



# St. Mary's Dalton Holme Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 2

December 2016



## Church Wardens

The Lord Hotham 01430-810771

Mr. Giles W. Peacock 01430-810254

Mrs. J. Creaser 01430-810662

## Head Sidesman

Mr. Geoff Creaser 01430-810662

## Services for December

4th	Advent II	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
11th	Advent III	9.30 am	Holy Communion
18th	Advent IV	3.00 pm	Carol Service
24th	Christmas Eve	9.00 pm	First Communion of Christmas

## Thoughts from Rev. John McNaughton

Statistics show a surge in Church attendance at Christmas. Thank God for it. Does it represent a growth in divine understanding? Goodwill, cheerfulness and concern for one another are features of character that come to the fore in most of us at Christmas. Without even thinking about it, we show that we are more than flesh and blood.

We express our character through our flesh and blood. How often have we looked at some surly face and said to ourselves, "What a miserable character!" Or we look at a big smile, and knowing very well what a lot of pain it is hiding, we think spontaneously, "What a lovely character."

We cannot actually see inward character with our eyes until it is expressed in outward flesh and blood. No wonder the classic expression of Christmas is found in the opening verses of St. John's Gospel : "The word was made flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory!"

Just like our own inward character, God is invisible. Long before Christ came into the world courageous prophets communed with God through prayer. They recognised that the time would come when the invisible character of God would shine out in ordinary flesh and blood.

How right they were! That is exactly what happened at Christmas!

We must take very special note, and help our children to understand. God became human to inspire us to become divine; to help us to use our very limited time to develop a character for all eternity. Of course it will bring a new quality to life on earth.

From the depth of my being, I wish you a truly happy Christmas.

John McNaughton 01377 270869

## January Issue

The closing date for the January issue will be **Thursday 15th December**.

Articles should be sent to me in **word format only** at [rac.pfl@btinternet.com](mailto:rac.pfl@btinternet.com)

Robert Coates 01430-810504

## South Dalton Ladies Club

The meeting on the 3rd November was unfortunately cancelled.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, December 1st when Caroline Jackson of Humberside Fire and Rescue will advise us on safety in the home, especially during the festive season.

There are only 2 dates remaining for meeting before the AGM in March:

Thursday January 5th 2017 - A New Year meal at the Robin Hood pub in Middleton on the Wolds.

Thursday February 2nd 2017- Chris and Kath Richardson will baffle us with an antiques quiz.

Thursday March 2nd 2017 - the AGM of the club. All welcome.

Jan Nettleton

## Carol Service

The Annual Carol Service will be held on Sunday 18th December at 3.00 pm



## Church Lights – Christmas 2016

The official lighting will take place on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at 6.00pm.



## British Legion Collection

The collection taken at the Remembrance Day service on 13th November totalled £140.00