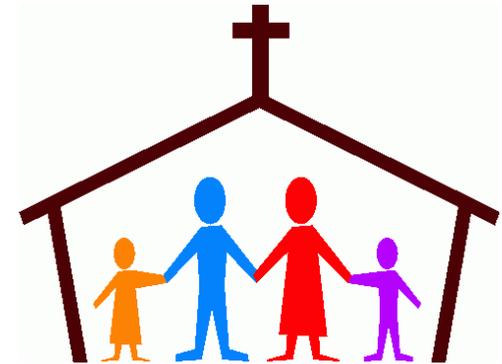
Sermon Slot is a group for young people aged 11-18. The young people go out after the Gospel reading and re-join the congregation for the sharing of the Peace.

*We use film, drama, discussion, craft
and activities to explore the morning's
Bible readings and think about their
relevance in our lives.*

Both groups enjoy sharing what they have learnt with the rest of the church congregation.

Worship Together

On the first Sunday of each month we don't have our usual groups for children, instead we have a "Worship Together" Communion service. This is a shorter and more interactive service and uses simpler liturgy which all ages can engage with.



Ways of serving God

There are lots of ways children and young people at St Alkmund's use their gifts to serve God and the Church.

Some of us sing in the choir.

Some of us are servers.

Some of us help welcome people to Church.

Some of us ring the bells.

*Some of us read from the Bible or
lead the prayers during services.*

Some of us help distribute the wine at communion.

*Some of us help make banners
to decorate the Church.*

What could you do?!