



Messy Vintage

from BRF Ministries



A way into
Christian worship
for older people





What is Messy Vintage?

Messy Vintage is a way into worship for older people, regardless of their background or faith journey, and can be adapted for any setting – in the community, in churches or in care homes. It has come out of the worldwide Messy Church movement, which is a fun and creative way of ‘being church’ for people from all kinds of backgrounds.

Messy Vintage creates a gentle, sociable and enjoyable way into worship for people in later life, reflecting the Messy Church approach and values:

- **Christ-centred**
- **based on creativity, hospitality and celebration**
- **inclusive and, where possible, intergenerational**

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

Messy Vintage participant

‘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

‘We love Messy Vintage. It’s like a breath of fresh air!’

Care home social activities coordinator

‘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

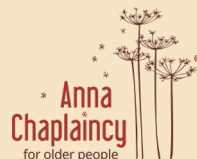
‘One lady left saying she felt lighter and had had a lovely afternoon. A group of ladies said they were going home happy today. Such a worthwhile and important ministry.’

Helper at a church Messy Vintage session

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

Care home resident

About 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?

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.

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.

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.



Christian charity BRF Ministries is home to Anna Chaplaincy and Messy Church, as well as BRF Resources and Parenting for Faith. See brf.org.uk



Could you start your own Messy Vintage?

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. Remember to follow safeguarding processes for your church denomination throughout, including checks, safer recruitment of volunteers and training. Make sure your church leader knows about your ideas and that you have prayer support. To get started, you will probably want to purchase a copy of **Messy Vintage** by Katie Norman and Jill Phipps (BRF Ministries, 2021), but there are plenty of free downloadable resources too: check out the Easy Guides on the **Anna Chaplaincy website**, or ideas in the Messy Church resource magazine **Get Messy!**

Need more help?

For support and guidance, or to share your own experiences, please email annachaplaincy@brf.org.uk.

Stay in touch

To keep up to date with BRF Ministries' 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



annachaplaincy.org.uk



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