



### **A message from Ian Waring-Green our new Focal Minister**

I suspect (maybe wrongly, and if so I'm sure someone will tell me!) that the words "trail-blazing" and "Bighton" have not often been used in the same sentence. However, Bishop David rectified that on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December in All Saints' Church. In very good form, in spite of a voice on the verge of giving out, he presided at the first such service in the Diocese of Winchester: a service of commissioning me as Focal Minister to Bighton. (You will see from the photo that I have a Certificate to prove it!) This was followed later in the afternoon by a similar service to commission Sue Armstrong in St Mary's Old Alresford. The two of us are the first FM's in Winchester and join a small (but, I suspect, increasing) number in the UK.

The role is in response to the ever-more stretched clergy, most of whom are looking after several churches at once. The FM role is, among other things, to:

- Be the local point of contact in the parish for their whole community
- Be the 2-way link between the parish and the incumbent
- Lead worship and undertake work (pastoral etc) as agreed with the incumbent
- Actively encourage the development of the talents and gifts of all in the worshipping community
- To be, with the incumbent, mindful of the need to be aware of anyone as a possible future candidate for the role to ensure a continuing ministry of this kind in the parish.

I look forward to meeting more of you, and expanding the ways in which I can serve this terrific community.

Ian Waring Green, Focal Minister for Bighton.



Bishop David, and our new Rector Heather Brearey and Ian.