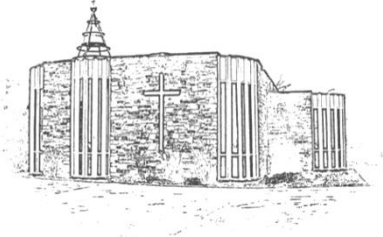


Parishes of Harden and Wilsden



Newsletter for 18th & 25th December & 1st January

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!

A Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year to Everyone!

Sunday 18 December		4th in Advent		
Wilsden	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Romans 1:1-7	Matthew 1: 18-end
Harden	11.15 am	Holy Communion	Romans 1:1-7	Matthew 1: 18-end
Wilsden	6.30 pm	Carol Service		

The Carol Service at St. Matthew’s is this evening at 6.30. All are welcome at this key event in our church life. The Collections at our Carol Services are for the Wilsden Night Shelter project. Last week’s collection at St. Saviour’s raised £212.38

Wednesday 21st December	10.00am	Holy Communion at St. Matthew’s
---	---------	---------------------------------

Saturday 24th December		Christmas Eve	
Wilsden and Harden	4.00pm	Christingle service at both churches	
Wilsden and Harden	11.30pm	Midnight Mass at both churches	

Sunday 25th December		Christmas Day	
Wilsden	10.00am	Family Holy Communion	

Sunday 1st January		Second Sunday of Christmas	
Harden	11.15am	Joint Service of Holy Communion at St. Saviour’s	

Wednesday 4th January	10.00am	Holy Communion at St. Matthew’s
---	---------	---------------------------------

Churches Together Joint Worship 8th January when all our usual morning services are cancelled and instead we worship jointly by village: 10.30 at St. Matthew's and 10.30 at Harden Congregational Church.

Dates for your Diary

Thurs 22 Dec	2.00pm	Preparation of Christingles in St. Saviour's and St. Matthew's Family Rooms – all help greatly appreciated
Fri 23 Dec	1-4 pm	Beverly and Andrew Hurst invite you to share a Christmas drink and light snacks at 144 Long Lane, Harden, BD16 1BY
Wed 28 Dec	10.45am	Home Communion at Laurel Bank
Wed 28 Dec	2.30 pm	Holy Communion at St. Saviour's
Sun 8 Jan	10.30am	Churches Together Worship at St. Matthew's
Sun 8 Jan	10.30am	Churches Together Worship at Harden Congregational Church
Wed 11 Jan	2.30pm	Prayer and Cake at St. Saviour's
Wed 11 Jan	3.30pm	Messy Church at St. Matthew's
Wed 11 Jan	6.45pm	Alpha course starts at St. Matthew's
Thurs 12 Jan	7.00pm	PCC Meeting at St. Matthew's
Sun 15 Jan	16.00pm	Licensing service to launch the new deaneries at the Cathedral

The next Family Pick'n'Mix services will be on Sunday 15th January (**the third Sunday**) at the usual times on the theme: New Beginnings.

Night Shelter All the volunteer slots have been filled, but David is now creating a reserve list. If you are still keen to help, please contact: david@haigh.demon.co.uk

Wilsden's Living Advent Calendar is now in full swing. Pick up a leaflet from church or download it from our parish website.

Food Bank - the following are in short supply: tinned fish, tinned meat, meat pastes, pasta sauces. They would also appreciate Christmas cake or puddings as long as they have a long shelf life.

The Leprosy Mission are still collecting used stamps, British and foreign, even the most ordinary ones. Please leave used stamps in the boxes in church. It is best if they are still on their backing paper, but trimmed with a border of about 5mm.

Our two churches are running an Alpha course in Wilsden on Wednesday evenings at 6.45pm from January 11th for 12 weeks, a fun and thoughtful way of finding out about Jesus. Would you be interested in attending the course? Please pray for the project and consider who you might invite. Everyone intending to come **MUST BOOK WITH BOB**. Please sign up if you can offer to join a team to cook a meal, perhaps once a month. For more details or to offer help, have a word with Ian or Bob.

Childrens Society house boxes are due for collection in the new year please return them: St. Matthew's to Margaret Robertshaw or a Church Warden
St. Saviour's to Lorna Pickersgill or a Church Warden

The St. Saviour's flower rota for 2017 is now up on the noticeboard at the back of church. Please sign up if you are willing to donate flowers to mark a special occasion. Thank you to all who have given so generously throughout the past year.

Many thanks to all those who have supported our coffee mornings on the third Saturday of each month. We shall take a break in January, with the first coffee morning of 2017 being held on Saturday February 18th - a date for your new diary!

Advance notice – January 17th, news of recent visit to Sudan, various venues, speakers include Mary Brooks. Details later.

Manorlands Coffee Morning – Pauline is having a coffee morning on Thursday 29 December from 10.30 to 12.30 at 16 Narrow Lane, Harden. Coffee and biscuits £3, cake stall, book stall and raffle. Please come along and support the work of Manorlands.

This newsletter is the last one of 2016! The next one will be for the 8th January.

Changes to Web sites and emails

The old joint parish web site at www.hardenwilsden.org.uk will close in the next few weeks. Bob's email: vicar@hardenwilsden.org.uk will also become redundant.

The new ones are as follows:

St Matthew's: www.stmatthewswilsden.org.uk is now live.

St Saviour's: www.stsavioursharden.org.uk is also live.

Emails: vicar@stmatthewswilsden.org.uk and vicar@stsavioursharden.org.uk are now live, both go to Bob.

Please keep in prayer those who are not well and those who are no longer able to join us at our services: Marjorie Craven, Beatrice Waddington, Alice Griffiths, Jackie Lancaster and Ben Winter and his family.

Please pray for those to be baptised:

Jack Alexander A. Foers at St. Saviour's on Thursday 22nd December at 12 noon.

Nell Eugenie Quinlan at St. Saviour's on Sunday 22nd January at 14.00.

Tommy Michael Wright at St Matthew's on Sunday 5th February 2017
and for their parents and godparents.

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

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

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

Prayers for the 3 weeks beginning Sunday 18th 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 18 th	Pray for all at the Carol Service at St. Matthew's this evening
Mon 19 th	Pray for the Alpha course, that we find the right opportunities to give invitations.
Tues 20 th	Pray for our link parish of Grace Memorial Church in Lynchburg as they seek their new rector.
Wed 21 st	Pray for Robert and all at Harden Congregational Church.
Thur 22 nd	Pray for Christine and all at Trinity Church. Pray for Jack and his family as he is baptised at St. Saviour's today.
Fri 23 rd	Pray for all who have been married at St Saviour's this year as they celebrate the first Christmas of their married lives.
Sat 24 th	Pray for all at our Christingle services and for the work of the Children's Society.
Sun 25 th	Pray with and for Christians around the world as the birth of Jesus our Lord and Saviour is celebrated. Make us mindful of the needs of others today and every day.
Mon 26 th	Pray for those for whom this is a time of sad memories, that they may be comforted.
Tues 27 th	On St. John's day pray for Suzy and the congregation at St John's Cullingworth.
Wed 28 th	Pray for those who find food and shelter in St. Matthew's this week.
Thur 29 th	Pray for all involved in the organisation of Inn Churches here, remembering particularly team leaders and those responsible for the rotas.
Fri 30 th	Pray for the homeless and needy who have for any reason fallen outside the provisions made by local authorities and voluntary bodies.
Sat 31 st	Pray for the planned Alpha course, that it may speak to a need among our congregations and the wider community.
Sun 1 st	Pray for peace in the year ahead. Give thanks for all who work for peace.
Mon 2 nd	Pray for the teams at those local churches that will continue to support the homeless through the coming weeks.
Tues 3 rd	Pray for staff and children at the village primary schools as they start a new term.
Wed 4 th	Pray for all at the Well Being cafe at St Matthew's.
Thur 5 th	Pray for refugees and for an end to wars and causes of war that drive people from their homes.
Fri 6 th	Pray for the Alpha course, particularly that there will be enough volunteers to provide the catering.
Sat 7 th	Pray for our churches, for growth in commitment, in service and in numbers.

If you become aware of a date please contact Pauline Stern or David Haigh so that we can keep the parish diary up to date.

Please give contributions for the next newsletter to Pauline (and copy to David Haigh and vicar Bob)

Tel: 01535 273814 Email: pstern155@gmail.com

Copy Deadline: 12.00h on the **WEDNESDAY** before publication

TEXT reminder service for Pick'n'Mix: Text name to 07789 895949