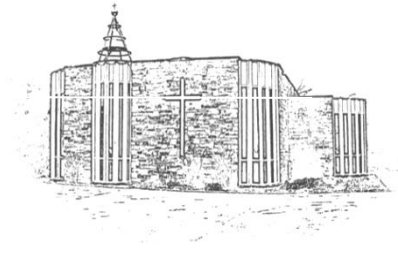


Parishes of Harden and Wilsden



Newsletter for 15th December 2019

Welcome to church today. We hope and pray that you will enjoy your time here and that you may encounter the presence of the living God. If you are a visitor then the following information may be helpful.

- We have a loop system. If appropriate switch hearing aids to “T”.
- We have large print copies of most worship material – please ask.
- Gluten free wafers are available – please request before the service begins.
- Whatever your tradition, you are welcome to share in Holy Communion.
- Toilet facilities are available including baby changing and disabled facilities.
- We hope you will join us for refreshments after the service.

Please take this sheet home with you!

Sunday 15 December		3rd in Advent		
Wilsden	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 35 :1-10	Matthew 11 :2-11
Wilsden	11.00 am	Cafe Church		
Harden	11.15 am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 35 :1-10	Matthew 11 :2-11
Harden/Wilsden	6.30 pm	Carol Service		

Services Next Sunday		
Wilsden	9.30 am	Morning Worship
Wilsden	11.00 am	Café Church with Holy Communion
Harden	11.15 am	Morning Worship
Wilsden	6.30 pm	Holy Communion

Diary for the next week

Wed 18 th Dec	10.00 am	Holy Communion at St. Matthew's
Sat 21 st Dec	10.00 am	Decorating St. Matthew's

Dates for your diary

Christmas Day	Joint Service of Holy Communion at St. Saviour's at 10.30 – please note the earlier time
Thurs 26 Dec to Mon 30 Dec	Inn Churches night shelter at St. Matthew's
Sunday 29 December	Joint Benefice 5 th Sunday Holy Communion Service at Denholme Shared Church at 10.30 am There will be no service at St. Saviour's or St. Matthew's on that day.

Please note that there will be no service of Holy Communion at St. Matthew's on Wednesday 1st January 2020.

Christmas Cards This year, rather than sending lots of Christmas cards to all your Church friends, why not bring one Christmas card for everyone in Church. There will be a board to display them all and if you would like to donate the money that you have saved, that would be brilliant. It will go to the Children's Society. *Richard.*

Recycle your ink cartridges and raise money for Inn Churches, who can use any cartridges with 'printhead' metallic contacts but not laser toners. A box will be available in each family room and will be emptied regularly.

Wilsden Living Advent Calendar 2019 During Advent until Christmas, a decorated window will 'open' each evening at a new address as part of Wilsden's 'Living Advent Calendar'. They will stay lit until Twelfth Night (6th January) Pick up a programme in church or from the St. Matthew's web-site.

The Leprosy Mission can sell used stamps to help support their work. Please bring your used stamps to put in the box in each church. (leave a border of about 1/2 cm or 1/4 inch around the stamp) Stamps of all kinds, foreign and GB, even the most ordinary can be used. A recent letter said, "a gift of stamps has given hope, bringing light into darkness and demonstrating that people affected by leprosy are not forgotten."

Music at Christmas Last Tuesday singers from Churches Together presented a short service of carols, prayers, and a reading to the residents of Laurel Bank with Judith Bryan starring on the piano.

On Thursday, the New Inn in Wilsden was crowded for the annual Carols in the Pub. Churches and community joined together to sing the old favourites and to raise money for Inn Churches. Peter Mann was in his element as a pub organist. One group, keen to sing "Five gold rings", donated £51 for the privilege. A total of £200 was raised for our shelter. The Christmas quiz was popular, if obscure. Did you know that the largest Christmas cracker in the world was pulled by 1478 people? Do you care?

The quality of singing improved dramatically on Saturday morning when a scratch choir from Trinity and St. Matthew's met in Stephen Smith's. Led by Sue Mitchell, they sang carols in what, after more than 20 years, has become a Wilsden tradition.

This evening we will worship God in song at our Carol Services.

"O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song."
Psalm 100.

St. Saviour's Flower Rota for 2020 - Dates for 2020 are displayed on the noticeboard at the back of church. Please sign if you are willing to arrange flowers or to make a donation for flowers to mark a celebration or to remember a loved one.

For data protection reasons if you would like the anniversary or special occasion mentioned in the church newsletter please ensure that you sign the box to give us permission to do so. Donations should be given to Jean Crerer.

Many thanks to all who gave so generously to enhance our church in 2019.

100 Club The winners of the November monthly draw:

27 – Clive Allsop £25

10- Malcolm Jones - £10

Craft and Chat at St. Matthew's No further meetings in December. We will begin again on Friday 3rd January. On the following week, the 10th, we will prepare crafts for Pick'n'Mix.

Decorating the Church at St. Matthew's. Do come along to lend a hand at 10am on Saturday the 21st December.

Christingle Help needed please to prepare Christingles in each of our churches on Monday 23rd December. 10am to 12 noon at St. Matthew's and from 2pm at St. Saviour's.

Please note that next week's newsletter will be the last one for 2019, please let us have any entries for it in good time.

Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 15th December

Because of print deadlines this prayer diary cannot respond quickly to breaking news. In addition to the suggested topics, please keep in prayer national and international events as you learn of them.

Sun	15-Dec	Pray for all who come to carol services at any of the churches in the villages today
Mon	16-Dec	Pray for those who work in our village Post Offices and for those who deliver the post
Tue	17-Dec	Pray for the work of all charities supporting the homeless, their help needed more than ever at this time of year.
Wed	18-Dec	Pray for older people in our communities particularly if winter weather is causing problems.
Thu	19-Dec	CMS ask for prayer today for mission partners Daniel and Sarah in Brazil helping to run safe houses for children at risk.
Fri	20-Dec	The Leprosy Mission ask us to pray this month for their 'Hospital Heroes' including a small medical team working in Sudan.
Sat	21-Dec	Pray for any who are housebound and not able to share in Christmas activities as they used to.

Prayer Chains at St. Matthew's and St. Saviour's.

St. Matthew's: Margaret Harrison 272305. (Reserve is Dorothy 01274 497898)

St. Saviour's: June Thompson 273787. (Reserve is Hazel 274234)

Please pray for: Beatrice Waddington and all those no longer able to join our services
Bob and Suzanne Evans Malcolm and Di Halliday

Please give contributions for the next newsletter to Pauline - Tel: 01535 273814
email: pstern155@gmail.com (and copy to David Haigh: david@haigh.demon.co.uk
and to Helen Ludkin) **Copy Deadline:** 12.00h on the **WEDNESDAY** before publication

Please note we can only mention people, by name, in the newsletter with their consent.

Websites: www.stmatthewswilsden.org.uk www.stsavioursharden.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Helen Ludkin: beneficehwcd@gmail.com 07788848830

Team Rector: Revd Richard Burge: richard.burge@leeds.anglican.org
01535 273758 and for urgent calls: 07484275887

Team Vicar: Rev Suzy McCarter: suzanne_mccarter@msn.com 01535 270687

Benefice Facebook page - 'Harden, Wilsden, Cullingworth, Denholme Benefice'