

Holy Innocent's Church Gt. Barton
Messenger News Letter
January 2021



Dear Parishioner

At the beginning of December, in Advent, we celebrated the Churches New Year and the coming of the Christ child into the world at Christmas. Now, here we are celebrating the beginning of a new calendar year. Also, as I am writing this, we are entering a new phase for our church life. Rev. Manette, having moved on to pastures new.

So, it's been a busy time, but nevertheless, we are endeavouring to maintain our current pattern of worship with the help of retired clergy. Some, of whom we regularly welcome into our Benefice already. There will also be more work for those responsible for arranging the various functions of our church life, but I am hopeful with the support of the PCC, and other colleagues, we can move forward, cautiously, but with a sense of optimism for the way ahead.

Notwithstanding that, we have begun this month on a new journey for The Messenger, our church magazine; hopefully, bringing it to more people and with greater content, whilst maintaining its traditional appeal. It will take time, so don't expect too much all at once. We will also endeavour to print some of the content for those not using or accessing on-line. Taking the publication on-line seemed the obvious next stage, for several reasons. We also want you to be involved with this process and to add content and value, by sharing articles with us.

2020 has been a difficult year for many and for lots of different reasons, and some have said, "I can't wait for the year to end". But, like the new aspects of our church life, I want to take with us into 2021 the positives from 2020. So, if you have a 'good news' story to share, please let us know, so we can share it with others. You may even have some tips you can share with us on a regular basis from your skills list. All of this is about exploring new ways as well as tried and tested ways to communicate.

There is a lot of goodwill in this community and I am sure that doing things for each other makes us stronger together and gives us a sense of well-being. How we care for each other says a lot about us. Checking on those who are isolating, those sheltering themselves, and loved ones; being a good neighbour in getting provisions and prescriptions. Even in these worrying times, practical help; prayer and care go hand-in-hand. We all need healing in one way or another. For those who administer it, thank you! For those who receive it bless you! Sometimes we just need to be reminded that what we already have is enough for God. (Exodus ch4) God doesn't call the qualified, but He qualifies the called.

May I wish you a safe and healthy New Year!

In the Father's love.

Tim

Services January 2021

Sunday 3rd January: Holy Communion at Holy Innocents Church, Great Barton at 10.30am

Sunday 10th January: Plough Sunday (not communion) at St Peter's Church, Thurston at 10.30am

Sunday 17th January: Holy Communion at Holy Innocents Church, Great Barton at 10.30am

Sunday 24th January: Holy Communion at St Peter's Church, Thurston at 10.30am

Sunday 31st January; Holy Communion at Holy Innocents Church, Great Barton at 10.30am

Due to the legislation regarding social distancing, numbers in church are limited so please let us know if you are planning to attend a service.

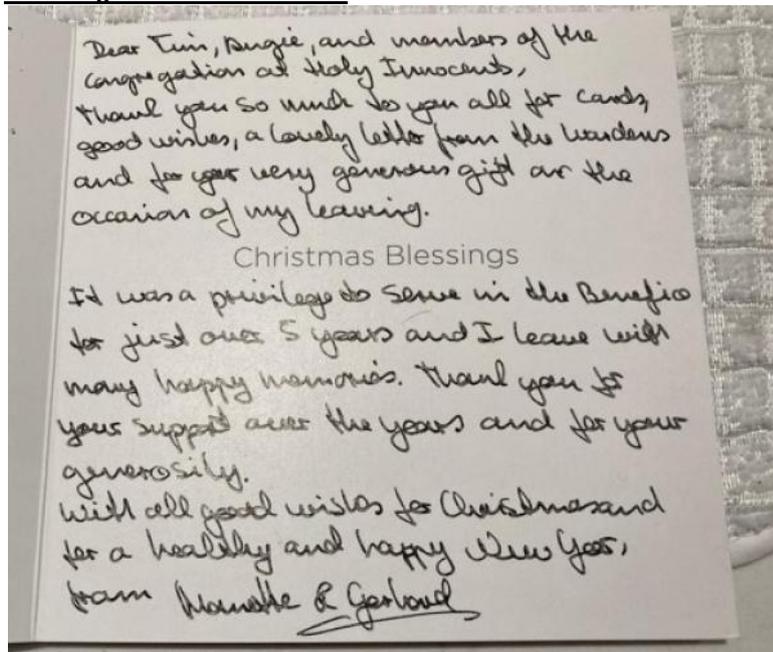
Please contact; -

For services at Great Barton, Tim Frost: 07840 249448 or email timfr0st@yahoo.co.uk

For services at Thurston, Pat Sadler: 07552 234443 or email patsadler@hotmail.com

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A message from Revd Manette



Help needed - The Messenger – your magazine

This new on-line magazine is an opportunity to make our magazine more relevant to our church and community. However, in order for it to succeed we need your contributions. We would like to encourage people to submit articles, reports, photos, poems, recipes, gardening tips etc. In fact anything that will be of interest to our local community. Please help us to make a success of this new venture.

Articles or notices for the Messenger will now need to be sent to Peter Robinson in word format at: benficepr@gmail.com by 20th of each month.

We hope that you will support all those who have been working hard in the background to enable us to retain a magazine here at Holy Innocents, both by accessing the magazine and supplying articles.

Thank you

WANTED

Are you able to help? Holy Innocents church is looking for a working CD player, with an AV port to enable CD's to be replayed back through our sound system. If you have one, and you are willing to donate it, please contact: Tim Frost Churchwarden 01284 787442

Thank you for your support.

Storehouse

For a number of years, the congregation of Holy Innocents have been supporting the Storehouse, a food bank run by the West Suffolk Vineyard Church, with a box in church for contributions. During the current crisis they have seen demand increase to an unprecedented level. With the church being closed we have arranged a drop off point at Tim Frosts, 2 Diomed Drive, which has been well supported. In addition, we have arranged for surplus food from Montana to be transferred to Storehouse each Monday for distribution. Thanks go to Montana for their help in this.

We have also donated goods and money from our Harvest Festival.

If anyone would like to contribute donations can be left at Tim's or taken directly to the West Suffolk Vineyard Church at 28 Northern Way, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 6NL on a weekday morning (not Wednesday) between 9am & 1pm. Donations can also be collected if needed.

In particular they are always in need of tinned main meals and tinned potatoes/vegetables; soup; family size boxes of cereal (not porridge); jam, chocolate spread & peanut butter; and cartons of milk.

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Doorstep Carols

On 16th December, a damp Wednesday evening, Chris and I ventured out to participate in the Doorstep Carol event run by Radio Suffolk in conjunction with Light-wave. We were joined by Tim, who appeared wearing a turkey on his head (don't ask)!

There being no-one singing immediately near us, we set off around Diomed Drive, stopping under each lamp post to sing (if that's what you might call it). We were shortly joined by Marcus and Sarah, and the quality of our singing was greatly improved. The five of us continued round for the next hour. We met several residents who were out singing and several walking their dogs. It gave us an opportunity to speak to our neighbours and get to know them a little better, as well as spread some Christmas spirit. It was really encouraging that people had decided to participate, and I'm sure there were more joining us in the warmth of their own homes (it was very cold and damp). The prize must go to elderly neighbours of ours who put chairs in their porch, blankest on their laps, and sang along to their radio for the whole hour.

Having done this once, maybe we can get a few more out with us next year.

Kathy Drakes

Church Officers

Churchwardens:	Tim Frost.	01284 787442
	Angela Pearce.	01359 230395
Vergers:	Linda Scoles.	01359 230392
GDPR & website:	Peter Robinson.	07814 946841
PCC Secretary:	Jane Dalton.	01284 788613
Treasurer:	Kathy Drakes.	01284 787746

The following Business Adverts are in the on-line version of the Messenger.

David Martin: Vehicle Engineers.

Ecosweep.

FixaLeak.

Guildhall Studio.

John Ranson.

Metcalfe, Copeman, Pettefar LLP.

Rothwells Carpets.

Strands Hair Salon.

TBS Hire.

The Clean Plumber.

The Sausage Shop.