

# Little Ones Church Service

On the first Tuesday of each month (except August) an informal church service for Little Ones is held at Holy Trinity Church Cuckfield at 11:00am.

This church service is aimed at Little Ones as an introduction to church in a relaxed, comfortable and secure environment. Ages range from babes in arms to toddlers. Siblings are welcome. The service lasts for about twenty minutes followed by tea and coffee at the back of the church.

Stories are told by Fluffy the cat who lives in the straw story box. Stories are fun and informal, containing a Christian message. Wherever possible interaction and activities are organised, which relate to the story or the theme for that service. We sing songs to the accompaniment of a cello which relate to the week's theme and are often well known to the children. To date these have included Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, the Mulberry Bush and He's Got the Whole World in His Hands. We also say a child-friendly prayer encouraging the children to put their hands together.



Refreshments are served at the end of the service so all can have a chat before going on their way. At the back of the church is the cuddly corner where the tots can mingle at the end too.

We have focused on many themes including sharing, caring, giving to others and God's wonderful creation, where we created a garden in the church. At Christmas time stars have been the focus with a star to take home to hang on the Christmas tree as well as the chocolate variety to eat.

Some comments received:

*'I think the Little Ones Service was great. Gently introducing children to the church whilst having fun. The church is a great comfort to me and I have met some lovely people'*

*'I like the relaxed atmosphere and the short length of service is appropriate to the children's attention span'*

The Little Ones church activities can be seen in the church on the display board in the cuddly corner. We hope to see you at our next first Tuesday service.

*Hannah Carter, Alison Milford, Ros Thunder, Catherine Snashall and Karen Jooste*