



The Vicar of Dibley Specials 2004/5

A decade of divine comedy

Dawn French returns as the most irreverent reverend in these hilarious and moving seasonal specials of Richard Curtis's award-winning comedy; one of the BBC's most popular sitcoms of all time.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Vicar of Dibley was the UK's most popular comedy show of 1999. One episode had over 14 million viewers, 20th in the overall ratings for the year. It was also the second most watched programme of Christmas Day 1999.

Over the years, the three series have earned numerous awards, most recently an International Emmy.

The theme music is Psalm 23 with music composed by Howard Goodall.

Entertainment

Christmas Special: 1 x 53 minutes

New Year Special: 1 x 47 minutes

UK TX Dates: 25/12/04 and 1/1/05

BBC ONE

Christmas Special

Five years since the last visit to England's most eccentric parish, the weird and wonderful characters of Dibley return, with the chocoholic vicar, her not-so-bright best friend Alice and the men of the village, affectionately referred to even by themselves as 'a bunch of morons'. It's also exactly ten years since Geraldine became the first female vicar of Dibley and everyone is determined to celebrate her anniversary. As usual, nothing goes quite as planned. The carol-writing competition produces some of the worst rhyming couplets ever written – Geraldine manages to head off the plan to have a stripper at the Christmas eve cocktail party – but can't stop a fateful chocolate gift that ends in disaster. This only adds to the complications of an unexpected visit of a supermodel in bra and pants, a bout of depression from Frank Pickle and the threat of a leather-bound illustrated Bible as Geraldine's primary present – her 23rd leather-bound illustrated Bible. A charming tale of alcoholism, gluttony, promiscuity and ecclesiastical disaster, which, fortunately, ends very happily indeed.

New Year Special

It is the start of 2005 and Geraldine is very keen to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Live Aid – something about which the villagers are not initially over-enthusiastic. Eventually, she convinces them all to write to the Prime Minister – only to find out that all but one think Margaret Thatcher is still in charge of the country. Meanwhile, Geraldine has decided that she doesn't even want her 40th birthday mentioned, let alone celebrated. As ever the villagers disagree and decide that the best way to make it a birthday to remember is a night out for their vicar at "Suzie's Speed Dating Extravaganza". After initial hesitation, Geraldine is actually quite keen. As it turns out, she would have been wiser to stick to her initial reaction. Love is not round the corner – but finally, in a strange twist of fate

– the parishioners celebrate together in a way that Geraldine herself admits is the best birthday present she could have hoped for.

Starring

Dawn French

as Reverend Geraldine Granger
Wild West, French and Saunders, Murder Most Horrid

Gary Waldhorn

as David Horton
Campaign, French and Saunders

Emma Chambers

as Alice Horton
Martin Chuzzlewit, Notting Hill

James Fleet

as Hugo Horton
Four Weddings and a Funeral

Roger Lloyd Pack

as Owen Newitt
Only Fools and Horses, Dalziel and Pascoe

Trevor Peacock

as Jim Trott
Family Business

John Bluthal

as Frank Pickle
In Sickness and in Health, Q

Production

Written by

Richard Curtis

Notting Hill, Four Weddings and a Funeral, Love Actually, Blackadder, Mr Bean

Paul Mayhew-Archer

My Hero, Nelson's Column
Director

Martin Dennis

Coupling, Carrie and Barry, Men Behaving Badly
Producer

Philippa Catt

Swiss Toni, Lenny Henry, Star, Jam
Executive Producers

Richard Curtis

Peter Bennett-Jones (Tiger Aspect)
Jon Plowman (BBC)

A Tiger Aspect Production for BBC

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