

NEWSLETTER



Merry Christmas from the Parochial Church Council of St. Denys Church, Ravensthorpe

Christmas Message from Reverend Mark Battison



Reverend Mark Battison

markbattison@btinternet.com

I have recently returned from a 10 day pilgrimage to the Land of the Holy One where I was privileged to walk in the steps of Jesus and visit many of the shrines that commemorate the short time that God lived amongst us a fully human being.

It was awesome and life changing and is one of those places in the world where faith is not just something experienced in Church on a Sunday - but something that people live their lives by every minute of every day.

The Wall that separates neighbour from neighbour is a very obvious and imposing sign of the tensions and fears that dominate the daily life of so many.

I wonder what walls we build in our own lives that separate us from each other and from the Love of God. What fears drive us to ignore our neighbours and communities and to view our Churches with suspicion?

I hope and pray that as we build towards our Xmas period each of us can find a way to break down those walls. A way to open our hearts to each other and to the Love of God for each of us.

You never know we may even find the spiritual drive to come to a Church service and let the Peace of God wash over us and drive all of our fears away.

May I wish you all a wonderful Xmas and may I extend the warmest of invites for you to come to any of our services where you will be welcomed with open hearts and open arms! God Bless.

2.00pm Sun 23rd December Christmas All-Age Celebration Service (Guilborough)

A special Group Celebration Service to mark the start of Christmas, which will be suitable for all ages. We'll also be joined by a gospel singing group to inspire us, and help us raise the roof!

5.00 pm Christmas Eve Carol Service (Ravensthorpe)

Our always popular Carol Service, with something for all ages - a chance to sing the old favourite carols, hear the story of Christmas through bible readings and poems, mark the end of our travelling crib journey, and hear the children sing Away in a Manger. If children (or of course any brave adults!) would like to come in nativity costumes that would be great, and we'll get you involved! The service will be rounded off with a chance to enjoy mulled wine and mince pies together.

10.00am Christmas Day Communion (Ravensthorpe)

A chance to take time out to celebrate Christmas Day together (and still be back in time for lunch!)

Everyone at St Denys wishes you & your family a very Happy Christmas, and we hope you can join us for some of our special services – All are welcome!

Hawtoft Farm Christmas Shop

From Saturday 8th December, Pat & Trevor Foss will have a good selection of Christmas trees, doors wreaths and tree stands for sale at the Farm. Why not order a locally reared turkey or goose. If you prefer order boned or rolled turkey joints, beef joints and sausages. Call 01604 770466.

Thanks to Pat & Trevor as always for donating a Christmas Tree to the church. The Editor.

What's On?

Coffee Morning Sat 1st Dec

Please join us at Mrs Anne Fowler's home on December 1st 10am till 12 noon. In aid of the NGH Haematology Suite.

Christmas Party Sat 15th Dec

Ravensthorpe Village Hall is hosting a Christmas party for 3-11 year old. All names to be on the list in Ravensthorpe Post Office by Sat 8th December.

Winter Olympics, Fri 28th Dec

The Playing Fields Committee are delighted to be hosting the Winter Olympics at 7.30pm in the Chequers on 28th Dec.

Ravensthorpe United Charities Christmas Distribution

The RUN owns several fields in the village which are rented out. The rent is collected and redistributed prior to Christmas to senior citizens & students who apply.

All senior citizens living in the village are eligible, as are students who have just begun their first year at college or University.

Applications are now due and should be given to Mrs S Blakelock, 12 Bettycroft Close by 10th December.

Village Hall Lunches 2013

The popular village hall lunches will continue in 2013.



12.30 pm Wednesday 16th January
12.30 pm Wednesday 20th February

Book you place by calling Lin Hudson on 01604 770 562.

2013 WI Meeting



Next years WI program will start with a talk on Basket Making by Ruth Salter.

Ruth has been basket making for 25years and so her talk will be based on her experiences and using baskets she will show different techniques and use of different materials.

There will be baskets on display and materials to handle.

Hope to see you in the Ravensthorpe Village Hall at 8pm on 17th January 2013.

The Great Village Knit

The WI is setting a challenge for the village to produce a number of small knitted blankets to be given to nursing homes.

The blankets will be made from small squares using this simple pattern:

Cast on 40 stitches using any colour double knitting wool & no 8 needles, knit 80 rows garter stitch or enough to make a square.

The squares will be sewn together and then displayed at the Village Show on 11th August 2013 before being donated to nursing homes.

It would be great if every house could produce at least one square and If you cannot knit it is no excuse because we are happy to teach you.

If you would like to learn to knit or if you have any DK wool that you would be happy to donate, please contact Tricia Freeman 770855.

Ravensthorpe Village Produce Show 2013

The date of the 2013 village show will be Sunday 11th August 2013.

For the keen craft makers in the village we have expanded the range of crafts categories that you can enter in next year show. We have included knitting, sewing, woodwork/metalwork painting and others.

A list of the crafts in the 2013 show schedule is on display in the window of the post office and a full schedule for the whole show will be available in the post office by mid January.

So if you looking for a challenge during these cold winter months why not have a go and making something for next year's show.

If you would like more information contact Liz Ellison on 770463.

Shining a light in our villages this Halloween

Over October half term 37 children from our village took part in a Glitter and Glow party with their families, organised by the Uplands Group of Churches. The Glitter & Glow party offered a positive, fun alternative to the Halloween celebrations & a chance for them to get together over the holidays.

Everyone had a great time dressing up and taking part in a range of fun light-filled and glittery activities, crafts and games, and sharing a meal together.



They also learnt a bit about what Jesus said about being a light in the darkness, which means none of us, whatever our age, need to be afraid of the dark (even at Halloween!).

A big thank you to all those families who came along, and all the helpers who worked so hard to make the events such a success. Please let us know what events you would like to see next year!

Playing Fields Committee Update

Thank you to all those who got involved with the annual bonfire and fireworks display. The event was a great success and has made over £500 profit for the Playing Field Funds.

Their next event is the Winter Olympics starting at 7.30pm in the Chequers on 28th Dec. Tickets (available soon from the Chequers & Post Office) cost £20 for teams of four competing in darts, pool, 10 pin bowling and skittles.

News from Viv, the Editor

You may know that volunteers compile, produce and circulate the newsletters to over 300 homes in Ravensthorpe, Coton & Teeton and the £300 annual printing costs for this newsletter are covered by the Parochial Church Council of St. Denys Church, Ravensthorpe.

I reckon £1 / year for a door to door service is not bad, so if you wish to help out, put an extra £1 in the collection box this year or drop a £1 coin into Manor View, 4 Guilsborough Road!

To allow us to continue to print in colour, we will pilot 1 external advert / month from February – let me know what you think, it is your newsletter!

February 2013 is the Next Edition!

Just to remind you that as normal, there will be **no January edition**. And have a great Christmas and a Happy new Year. Viv Rees

Church Services	Time	Service	Location	Flower/brass rota
2 nd December	8.30am	Traditional Communion	Ravensthorpe	No flowers
9 th December	10.00am	Group Modern Communion	Guilsborough	No flowers
16 th December	9.45am	Modern Communion	Ravensthorpe	No flowers
23 rd December	8.30am / 2.00pm	GC / Group All Age Celebration Service	Spratton / Guilsborough	No flowers
24 th December	5.00pm	Carol Service	Ravensthorpe	Yvonne Reeve
25 th December	10.00am	Modern Communion	Ravensthorpe	Yvonne Reeve
30 th December	10.00am	Group Modern Communion	Creaton	Yvonne Reeve
6 th January	8.30am	Traditional Communion	Ravensthorpe	Yvonne Childs
13 th January	10.00am	Group Modern Communion	Thornby	Yvonne Childs
20 th January	9.45am	Modern Communion	Ravensthorpe	Ann Smith
27 th January	11.00am	All Age Worship	Ravensthorpe	Ann Smith



Email February contributions to ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com for the attention of the editor, Viv Rees (01604 771 076) by **Wednesday 23rd January 2013**
 Visit the village website: www.ravensthorpe.me.uk or find us on Facebook 'Ravensthorpe Northampton'

