

## NOTICES

**Coffee Stop in Colmworth Church on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December and 10<sup>th</sup> January.** Come and join us for a coffee and a chat - 10.30 a.m to noon. All welcome.

**Colmworth** guided walks will continue at 10 a.m. on **Wednesday mornings**, meeting at the triangle near the church. All welcome.

**Colmworth Community Lunch** takes place on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January** in church at 12 noon. Contact Heather on 376513 to book.

Christmas Concert in **St Denys Church Colmworth** on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December** at 7.00pm. The Orpheus Choir of North Herts will be singing music with a Christmas theme and there will be opportunities to join in with some well-known carols. Tickets £10.00 (under 16s £5.00) available from Angela, 376835 or Felicity 376887. Mulled Wine/Prosecco and Mince Pies available on arrival and during the interval. Organised by the Friends of St Denys with all proceeds going to the Church Restoration Fund.

**Colmworth Gardening Club** invite you to join them at the triangle garden on **Sunday December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 p.m.** when the Christmas lights will be switched on. This will be followed by Carol singing and then mince pies and drinks in the Church.

**Colmworth and Neighbours History Society** meet on **January 19<sup>th</sup>** at Colmworth Village Hall 7.30 – 9.30 p.m. Clare Mulley “The Spy who Loved”. All welcome.

**Quiz Night** at Ravensden Village Hall on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December - 7** for 7.30. Fish/Chicken and Chip Supper £10 a ticket from Chris 771222 or Michele 07999 870876.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

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# Wilden, Ravensden & Colmworth Newsletter

**December 2017 & January 2018**

## **Christmas 2017 #GODwithus**

Inside the newsletter this month you will find a flyer about the services we have around the benefice to help us all celebrate Christmas. Keep that safe as it tells you what is happening and where! We would love to see you at any of those services or events.

Some of the services we have held before, like our Carol Service at Ravensden on 17th December. Come along to this to sing carols, hear the choir and the handbell ringers and take part in a traditional carol service. But some events will be a bit different so I'll just highlight a few things here.

On 8th December, we are holding **Campfire Carols with Beer and Burgers** at Wilden Green. It starts at 7pm which gives you time to sing carols and have a drink before heading to Wilden School for Wreath Making and Christmas stalls from 7.30-9.30. The Carol singing is all age friendly, please bring a torch or lantern and come ready to sing! This is a good event to come to if you like a more relaxed approach to the singing or sing better with a beer!

On 21st December, we are holding a **Blue Christmas service** at Ravensden. Elvis Presley sang “I'll have a blue Christmas without you” and this service is for those who find that everyone else seems happy at Christmas but are struggling to be joyful themselves. This will be a gentle service to recognise sadness, share hope and to help you know that you are not alone.

Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year and we have two services that are All Age friendly. The theme for the services is **The Greatest Journey**. Come dressed as a nativity character: angels, shepherds, Mary, Joseph, wise men or farm animals - there's a part for everyone! Bring any props you'll need for the imaginary journey like boots, walking sticks, maps, flask or anything you take on a trip. Prizes for the most imaginative! This service will be at Wilden at 4pm or Colmworth at 6pm.

If you would like to be part of the first communion of Christmas, our Midnight Communion is in Wilden this year and starts at 11.30pm. Our Christmas Day service is at 9.30am and will be at Colmworth. Come along to this for an All Age communion (there'll probably be lots of chocolates!)

You'll find more about our services on [achurchnearyou.com](http://achurchnearyou.com) and look out for the invitations and posters. The message #GODwithus, is the message being shared by lots of Churches this Christmas. And, this Christmas, we invite you to come and celebrate the birth of Jesus who is God with us.

Madeleine.

## SERVICES FOR December 2017

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December

Ravensden 4.00 p.m. Christingle & Lighting of the Cross

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

Colmworth 9.00 a.m. Benefice Holy Communion  
Wilden 10.30 a.m. Benefice All together Service

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Colmworth 9.00 a.m. Benefice Morning Worship  
Ravensden 10.30 a.m. Benefice All together Service  
Wilden 6.00 p.m. Benefice Evensong

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Ravensden 6.00 p.m. Benefice Nine Lessons & Carols

### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December

Ravensden 7.30 p.m. Blue Christmas Service

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Ravensden 9.00 a.m. Benefice Holy Communion

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve

Wilden 4.00 p.m. Children's Christmas Eve service  
Colmworth 6.00 p.m. Children's Christmas Eve service  
Wilden 11.30 p.m. Midnight Communion

### Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day

Colmworth 9.30 p.m. All Age Christmas Day Communion

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December Do Something Different Sunday:

A reflective communion service for everyone and all ages: **Colmworth 9 a.m.** This is a service for the 'in between' Sunday having celebrated Christmas Day and still waiting for the New Year to begin. We'll start at 9 a.m. with breakfast refreshments and then continue with worship finishing our service with a simple communion. Join us if you and your family want to give thanks and look forward at the New Year with God before the next round of celebrations start.

### Readings

December 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Isaiah 64. 1-9	1 Corinthians 1. 3-9	Mark 13. 24-37
December 10 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 40. 1-11	2 Peter 3. 8-15a	Mark 1. 1-8
December 17 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 61. 1-4, 8-11	1 Thess 5. 16-24	John 1.6-8, 19-28

## SERVICES FOR January 2018

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

Colmworth 9.00 a.m. Benefice Holy Communion  
Wilden 10.30 a.m. Benefice All together Service

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

Colmworth 9.00 a.m. Benefice Morning Worship  
Ravensden 10.30 a.m. Benefice All together Service  
Wilden 6.00 p.m. Benefice Evensong

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

Ravensden 9.00 a.m. Benefice Morning Worship  
Wilden 10.30 a.m. Benefice All Together service with communion

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

Ravensden 9.00 a.m. Benefice Holy Communion  
Colmworth 10.30 a.m. Benefice All Together service  
Wilden 6.00 p.m. Benefice Evensong

### Flowers and Brasses

Colmworth	Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup> /17 <sup>th</sup>	Advent
	Dec. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Christmas (Help please)
	Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup>	Betty Johnson
Ravensden	Dec. 10 <sup>th</sup> /24 <sup>th</sup>	Sue Steed (Greenery only)
	Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Sue Steed
	Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup> /28 <sup>th</sup>	Sue Stewart
Wilden	Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup>	Di Parkin (Brasses only)
	Dec. 17 <sup>th</sup> /24 <sup>th</sup>	Elizabeth Wootton & team
	Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup> /Jan 7 <sup>th</sup>	Jane Snaith

### From the Registers

#### Baptisms

5th November at Wilden - Sophia Lily Owen  
26th November at Colmworth - Rafferty Roland Maitland  
Welcome to the Church Family.

#### Funerals

13th November at Ravensden - Sheila Buck  
15th November at Colmworth - Beverley Lavallin  
Our prayers are with the families and friends at this sad time.