

St Mary's Children's Liturgy Group needs you!

The Children's Liturgy Group started in Advent 1991. The group has operated continuously to bring the message of the Gospel to children attending Mass. This is for children from as young as 2 and up to 12 years or more - there is no specific age limit. It takes place in the sacristy and its' themes run in parallel with the main Mass covering the penitential rite & the Gospel of the day.

Over the years, the group has been composed mainly of parents of children who attend 10:30am mass.

In recent times the number of volunteers has dwindled and, since the return following the pandemic there are currently only 3 active leaders available to run the CLG group. It is lovely that the number of children attending CLG has not diminished on the return from the pandemic and is typically around 15. The group normally covers around 40 Sundays in the year breaking for the summer and Christmas.

Therefore, we are appealing to all in the congregation, whether parents of children who attend CLG or not, to consider volunteering to bolster the group's number of leaders and helpers.

As with many such tasks, the more volunteers there are, the fewer the number of times they are called upon.

Some people may feel that they would not know how to do children's liturgy. This may be particularly in terms of bringing the message of the Gospel to a level at which the children can begin to understand it. However, most importantly, as well as the general resources available, Tony Smith and Deirdre Stainer have kept all of their notes from the last 30 years of doing CLG. So, for any given Sunday, the team can provide detailed advice (if required) on how to bring the message of that particular Gospel to the children. Whilst new ideas would be very welcome, a full guide on how to do a particular CLG is readily available.

Finally, sometimes we are concerned about additional commitment when we all lead busy lives. For a small additional commitment, the rewards of doing CLG are significant. It often provides the leader with additional insight into the Gospel and it is good to know that you have contributed to ensuring that the children have a positive feeling about their church experience and in particular helped to deliver the message of the Gospel to our young people so that they grow in their relationship with Christ.

If you would like to get involved in helping to ensure that St. Mary's Children's Liturgy Group can continue to provide the message of the Gospel to our young people please get in touch, either by speaking to one of the CLG leaders at church or by contacting Tony Smith or Deirdre Stainer using the telephone numbers or bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com