



Messy St Mark's DIY Easter activities



Hello!

This isn't how we expected to be celebrating Easter this year is it?

It has been an exceptionally challenging few weeks hasn't it? Juggling family life, home schooling, work, sourcing toilet rolls, social distancing and learning how to use 20 forms of technology overnight. We want you to know that the Ministry team at St Mark's Church are holding all of you in our prayers.

The Messy St Mark's team had already sourced our Easter activities for our Messy Church sessions, which we can't now do together (thank you team!). So to help you celebrate Easter in your own homes we have put together a DIY Easter activity pack with a range of activities that need only basic stationary supplies such as paper, pens, paint and also things that can be scavenged on a daily outing. Most activities can be adapted to suit what you have at home. There are also some non-craft activities in case craft is not your thing. Also included is the necessary cooking, sneaking in some chocolate! You can use the things you make to help tell your own Easter story.

In no way can we replace our Good Friday Messy St Marks get-together and our Easter Sunday celebration but this will provide activities that you have not had to think up yourself. All activities have a weblink with them with more instructions on the internet. You may find the websites also give inspiration for other Easter holiday activities.

Please take pictures of what you make, we will have a facebook group set up soon where you can post these pictures. You can also join in our Easter Sunday zoom church and show what you have made!

Please feel free to send this on to friends and family. If you are reading this and are not part of St Mark's Hitchin, then do let me know how you get on - email details below, I love seeing photos!

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all in the coming weeks,

Love,

Marie Polley

Lay Leader of Worship

St Mark's Church, Hitchin

<http://www.stmarks-hitchin.org.uk/>

M.Polley01@outlook.com;

Edible Easter nests.

Messy church always has something to eat since it is Easter, there is a definite chocolate theme going on! Below are three links to websites with a recipe and instructions for making Easter nests. I really hope you enjoy having a go at one of these.

Chocolate only Easter nest:

For this one you need some melted chocolate and a piping bag, a plate and some kitchen foil.



You can [CLICK HERE](#) to see how it is done on YouTube.

They make it look very clean

and easy...I bet it could be a messy one!

Shredded Wheat based Easter nest



This is a straightforward case of mixing together golden syrup, melted butter and melted milk chocolate to have one big bowl

of loveliness just waiting for fingers to sneak in.

Break up the shredded wheat into the mixture, coat it all with chocolate and spoon into cake cases

You will need to leave them to harden if you can wait that long. The quantities for the ingredients and further information can be found [HERE](#)

If you aren't a shredded wheat fan, you can also do these with cornflakes, see this [webpage](#) for more information



But I don't like chocolate!..

...then you need to do a different recipe. Mary Berry has this [recipe for Easter biscuits](#). Not a chunk of chocolate in sight!

Why not cut the biscuit dough into Easter shapes instead of just circles?



If you have allergies and intolerances, then you can swap out the ingredients for alternatives.

Instead of butter use plant based margarine like Flora.

For chocolate, you can get a range of dairy free chocolate now. The supermarket's own brands tend to be the cheapest ones.

You can get gluten free cornflakes, but I have yet to see an alternative to shredded wheat.

Making an Easter Garden.

This one really is up to you as to how you want to go about it. Whilst we are restricted in what we can buy and where we can go, I wonder just how inventive you can be?

There is no right or wrong way, the main thing is to enjoy doing it.

Ultimately you need

- A base to hold the stuff in
- Some stones, different sizes
- A pot of some sort to act as the cave
- Some greenery/ grass, plants.
- Some little sticks to make crosses

You could look around for moss whilst on a walk. If you have some grass seed knocking around in the back of a cupboard or shed, plant that and watch it grow.

Or do an edible garden and plant some herbs or salad leaf seeds, which grow quite quickly.

Or make it out of lego, or junk model it with all the stuff that would normally be recycled, or make an underwater one...the possibilities are endless...



Rock painting

Does anyone in your household like finding and decorating rocks?



If so then then rock painting is a great activity.

If you don't have any rocks lying around (I mean, who does?), then add this to the list of things you need to find on your daily outing.

You can decorate rocks with paint, chalks, felt tips, nail varnish (definitely ask permission for that one first!).

However you want to do it, it is up to you, just make sure you wash and dry the stones before you get started.

If you want to see how the stones in the picture were used to represent Holy week, [CLICK HERE](#) and scroll down the webpage.

Easter Egg Weaving

Who knew you could weave an egg!

This is a simple activity for you to do. Cut out the oval shape of an egg, add in some slits and then choose other coloured paper to weave through it.



You can choose the size and colours. You could use materials like ribbon. You can decorate it further with your own designs.

To get the instructions in more details [CLICK HERE](#)

Isolation scavenger hunt

3D Easter Egg Card

We all like to get a card at Easter. Maybe you can make a card and send it to someone in your family who you can't get to see this year. Or another member of our congregation.



started.

This is an impressive Easter card as it sticks out into a 3D shape. You can design it with as much or as little writing and colouring as you like. You only need to have some thick paper or thin card and a glue stick to get

To go to the webpage and see the video tutorial [CLICK HERE](#)

Painting a cross with chalk

A cross is an important symbol for Easter, and there are lots of ways that you can make crosses.



In this activity, you start with white paper and add some tape onto it in the shape of a cross.

Soak some chalk in water, then you can almost paint with them. Cover all of the paper and when finished and (after cleaning your hands), take the tape off to reveal the white cross.

Use any size of paper, choose your design and go for it!. For more details on this activity, [CLICK HERE](#) to get to the webpage

Does everyone like to do a scavenger hunt? I know I do, especially if there are some goodies at the end of it (preferably food!).

Here are 2 websites that have ready-made clues for you to hide around the house. So you just need to print or copy them and you can do it all without leaving the house - bonus. Make sure the kids don't see you doing this one...

<https://happyhomefairy.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/easter-hunt.pdf>

<https://babyhintsandtips.com/free-easter-egg-hunt-clues-printables/#>

Making your own Easter Story Characters



This is a fun activity, but might take more than one sitting. You need some card or some toilet rolls. You can download images for you to print and cut out. You can colour them in and wrap them around the toilet roll or stick on a strip of card. Bend it all round and sellotape / staple together. [Click here](#) for the website where you can download all of the images for the characters..

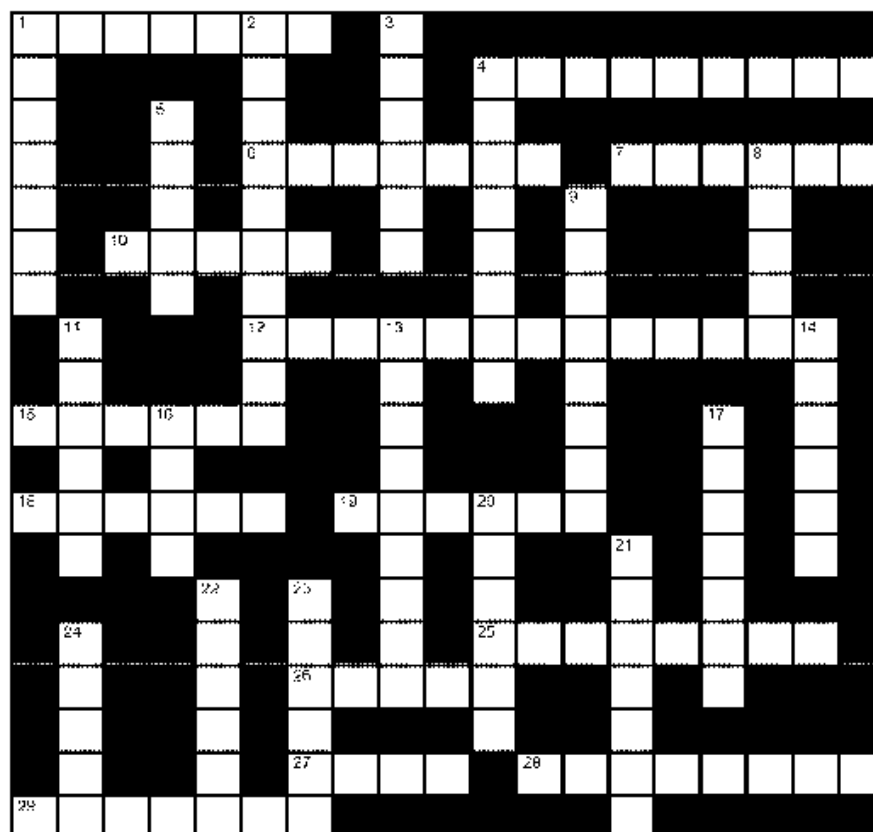
Perhaps you use these characters to tell the Easter story?

Do you like a word puzzle?

You can't beat a good word puzzler sometimes can you? Andrew Parr has created 3 bespoke puzzles for you to have a go at. They may require the whole family to get involved!

Across

- 1 Cup used at communion (7)
- 4 Person who sets up the altar (9)
- 6 The wooden stand from which the readings are read (7)
- 7 The raised wooden platform on which the preacher could stand to preach (6)
- 10 The part of the service where we shake hands or hug one another (5)
- 12 The part of the service when we ask God for help (13)



- 15 One of the two people who are in charge of the church (6)
- 18 One of two white-robed people who help the priest at the communion (6)
- 19 The type of service which uniformed groups attend (6)
- 25 What the priest does at the end of the service when they make the sign of the cross (8)
- 26 The Lord's table (5)
- 27 The symbol of St Mark (4)
- 28 The place where church valuables are kept (8)
- 29 The first book of the Bible (7)

- 2 The part of the service where a bag is passed round (10)
- 3 The room in church where the priest puts on their robes (6)
- 4 The white garment worn over a black one by some people leading the service (8)
- 5 White substance sometimes eaten at communion (5)
- 8 The plate used to hold 5 down (5)
- 9 The heavy coloured garment worn by priests at communion services (8)
- 11 A person who leads some services and wears a blue scarf (6)
- 13 Another word for Holy Communion (9)

- 14 The talk given in the middle of the service (6)
- 16 The bird which appears on three of the wall hangings (4)
- 17 We sing hymns and more modern _____ songs (7)
- 20 A tiny wall cupboard where 5 down and wine are kept (6)
- 21 Black garment worn under 4 down (7)
- 22 Songs we generally sing at Christmas (6)
- 23 Where the choir sits (6)
- 24 The walking space between blocks of chairs (5)

Down

- 1 The special prayer for the day (7)

Aaron
 Adam
 Altar
 Angels
 Apostles
 Baptism
 Betrayal
 Biblical
 Cain and Abel
 Chapter
 Church
 Cross
 David
 Devil
 Easter
 Epiphany
 Esau
 Eve
 Faith
 Fast
 Galilee
 God
 Gold
 Goliath
 Gospel
 Grace
 Guilt
 Heaven
 Hebrew
 Hell
 Herod
 Holy
 Ishmael
 Jacob
 James
 Jehovah
 Jesus
 John
 Joseph

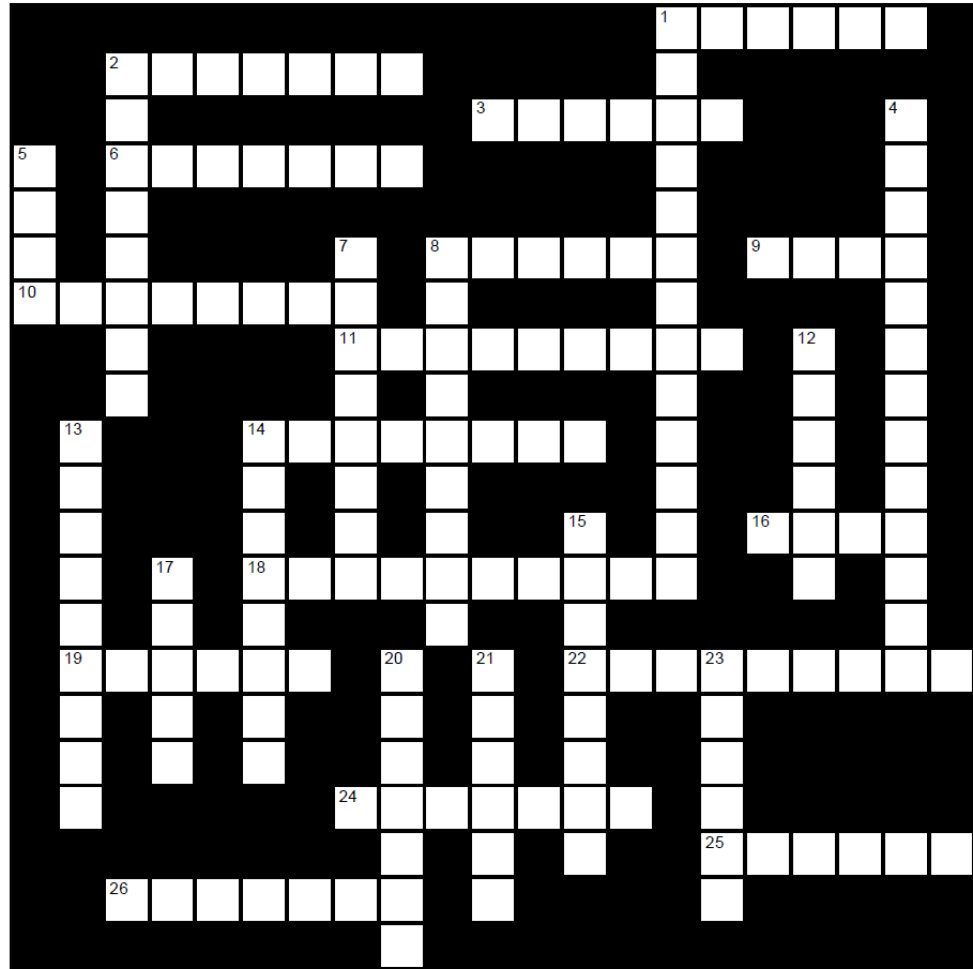
L	A	S	T	S	U	P	P	E	R	S	J	Q	H	E	A	V	E	N	E	D	C	U
E	Z	E	B	E	D	E	E	Y	W	A	A	W	Y	C	M	E	S	S	I	A	H	J
V	K	I	N	G	S	L	T	Q	R	T	M	D	Y	N	E	D	E	V	I	L	D	A
I	G	R	A	C	E	I	S	H	M	A	E	L	M	M	V	S	A	A	R	O	N	M
T	H	H	V	P	V	F	N	H	A	N	S	U	I	R	A	D	A	L	H	Y	Y	Y
I	R	W	S	I	Y	O	T	B	I	B	L	I	C	A	L	G	L	U	X	N	M	R
C	K	O	T	J	I	S	A	B	B	A	T	H	H	C	P	E	I	E	A	S	V	R
U	G	A	R	G	E	Y	J	A	C	O	B	G	A	H	H	D	L	H	I	A	E	H
S	N	Q	I	I	F	S	G	A	L	I	L	E	E	A	A	B	P	T	J	G	R	J
N	X	L	R	I	C	H	U	R	C	H	E	D	L	P	A	I	P	P	N	T	S	O
P	E	P	T	W	V	H	R	S	S	G	Y	M	T	T	P	A	L	A	S	E	E	H
R	E	S	U	R	R	E	C	T	I	O	N	H	S	E	B	A	M	A	D	A	M	N
C	U	N	H	E	B	R	E	W	M	L	I	O	R	R	S	L	A	N	G	E	L	S
J	A	T	I	M	W	O	K	D	O	I	V	L	E	N	T	T	F	A	S	T	A	M
P	J	I	G	T	A	D	Z	H	N	A	I	Y	D	B	K	A	A	E	X	M	W	O
O	R	O	N	P	E	T	M	K	K	T	R	P	E	T	E	R	L	M	O	J	S	S
X	C	O	S	A	B	N	T	A	I	H	G	F	E	N	P	B	K	H	E	K	S	E
S	E	R	P	E	N	T	C	H	R	I	O	M	F	A	I	T	H	L	N	C	S	
I	C	J	O	H	P	D	D	E	E	K	N	Y	L	R	U	J	Y	F	G	U	T	G
L	H	U	D	S	E	H	A	L	V	W	M	R	A	D	L	G	U	I	L	T	K	K
J	U	D	E	A	S	C	L	B	G	U	A	P	O	S	T	L	E	S	G	E	V	E
Q	E	A	S	T	E	R	Y	B	E	T	R	A	Y	A	L	J	E	H	O	V	A	H
L	L	S	S	A	M	U	E	L	S	L	Y	R	E	P	E	N	T	Y	D	S	I	N

Judas	Old Testament	Stable
Judea	Parable	Star
Justify	Paul	Thomas
Kings	Penitence	Verse
Last Supper	Peter	Virgin Mary
Laws	Priest	Zebedee
Lent	Prophecy	
Leviticus	Psaln	
Luke	Redeem	
Magi	Religion	
Manger	Repent	
Mark	Resurrection	
Matthew	Sabbath	
Messiah	Samuel	
Michael	Satan	
Moses	Serpent	
Myrrh	Simon	
Nativity	Sin	

EASTER PUZZLE

Across

- 1 How many pieces of silver was Jesus' betrayer paid? (6)
- 2 Where was the place of crucifixion? (7)
- 3 What was Jesus' crown made of? (6)
- 6 What did the crowd demand should be done to Jesus? (7)
- 8 What was the colour of the robe the soldiers put on Jesus? (6)
- 9 Who did Jesus tell John to look after? (4)
- 10 Who did the crowd choose to be released instead of Jesus? (8)
- 11 What was the rank of the Roman officer in charge of Jesus' execution? (9)



- 14 Who did 4 down think Jesus was when she met him on the first Easter Day? (8)
- 16 What was torn in two as Jesus was on the cross? (4)
- 18 What was the name of the garden where Jesus went before his arrest? (10)
- 19 Who was the chief Roman official who questioned Jesus? (6)
- 22 Where did the Joseph who brought spices to embalm Jesus' body come from? (9)
- 24 What was offered to Jesus to drink when he was on the cross? (7)

- 25 On which animal did Jesus ride into Jerusalem? (6)
- 26 What did Jesus ask God to do to those who were killing him? (7)

Down

- 1 How did the Holy Spirit show himself to Jesus' followers after Jesus' death? (7,2,4)
- 2 What happened to remind Peter of his cowardice? (4,4)
- 4 Who first saw the risen Jesus? (4,9)
- 5 Where was Jesus' body laid after his death? (4)

- 7 Who was Jesus' betrayer: Judas _____? (8)
- 8 On which day did the Holy Spirit come after Jesus had risen from the dead? (9)
- 12 Where did Jesus and his followers go after they had eaten their last meal together: Mount of _____? (6)
- 13 What is another word for Jesus' 12 followers? (9)
- 14 Which word in Aramaic means 'Place of the Skull'? (8)
- 15 What was the name of the High Priest? (8)
- 17 What did the crowd

- throw in front of Jesus as he entered Jerusalem? (5)
- 20 Where were 13 down told to go to find Jesus after he had risen from the dead? (7)
- 21 Simon of _____ carried Jesus' cross. (6)
- 23 The day before Good Friday is known as _____ Thursday. (6)

END