

## Annual Report From St Edmund's Church May 2019

In October last year our new Parish Priest arrived with his family to take over the running of the parishes of Martham, Repps, Clippesby and Thurne. His name is Reverend Steven Sivyer, his wife is called Emma they have two children, Nathaniel and Olivia, and live in Martham.

I recently took over as church warden for St Edmund's in Thurne. Pauline Parker who had been doing this job for many years sadly passed away in September last year. I felt compelled to continue with all the hard work she had put in and keep our Church open for parishioners and visitors alike. I am very grateful that Sue and Erny Curtis have volunteered to open and close the Church on a daily basis. When they have been away other people have taken on this job. In other years the church has been closed in the winter time but I felt that it was important to keep it open for people to come and have some quiet reflection if they so wished. I am glad I did as we have had some lovely comments in the visitors book. Angela and Jonathan Molineux helped me to have a good clear out in the vestry which was very satisfying. They donated a lovely table and chairs so we could replace some of the old furniture which had a lot of woodworm.

We had a very successful Candlemas service on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February this year which was well attended. The Church looked lovely and had been decorated by some ladies of Thurne.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April we had our Church PCC Annual meeting, were I was accepted as the new church warden by all who attended. Also elected on the PCC are Carol Delf and David Liddiment. We discussed future plans that Steven has for St Edmund's which are: having more car parking facilities, the possibility of installing a toilet and small kitchenette and contactless payments. We also discussed the clearing of the church yard and Carol and I have taken it upon our selves to get on top of this. We are very grateful for the generous donation from Thurne parish council towards the grass cutting. At this moment in time I cannot give you any figures on how the money was spend but promise to be more transparent next year when we have got on top of the accounts. The new gates should be installed soon as I have chased up the builder, who assured me that they are made and ready to be fitted.

At this moment in time I have nothing more that I can add but please ask me anything you are not sure of and I'll be happy to try and find the answers.

Marcella Olive Church warden.