

**THE PARISH OF**  
**ST. MARGARET, INGOL**



Hello my dear friends,

I hope that this finds you well, enjoying Advent and planning for Christmas? So much going on, such exciting times.

Firstly I have to say a HUGE thank you to all of you who have given so generously during our Call to Pray and Give campaign, so successful and you have donated over £1,500 to help us keep afloat in these difficult times. I cannot say thank you enough, that is money we would not have had before, we will probably put it towards paying the parish share and to doing some work in the memorial garden. Thank you so much. It just shows that prayer works, and God provides, thank you.

Church is open for communal worship at the moment, and we have our services at 10am and 11.30am on Sundays and 10.30am on Wednesdays. And we will be open over Christmas, there will be a Midnight Mass on December 24<sup>th</sup>, starting at 11.30pm, and a service at 10am on Christmas morning, everyone is welcome. I'm sorry there will be no Carol Service as we are only allowed to sing outside at the moment, we will make up for it next year - promise. Please continue to book your seat at any of the services, usual number 01772 727208, or email [revrie52@outlook.com](mailto:revrie52@outlook.com). There will just be the one service on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, despite some whit deciding that it would be good for me to do two, I ask you, who would be awake and wanting to come to mass at 2am? I am sure I won't be awake then.....unless of course Santa has been and I am being a very naughty girl and opening presents before I go to bed on Christmas morning! – presumptuous, I know, but I am hoping that I have stayed off the naughty list long enough for the big SC to pay me a visit!

We are to be joined by Arch Deacon David Picken on 31<sup>st</sup> January, he is visiting the parish and will be leading the service on that day. It will be interesting to hear him preach, I am looking forward to it, gives us all a chance to hear someone different for a change, a welcome relief I would think!! Do join us if you can, I will let you know details of the arrangements as soon as I know what they will be. David, along with Bishop Gill, will also be visiting on the 20<sup>th</sup> December as I am to be instituted as the vicar, Covid permitting that is, I am not sure what format the service will take, but I am sure it will be lovely and it will be my privilege to be your vicar.

I hope that with the partial relaxation of shut down rules that you will be able to be with those you would choose to be with this Christmas. It's somewhat difficult though isn't it? 3 households together, where do you start to choose who and when you will be with people? For some of us of course there will be no opportunity to be with family or friends, for whatever reason, some may be working, too far away or just shielding so we cannot be together, but that doesn't stop us being together in spirit. Please, whatever you are doing, take time to join us in prayer on Christmas day, the prayers are included on the enclosed sheets. Our prayers, when joined together, will form a circle that will stretch out round Ingol, Cottam and Tanterton and we can impart the love, peace and hope of Christmas to all in our local community.

And as we approach Christmas my prayer for you all is that you remain safe, you can share special times with loved ones and that you are greatly blessed with the light and love of God at this special time. I hope that the new Year brings us all that we hope for, that good health will be for everyone with the advent of the new vaccines, and that we will all be together again very soon.

Take care, be safe, Christmas blessings to you all.

Have a very merry Christmas and a very happy new year.

With love

Rev Rie

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