



St Mark's Church, Reigate

January 2022

Letter from the Vicar, Father Martin Colton

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year!

As if from nowhere, 2022 has arrived. 2021 with all its ups and downs is behind us and a new year lies ahead of us. With any New Year there are always thoughts about what it will bring for each of us, yet we look forward with expectation and hope that it will be a better year in many ways.

We may choose to take up a New Year's resolution because we believe it will benefit us. Resolutions can be positive steps in improving our life in one way or another, physically or mentally. But when in our looking ahead to the new and improved us do we consider our spirituality? That part of us that constantly searches for the meaning in life, the purpose for our existence, the "more and beyond" than the present world can offer us, that connection with God ... creator of the physical world we experience.

Advent maybe behind us but we should try to hang onto the periods of stillness and quiet that we tried to create in our waiting for Christmas and the birth of Christ, God in our world. Moments of pausing and reflecting on where we have seen God throughout the day, learning to recognise God's actions in ourselves and others as well as how we are being blessed. Spirituality is beyond our physical or material needs, it is a lifestyle that feeds our connectedness with God.

So, as we enter this New Year – with whatever it will bring – let us connect with the gift we were given again at Christmas. To connect with Christ, light of the world, and the love of God expressed through him.

With every blessing for a peaceful and fruitful new year.