

The other day I was browsing a bit aimlessly on Facebook when I noticed that a friend of mine had shared a cute picture of a small furry creature (possibly a hamster) on top of a bushy green plant covered in bright flowers. The caption read, 6 Mondays to Spring Share the Good News! It made me laugh! At this time of year, when it's cold and the skies are grey, the thought that spring and better weather are not far away can be heartening. But I guess the downside is that sometimes we can be in so much of a rush that we forget to stand still and appreciate the moment.

The cycle of the church year invites us on a journey from Advent, through Christmas and Epiphany towards Lent, Easter and Pentecost; through the long summer days towards Harvest, Remembrance and back again to Advent. It's a journey with a purpose; a journey in and through which we have the opportunity to learn more about the big story of God and humanity and to encounter God's love for each one of us and the hope that he brings whatever our circumstances. It's a journey that also invites us to take our time, to think about when and where we are and to ask ourselves where God might be for us in the moment.

If you would like to find out more about this journey, we would love to hear from you. All are welcome to any of our services; do take a look at our website for more information. Messy Church is on the 19th at 9:30 am good coffee and yummy eats plus family-friendly craft and worship. In addition, this month we will be holding our annual service of Remembrance for loved ones who have died; a quiet space to reflect and remember. This will be on Sunday 26th, 6 pm at St Swithun's.

Looking ahead, we will also hold a Lent course (with coffee!) starting on Friday 10th March, 10:30 - 11:30 am in Kennington Church Hall. All welcome, do just come along.

Rev Alison Matthew