

OUR NEW RECTOR – REV. DR. JAMES PORTER

It is with very great pleasure that we were recently able to announce the appointment of James Porter as our new Rector to the two congregations at St. Mary's and Life. At present, James is curate at the large parish church at Cromer, Norfolk, where he has been for four years.

Both he and his wife, Katie, qualified as doctors. He was a junior doctor at St. Bart's and the Royal London before deciding to become ordained. They have 5 daughters and plan to move here in time for the start of the school year in September.

His experience includes not only a full range of Sunday services with different worship styles, but also setting up various aspects of pastoral work, school assemblies, co-ordinating a home group system, a mission action group, leading a 14 to 18 age youth group, and running courses similar to Alpha.

“Out of hours”, he keeps fit, plays the piano and organ, and is teaching himself the bass guitar. He enjoys cooking and investing time with his family and he hopes to play sport of some kind in Horsley.

We are completely sure that we shall enjoy having James to lead our church and to have his family to live among us. Above all, we are so grateful to God for guiding us throughout this process. By the time they arrive we shall have been well over a year without a Rector. During that time, we have prayed hard and have had to be patient but, as is so often the case, waiting is part of God's answer to prayer.

Jill Davis and Peter Davies – Churchwardens.

May 2009