

SHORELINE

Skegness Group of Parishes: St Matthew, Skegness; St Clement, Skegness;
St Mary, Winthorpe; SS Peter and Paul, Ingoldmells; St Nicholas, Adlethorpe

December 2019

Issue 50



Distributed FREE throughout Skegness and the Surrounding area

Who's Who in the Ministry Team

Rector	Reverend Richard Holden
Associate Priest	Reverend Michelle Houldershaw
Permanent Deacon	Reverend Christine Anderson
Reader	Jean Smith
Reader	Malcolm Tedman
-assisted by our Lay Ministry Team, Churchwardens and supporting our various Chaplaincies in the Workplace, Hospital, Schools and Families and Bereavement.	
Parish Secretary	Gwen Drury

Contacts: Parish Office open 9am – Noon Mon-Fri
Tel: 01754 763875

email: info@skegness-anglican.org.uk
web page: www.skegness-anglican.org.uk

To book a baptism or a wedding,
come to the Parish Office at St Matthew's Church
on Wednesday 7.00pm - 8.00pm
or on Saturday 10.00am - 11.00am

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A Message from the Rector

The Christmas edition of Shoreline is here. Christmas seems to have come round very quickly this year and people tell me that it is a sign of getting older when the years seem to just fly by. This year as every year we will be looking forward to the coming of Jesus Christ as a tiny baby in that famous stable in Bethlehem. We will be looking forward to the traditional Christmas meal and over indulging on that and with a bit of luck on chocolates and treats. We will be looking forward to getting our presents and the family traditions of when we are allowed to open them. The children will be counting the days, the hours or how many sleeps it is to Christmas. The excitement has been building for months now and we are ready for the day itself. In church we are gearing up for nativity services and Christingle as well as the more formal and traditional Midnight Mass.

In amongst all this busyness and excitement we might well overlook the most important things. When Jesus was born he was given some strange presents, gold, frankincense and myrrh. These may be fine things in themselves but what would little Jesus do with them. He didn't seem to get much to play with, but there was something even more important with him in that stable. There in the stable were his family and his friends and I am sure that they were far more important to him than the three strange presents.

Christmas is a time when we can get together with family. That is what is important. To be able to spend quality time with those we love and who love us. It isn't the things, the presents, and the food, and the stuff that we get that is important but the time that we have to share together. As we get older we look back on the Christmas's of our own past lives and there are the moments that we cherish. Every Christmas I love to watch "A Christmas Carol" to see Scrooge transformed from a miser into a person who loves life and his family and friends. A man who loves Christmas because it gives him the chance to show his love for his family and friends.

Christ came on that first Christmas because God loves us. God loves you and me. That is the great message of Christmas. God loves YOU.

Peace and blessings to you and your family this Christmas.

Revd. Richard G. Holden
Rector Of Skegness



Skegness School Children Bury Keepsakes in Celebration of New £1.6million Community

Skegness Town Council

www.skegness.gov.uk Contact: Tel: 01754 766113

Email: info@skegnesscouncil.org.uk

Children from The Viking School, Skegness have buried handpicked items alongside heartfelt letters in a time capsule within the centre of the town, marking the construction of the eagerly awaited new Tower Gardens Community Building. The time capsule burial was organised by G F Tomlinson, who are delivering the design and construction of the new community building via the Scape Regional Construction framework, for Skegness Town Council.

The ceremony took place within the grounds of Tower Gardens on Wednesday 30 October, with representatives from G F Tomlinson, Skegness Town Council and the Mayor of Skegness in attendance, as well as key project team members and both pupils and staff from The Viking School. Letters composed by the pupils detailing why they love Skegness and describing what they believe the future has to offer for their town have been included within the capsule alongside modern-day items they believed represented the proud history and heritage of their coastal hometown.

Two iconic pin badges were also donated by Skegness Town Council; one depicting the well-known Jolly Fisherman, and another being a former mayor's pin badge featuring the Town Council's crest. The time capsule will now be left untouched for 100 years, before future generations are able to unearth its contents and discover the treasured items preserved for them by the community of Skegness over a century ago.

The time capsule was delivered by G F Tomlinson, as a way of celebrating the exciting development currently under construction within Tower Gardens. The £1.6 million project is due for completion in early 2020, and will create a centrally located, mixed-use community building which is fully accessible and safe for local residents of all ages and abilities.

Town Mayor, Councillor Mark Dannatt, said: "Skegness Town Council would like to thank The Viking School for its support in the filling of our time capsule which will be buried to recall this time when our new Community Building was built.

"This time capsule will give the opportunity for future generations to remember Skegness, the people living here and the things that are important to our young people. Hopefully, future school pupils will be able to use what it contains for their social history studies."



Monthly Music

Each month I am suggesting pieces that are linked by subject or type, starting with an accessible piece and moving to something slightly more challenging. All the pieces can easily be found on the internet and YouTube usually supplies a photo or two to accompany the music.

THIS MONTH CHRISTMAS

We start with 'Troika', a piece by the Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev. In 1933 the composer was commissioned to produce a score for the film 'Lieutenant Kije', a story about a soldier that only existed because of a paperwork error. One scene depicts a journey in a sleigh known as a Troika, pulled by three horses. With sleigh bells and a melody that bounces along it is easy to imagine a fast ride through the snowy Russian countryside. The music was used in the 1975 pop song 'I Believe in Father Christmas' by Greg Lake.

Handel's 'Messiah' is regularly performed at Christmas because the first part of the work deals with the birth of Christ. I would suggest if the work is unfamiliar to you that you start at No. 12 'For Unto us A Child Is Born' and, if you enjoy it, listen through to the end of No. 17 'Glory To God'. This magnificent work was first performed in 1742 in Dublin and lasts nearly three hours.

'Lullay' from 'Stella Natalis' by Karl Jenkins is the third choice this month. The complete set of pieces that make up 'Stella Natalis' are a little hit and miss, with a variety of styles competing for attention. Despite this 'Lullay' feels like a traditional lullaby and glides along in a gentle fashion. The original recorded version has Kate Royal as the soprano soloist and Alison Balsom playing the trumpet.

Benjamin Britten composed 'A Ceremony of Carols' for young voices in 1942. In the third piece in the set, called 'There Is No Rose', the choir sings an early 15th Century English and Latin text which puts the role of Mary into perspective within the story of the birth of Christ.

Because it is Christmas two bonus pieces. Hark The Herald Angels Sing from Rick Wakeman's Christmas Variations and the much longer Carol Symphony by Victor Hely-Hutchinson are both worth a listen.

Peter Coughtrey-Wellsted

How Father Christmas Got Where He Is Today

One person you are bound to run into this Christmas season is Father Christmas. These days he seems to frequent shopping malls and garden centres. If he looks tired, just remember that he has been around a long time and gone through a lot of transformations.

Father Christmas wasn't always the red-suited, white-bearded star of the retail trade that he is today. He began life as Nicholas, born in about AD260 in Patara, an important port on the southern coast of what is now Turkey. When his parents died and left him a fortune, Nicholas gave it away to the poor. He became a bishop of the nearby city of Myra, where he almost certainly suffered persecution and imprisonment at the hand of the Roman Emperor Diocletian.

Nicholas was a serious theologian: he was a participant at the First Council of Nicaea, which formulated the Creed which we still say today. He even, reportedly, slapped another bishop in a squabble over the exact nature of the Trinity.

Nicholas died in Myra in about AD343, but the stories of his generosity and kindness were just beginning. One enduring tale tells of the three girls whom he rescued from certain prostitution by giving them gold for their dowries. When the father confronted him to thank him, Nicholas said he should thank God alone. In the UK, Nicholas became the basis for Father Christmas, who emerged in Victorian times as a jolly-faced bearded character. Meanwhile, Dutch and German settlers had taken him to America with them as Sinter Klaas and Sankt Nicklas.

It was in America that Nicholas received his final two great breaks into real stardom. The first was when the Rev Clement C Moore, a New York Episcopal minister, turned from his life-work of writing a Hebrew/English lexicon, to write a fun poem for his children one Christmas. His 'The Visit of St Nicholas' is now universally known by its first line: 'T'was the Night Before Christmas'.

From Clement Moore we discovered that St Nicholas is round and pink-cheeked and white-bearded, and that he travels at night with sleigh, reindeer and a sack of toys on his back. It was Clement Moore who also revealed that St Nicholas enters houses down chimneys and fills children's stockings with toys and sweets.

So how did we find out that Father Christmas wears red? That was the US Coca-Cola advertising campaign of 1931, who finally released the latest, up-to-date pictures of Father Christmas, wearing a bright red, fur-trimmed coat and a large belt.

These days, it is good that Father Christmas uses reindeer and doesn't have to pay for petrol. In order to get round all the children in the world on Christmas Eve, he will have to travel 221 million miles at an average speed of 1279 miles a second, 6,395 times the speed of sound. For all those of us who are already exhausted just rushing around getting ready for Christmas, that is a sobering thought.

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A Home Front Christmas from May Hill's Diaries

At 11.15pm on Thursday December 25th 1941, May Hill wrote in her Diary:

We have had a nice quiet Xmas, it has not seemed like Xmas Day at all to me. We have missed Ron [son -based at RAF Binbrook, awaiting a new posting], but know he would get a good dinner and be having a good time with Jeff and Vic, tho' he would have liked to be at home.

Photo: Wellington bomber air crew and ground crew at RAF Binbrook, 1941



We have plenty of good food this Xmas, we had home-made sausage [from own-reared pig] for breakfast broiled in the broiler I had made last year. Spare rib with apple-sauce onion potato and brussels sprouts, and Xmas pudding just a little less rich than pre-war, with custard (powder) sauce.

For tea we did not eat a lot but had the Xmas cake, only made on Monday as we had not the ingredients until then but it is very good and we had a thin layer of almond (substitute) paste on top and Rene [grown-up daughter] decorated it with coloured marzipan and choc. Of course we had some mince-pies left and biscuits.

In the afternoon we had some choc. Caley's Plain Tray, very good, and a ¼ lb bar of Cadbury's fruit and nut. We have a few apples too. Canadians at 9d lb. very good too.

We had pork pie for supper (home-made), early because Father [May's husband Will] had to go on watch at 8. p.m. He has a new Coastguard cap, the other was always rather small, this is far more comfortable.

More from May Hill's Diaries can be found online by searching 'may hill wwii'.

The book 'The Casualties Were Small' £8.99 containing selected Diary extracts, poetry, photos and notes is available from Church Farm Village Museum. For more information or to order by post please telephone Tom Ambridge on 01394 385412.

The Casualties Were Small

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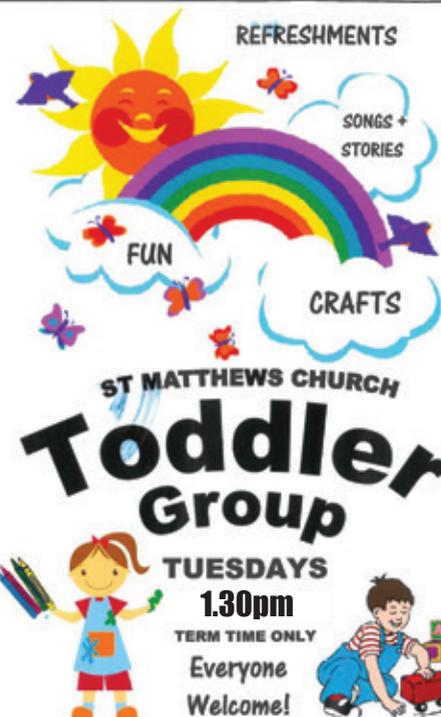
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Sudoku Time

Can you take on our Sudoku puzzle?

The First Gift of Christmas

A mother and daughter were talking one day
 Their conversation just blew me away
 The mother asked the girl
 Tell me please do
 What was the first Christmas gift
 Given to you
 I don't mean the toys or
 the cash from grandma
 I mean something special that
 Came from afar

She thought for a moment then started to say
 You mean what was given
 That first Christmas Day

Yes said the mother you've got that right
 So what was given
 On that special night

Was it the lamb
 The stable or manger
 The straw that He lay on
 To keep him from danger
 The gifts that the Kings brought
 From lands far away
 Which one was the gift
 On the first Christmas Day

The mother then said think what is true
 The greatest gift that was given to you
 From our Dear Father in Heaven above
 The greatest gift given with love
 His own dear Child so vulnerable and small
 Selflessly given and laid in a stall
 The mother's words rang strong and true
 He Gave His Son to save me and you

Patricia Sheen

Useful Numbers

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 Parish office 01754 763875
 Lincoln Diocese Safeguarding team
 Debbie Johnson 01522 504081
 Mobile 07712321361
 Penny Turner 01522 504080
 Mobile 07432522412

Emergency services

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 Police Non-emergency 03001 110300
 Skegness police 01754762222
 Local police 101

Social care

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 Adults 01522 782155
 Carers Team 01522 782224
 Emergency number
 Out of hours 01522 782333

Emotional helplines

Samaritans 116 123

SANEline 0300 304 7000
 CALM 0800 525252

Prevention of Young suicide (under 35)
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 Text 07786209697
 The Mix (under 25 support)
 0808 8084994

Support for families and carers

Survivors of bereavement by suicide (SoBS)
 07580 358419
 0300 1115065
 YoungMinds parent helpline
 0808 8025544

Other useful contact numbers

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 Stop it Now (NSPCC) 0808 800 5000
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 Elder Abuse 0808 8088141
 Domestic violence 0808 2000247
 Shelter 0808 800 4444
 Nomad Lincoln (homelessness)
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Jo Blogs! Jo Wheeler

It's that time of year again! Genuinely can't believe Christmas is just around the corner and we're heading for the end of another decade.

Regular readers may know that I harbour deep suspicions about December! It's a 'snakes and ladders' month in which you believe day on day that you're making progress in your Christmas preparations only to find there's a sudden whoosh, it's arrived and you're nowhere near ready. It's the calendar equivalent of a huge water slide in which the days of Advent are spent flailing hopelessly, out of control, being carried at speed towards an immovable goal, with very little time to think.

Parents and grandparents alike face the prospect of 19 nativity plays, at least 12 carol concerts, a handful of fancy dress/Christmas jumper days (requiring panic buying or extreme knitting) and a surfeit of mince pies and mulled wine. There'll be the office Christmas do, and a cluster of social invites from people who mistakenly believe that anyone has the TIME for any such activities in December.

Ranty ranty, festive rant! I'm just waiting for Santa to get with the programme and to stop limiting himself to gift delivery, which, let's be honest, Amazon and most online stores do just as well and efficiently without the need to dress up. The gap in the market Santa dear, is to deploy some of your backstage crew to help with the cooking, cleaning and pantry checks. A spot of decorating and grouting wouldn't go amiss either.

But if Christmas is the bridezilla of the year; the time consuming, attention seeking prima donna, New Year is the sulky distant cousin who only got invited to the evening do.

I can never quite work out whether it's a happy or a sad occasion? Auld Lang Syne is heart wrenching, however bouncily sung, but a new year reminds us that we're lucky to still be here and hope for new beginnings.

Many of us have welcomed in milestone years. 2000 was a biggy and not only because of y2k (Say what?) Y2k was a numeronym which referred to the Millenium bug which was feared would mess up all our technology overnight by reverting back to the year 1900 instead of going meekly into the 21st Century. It's bad enough when your mobile phone doesn't automatically switch between British Summer Time and Greenwich Mean time, but y2k threatened to cause worldwide chaos. It didn't happen but it was worth worrying about at the time.

Depending on your age, 1999 was important too. For years, at the behest of the artist formerly known as Prince, we'd been partying like it was 1999 whilst having no idea what partying in 1999 might be like. But it sounded good, it sounded aspirational and I can't have been the only one who was slightly disappointed to find that the year was rather unremarkable and distinctly lacking in parties of any hue.

Back in the day, when we used cheques to spend our money, a new year would mean a clutch of cancelled transactions as you put the wrong date in the box and had to rip it up. Schoolwork would always be headed by date and title and January emphasised the necessity for a competent

eraser to correct errors. These days, we have very little reason to write out the date by hand, nor even on the computer thanks to autofill, so time slips by unnoticed.

This year however, the date clicks over from 2019, or two thousand and nineteen as I like to call it, to 2020. Try as I might (and believe me I have), I can't think of anything else to call next year other than twenty twenty. Two thousand and twenty just doesn't sound right, but twenty twenty sounds so... American!

I've tried consoling myself with the thought that the same must have happened in the 1900s. Early years would have been 'in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and one/two' but by 1920, everyone would have relaxed back to the easier 'nineteen twenty'. We had a taste of this with the London Olympics in 2012. Not only did the event have the most hideous logo known to mankind, which looked as though it was created using cut potatoes and poster paints, but my skin crawled every time I heard it referred to as Twenty Twelve. Not that I ever had much inclination to talk about it, but if I did, I was very specific in saying the 'London Olympics, two thousand and twelve'. So, I've held out this long. With the century coming of age, I know there's no choice but I'm still sad to see the early and teen years disappear.

Maybe 2020 will improve our eyesight as the jokes on the internet suggest? We could certainly do with some clarity in our lives at the moment! And we should look to the future with hope and belief whatever we call it. In the meantime, enjoy the dog days of two thousand and nineteen (I knew I could get another one in), have a wonderful Christmas and a lovely New Year.





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Five Ways to 'Get the Best Out of Christmas'

As prepared by the Diocesan Mission Team

That time is nearly upon us, and it will creep up quickly. Here are five suggestions for making the best of our celebration of the birth of Jesus.

1. Look forward

It is so easy to see the very important concerns about food, cards, presents and parties overshadow the most important. Could you deliberately build in some time each day or each week during Advent to stop, calm yourself, and refocus? A Strange Christmas by Krish Kandiah is a great little book to help us prepare.

2. Look around

No doubt there will be some extra church activities going on over Christmas, but did you know that research has shown that 20% of people in Britain would be grateful for an opportunity to think about who Jesus is? We have so often believed the lie that no-one is interested in our faith. So, seek the seekers, and invite them to something. Who do you know who is likely to be keen to find out more?

3. Look outwards

Deuteronomy 26 contains the instructions for celebrating the Jewish Harvest Festival, but built into the chapter are encouragements to remember the foreigners, widows and orphans in the land in their celebrations. Is there anyone you might include in your festivities, who might otherwise go without?

4. Look again

Part of Christmas is the repetition of readings, prayers and carols that we have been using since 'the year dot'. Could you address the familiarisation by choosing to think more deeply about the words we're using? Ask the Holy Spirit to give you one new insight into the Christmas story this year, or take maybe just one line from a carol and let it dwell in your thoughts and prayers.

5. Look up

When all the presents are wrapped and the sprouts peeled, take some time to reconnect with the wonder of it all, which can so easily get lost among the mundane. The God of the Universe, the King of Kings and Lord above all Lords stepped down into our world in the shape of a newborn baby so that we might know God and share the eternity of heaven, feasting at his table! Wow! What a tragedy if we miss that!

Don't forget to look out for #FollowTheStar, the 'national Advent and Christmas campaign' with accompanying resources offered by the Church of England.



Skegness Group of Parishes
(St Matthew – Skegness, St Clement – Skegness, St Mary – Winthorpe,
St Peter & St Paul – Ingoldmells, St Nicholas – Addlethorpe)

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve

4.00 pm St Peter & St Paul Ingoldmells, Crib Service

6.00 pm St Clement Skegness, Crib Service

4.00 pm St Matthew, Crib Service with Christingle

7.00 pm St Mary Winthorpe, Carol Service

9.00 pm St Peter & St Paul Ingoldmells, Midnight Mass

11.30 pm St Matthew Skegness, Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

10 am St Matthew Skegness, Group Service



Community Diary Dates December 2019

Each month we show the Church Diary Dates. We would like to have a page of Community Diary Dates but we need you to tell us those dates. If you know of any event that is happening in the area please do let us know so that we can add it to the diary. The more people who know the more support you will get at your event!

W I meet 7.15pm

The Pavilion, Wainfleet Road, Skegness

3 December

Christmas Social & Faith Supper
Competition-Something Sparkly

7 January 2020

Speaker-Mathew Blissett

Donna Nook Warden

Competition-All at Sea



Church Diary Dates December 2019

Sunday 1	9.30 – 10.30 am – St Matthews, Skegness – Group Breakfast
Sunday 1	11.00 am – St Matthews, Skegness – Holy Communion Service
Tuesday 3	10.30 am – St Clements, Skegness – Mothers Union Corporate Communion Followed by Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 3	1.30 pm – St Matthews, Skegness – Toddler Group
Wednesday 4	10.00 am – SS Peter & Paul, Ingoldmells – Pop in for a coffee and a chat
Wednesday 4	10.30 am – SS Peter & Paul, Ingoldmells – Holy Communion Service
Thursday 5	10.30 am – St Matthews, Skegness – Holy Communion Service
Thursday 5	1.00 pm – St Mathews, Skegness – Lunch followed by Craft Group at 2.00 pm
Friday 6	10.00 am – 12 noon – St Matthews, Skegness – Pop in for coffee and a chat
Sunday 8	9.30 am - St Clements, Skegness – Morning Worship Service
Sunday 8	9.30 am – St Mary, Winthorpe – Holy Communion Service
Sunday 8	11.00 am – St Matthews, Skegness – Holy Communion Service
Sunday 8	11.00 am – St Matthews, Skegness – Friends & Heroes Club for children
Tuesday 10	10.30 am – St Clements, Skegness – Holy Communion Service
Tuesday 10	1.30 pm – St Matthew, Skegness – Toddler Group
Wednesday 11	10.00 am – SS Peter & Paul, Ingoldmells – Pop in for coffee and a chat
Wednesday 11	10.30 am – SS Peter & Paul, Ingoldmells – Holy Communion Service
Wednesday 11	2.00pm – St Matthew's Skegness - Omega

Thursday, 12	10.30 am – St Matthews, Skegness – Holy Communion Service
Thursday 12	1.00 pm – St Mathews, Skegness – Craft Group at 2.00 pm
Friday, 13	10.00 am – 12 noon – St Matthews, Skegness – Pop in for coffee and a chat
Saturday 14	4.00pm-St Matthew Church, Skegness-Messy Church-Fun for all the family
Sunday, 15	9.30 am - St Clements, Skegness – Holy Communion Service
Sunday 15	9.30 am – St Mary, Winthorpe – Morning Worship Service
Sunday 15	11.00 am – St Matthews, Skegness – Morning Worship Service
Sunday 15	11.00 am – SS Peter & Paul, Ingoldmells – Holy Communion Service
Tuesday 17	10.30 am – St Clements, Skegness – Holy Communion Service
Tuesday 17	1.30 pm – St Matthews, Skegness – Toddler Group
Wednesday 18	10.00 am – SS Peter & Paul, Ingoldmells – Pop in for a coffee and a chat
Wednesday 18	10.30 am – SS Peter & Paul, Ingoldmells – Holy Communion Service
Thursday 19	10.30 am – St Matthews, Skegness – Holy Communion Service
Thursday 19	1.00 pm – St Mathews, Skegness – Craft Group at 2.00 pm
Thursday 19	2.00 pm- New Horizons, Christmas Lunch
Friday 20	10.00 am – 12 noon – St Matthews, Skegness – Pop in for coffee and a chat
Sunday 22	9.30 am – St Nicholas, Addlethorpe – BCP Holy Communion Service
Sunday 22	9.30 am - St Clements, Skegness – Morning Worship Service
Sunday 22	9.30 am – St Mary, Winthorpe – Morning Worship Service
Sunday 22	11.00 am – St Matthews, Skegness – Holy Communion Service
Sunday 22	11.00 am – St Matthews, Skegness – Friends & Heroes Club for children
Tuesday 24	4.00 pm St Peter & St Paul, Crib Service
	6.00 pm St Clement, Crib Service
	4.00 pm St Matthew, Crib Service with Christingle
	7.00 pm St Mary, Carol Service
	9.00 pm St Peter & St Paul, Midnight Mass
	11.30 pm St Matthew, Midnight Mass
Wednesday 25	10.00 am St Matthew, Group Service– Holy Communion
Sunday 29	11.00 am – St Matthews, Skegness Group Service – Holy Communion

January 2020

Sunday 5	9.30 – 10.30 am – St Matthews, Skegness – Group Breakfast
Sunday 5	11.00 am – St Matthews, Skegness – Holy Communion Service
Tuesday 7	10.30 am – St Clements, Skegness – Holy Communion Service
Tuesday 7	1.30 pm – St Matthews, Skegness – Toddler Group
Wednesday 8	10.00 am – SS Peter & Paul, Ingoldmells – Pop in for a coffee and a chat
Wednesday 8	10.30 am – SS Peter & Paul, Ingoldmells – Holy Communion Service
Wednesday 8	2.00 pm – St Matthews, Skegness – Omega
Thursday 9	10.30 am – St Matthews, Skegness – Holy Communion Service

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