



Messy Vintage

**A new way to bring 'church' to older people
in care homes, in churches and in the community**

Creativity – Celebration – Christ-centredness – Mission – Hospitality



**'The Messy Vintage team always
make me feel welcome – they are
worth their weight in gold.'**

Messy Vintage participant

**'We love Messy Vintage.
It's like a breath of fresh air!'**

Care home social activities coordinator

Inclusive, creative and Christ-centred worship for older people

Messy Vintage is a flexible way of ‘doing church’ that anyone can adapt for any setting – in the community, churches or care homes.

Messy Vintage is **Christ-centred** and **creative**. It is full of **celebration** and **hospitality** and is **open to all**. Where possible, it aspires to include people of all ages, while specifically reaching out to older people.

What happens at Messy Vintage?

A typical Messy Vintage session lasts one and a half to two hours and involves:

- hands-on creative activities to explore a Bible story
- a short celebration with story, song and prayer, lasting 15–20 minutes
- refreshments.

You can choose the right venue, format, timing and grouping for your own Messy Vintage.

Check out our related ministries



messychurch.org.uk



annachaplaincy.org.uk

Creating Christian community, wherever people are

At a church

You might hold your Messy Vintage in a church or hall, with craft activities that would suit an older person, a celebration and refreshments.

‘One lady left saying she felt lighter and had had a lovely afternoon. A group of ladies said they were going home happy today. Such a worthwhile and important ministry.’

Helper at a church Messy Vintage session

‘I don’t always get to church now as the service is too long. I am 91 and the Messy Vintage service time is just the right length for me. Our afternoon tea is delicious.’

Messy Vintage participant

In care homes

Messy Vintage works well in care homes. It involves a celebration using all the senses that staff, residents and volunteers can participate in together. It can be timed to end with grace before a meal or refreshments.

‘Messy Vintage enables people within our care to engage in their spirituality. We have lots of fun with crafts, and the singing uplifts us all.’

Activities organiser on a residential care home dementia ward

‘I look forward to Messy Vintage friends coming in to spend time with me.’

Care home resident

In the community

You might decide to hold a Messy Vintage session in a local hall, for older people together with a toddler group or a class from a local school.



Could you start your own Messy Vintage?

Messy Vintage began in Jersey, pioneered by Katie Norman in churches and care homes, as well as hospital units for people living with advanced dementia. It is now run in a variety of venues all over the country. Could you start a Messy Vintage group in your locality?

Getting going

Once you've decided on the venue, timing and who is invited, you'll need to organise some helpers, resources and art or craft materials. We suggest a team of five to ten volunteers. To get started, download the session plans at messychurch.org.uk/messyvintage. You might also want to try some of the ideas in the Messy Church resource magazine *Get Messy!* messychurch.org.uk/getmessy

Need more help?

For support and guidance, or to share your own experiences, please email our Messy Vintage Coordinator Jill Phipps at jill.phipps@annachaplaincy.org.uk.

Stay in touch

To keep up to date with BRF's work to support the spiritual needs of older people, visit the Anna Chaplaincy website and sign up to our blog at annachaplaincy.org.uk/blog.

Supporting Messy Vintage

Find out how you can help us engage with more older people at brf.org.uk/donate-support-anna-chaplaincy



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