

Rudgwick

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From the Vicar

Tel: 822127

Email: vicar@rudgwickchurch.org.uk



Dear Friends

Have you started listening to Christmas music yet? (I know some people banned it until the beginning of December) Those classics which get come out every year and remind us that Christmas is once again on its way. Whether it's Mariah Carey reminding us that all she wants for Christmas is you, Bing Crosby singing 'White Christmas' or a bit of Michael Bublé singing Christmas songs, when I hear them played (to paraphrase another song) it's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas! But it is not just listening to Christmas songs on the radio or Spotify, for many of us it wouldn't be Christmas without singing a few carols.

Music is powerful and evocative – reaching deep into our souls. I am always amazed at how we can remember the lyrics to songs years later, whilst people who we seem to have 'lost' to dementia can start coming out of themselves again and join in with singing.

Whilst at Holy Trinity Church we have our more formal Candlelit carol service on the evening of Sunday 22 December, in the morning we have a carol service for everyone. This is a more informal and interactive service with things to watch, join in with and think about but still with the wonderful carols so many of us know and love – where we celebrate the Jesus's birth and wonder at God made man. I do hope you will join us for one of our Carol Services or at some stage over Christmas – you can find details of all the services near the centre of the magazine in the Village Calendar.

Every blessing

Martin King

Cover photo: Holy Trinity Church in the snow, Martin King