

Godly Play in Exning



Godly Play for 3–6-year-olds and their families will run on the following dates from 9:15-10:45am at Exning Community Church Hall:

26 October 2025, 16 November 2025, 21 December 2025.

We very much hope to see you there!

What is Godly Play?

Godly Play originates in the USA from the work of Dr Jerome Berryman, an Episcopalian priest. Jerome and his wife, Thea, studied in Bergamo, Italy at the centre for Montessori training and there he first met Catechesis of the Good Shepherd <https://www.cgsuk.org/> which was put together by Sofia Cavalletti (1917-2011) who was an associate of Dr Maria Montessori (1870-1952) and **a firm believer in taking children's spirituality seriously** (Berryman 2013, 78-85). Godly Play U.K <https://www.godlyplay.uk/> was developed by Dr Rebecca Nye (Berryman 2013, 166).

Godly Play offers at least seven aspects to aid children and others to find their own way to express themselves spiritually. The story is one aspect which contains a setting up of the metaphor with the participants engaging together with the story teller before settling into the actual storytelling where all eyes and hearts are concentrated on the presentation being shared. The surrounding aspects are: preparation; welcome; wondering (after the story - where eye contact and group participation is important); response time; the feast; goodbye.

References

Berryman, Jerome. 2013. *The Spiritual Guidance of Children: Montessori, Godly Play, and the Future*. New York, Harrisburg, Denver: Morehouse Publishing.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. n.d. [Catechesis of the Good Shepherd UK](#)

Godly Play U.K. 2025. [Godly Play UK – A Christian movement centered on childhood spirituality](#)

Godly Play Page on Exning.net website