

NEWSLETTER

With the compliments of the Parochial Church Council of St. Denys Church, Ravensthorpe

Christmas Message from the Church

There will be lots of opportunities to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus during the month of December including the Carol Service on Christmas Eve at 5 p.m. and the service of Holy Communion at 10 a.m. on Christmas Day in Ravensthorpe.

There's a variety of things going on around the Churches in the Uplands Group in December (take a look at the notices here) - something for everyone we hope. During His life on earth we read that Jesus welcomed everyone; babies, children, men and women and especially the marginalised and vulnerable.

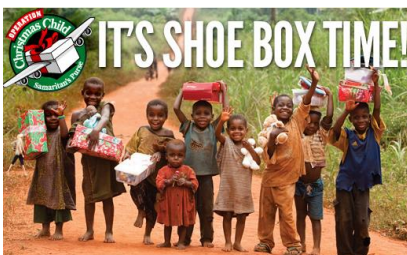
I pray that this Christmas everyone will find a welcome within the churches of the Uplands Group. And so in January we will be starting some new services called 'Worship for All' in several churches, including in Ravensthorpe on January 24th at 11 a.m.

These services will use modern language and seek to enable all ages to worship together. At the same time the traditional services will continue and, later in the New Year, we will be starting some new Evening Services for people who may find that a better time to get to church. And indeed, in the Christmas message, of God's love in giving Jesus to be our Saviour, there is Good News for Everyone and therefore Good News for You.

Have a very happy Christmas and a New Year full of God's riches blessings!

Reverend Linnet Smith, Associate Priest, UGP

Christmas Show Box Appeal



Thank you to everyone who gave donations and filled shoe boxes this year. All 23 boxes were blessed at the Church service.

They were taken to Guilsborough Church where they joined more boxes.

Altogether 120 boxes were prepared and are ready to be delivered to needy children and adults this Christmas. Many thanks **Tricia Freeman**

Christmas Services & Events



Everyone at St Denys wishes you & your family a very Happy Christmas and we hope you can join us for some of our special Family Christmas services or events in Ravensthorpe or in the wider Group of Churches, you are very welcome!



Family Living Nativity (with live Donkey!)

Saturday 19th December
3pm Cottesbrooke
4pm Hollowell

Christmas Brunch@11

11am Sunday 20th December
Guilsborough Village Hall

Family Crib Service

3.30pm Thursday 24th December
Spratton



Christmas Eve Carol Service

5.00pm Thursday 24th December
St Denys Church Ravensthorpe

Join us for our popular Carol Service and enjoy mulled wine and mince pies.

Children are encouraged to come in Nativity costume if they wish, and join us for singing *Away in a Manger* at the start of the service.



Christmas Day Communion Service

10.00am St Denys Church Ravensthorpe

Take time to celebrate the joy of Christmas Day (and be back in time for lunch!)

What's On?

Village Hall Drinks Party

12pm – 2pm Sun 6th Dec

Included in the £10 ticket price (under 16's free) will be:

- All your drinks
- Delicious Home-made - Canapés
- Raffle for a Luxury Hamper & Magnums of Champagne.

There will be a wall presentation of the recent history and some future plans for the RVH.

It promises to be a fun event so we hope that you can come.

Numbers are limited, so tell us how many you need soon to avoid disappointment.

If you are unable to attend but would be willing to sponsor a prize, contact Bob.

bobpike@church-hill.com or call 771277 to reserve your tickets.

Children's Christmas Party

1pm – 3pm Sun 20th Dec

Have a photo with Santa and a gift for each child.

All children between the ages of 4 – 11 are welcome.

Reserve a place by visiting the post office or contact Claire on 07523369625 or Charlotte

curly.dodd@yahoo.co.uk

Remember your Turkey!



Locally reared turkeys available: whole, boned & rolled, also turkey crowns.

Call Trevor or Pat Foss by 21st Dec on 01604 770466.

New Service for 2016 at St Denys

After a review of the worship offered across the Uplands Group of Churches and listening to the feedback provided by many people, the clergy team have proposed a new rota of services for 2016.

A team are also developing a consistent set of services for use across the group. These are aimed at giving us a better range of services to appeal to all in our communities, including young families, and also make it easier for anyone to visit another church in the group and feel comfortable with the form of worship.

For Ravensthorpe there is happily very little change to the times of our monthly services, but from January the All-Age service will be replaced with Worship for All, from Easter we will be introducing a monthly evening service, and you will notice some small changes to the format of our other services, but we hope that overall you will see the changes as improvements to what we offer to suit all tastes.

The format of the evening service is still being decided, but we would like it to have a musical theme, so if you have any ideas or would like to be involved in any way, please get in touch.

Grateful Thanks

The PCC and congregation of St. Denys Church offer enormous thanks to Yvonne Reeve who, for up to 9 years, has organised the Flower Rota for decorating the church. Her efforts have always been particularly recognised on special occasions such as Easter and Harvest Festival.

This involved contacting and coordinating others and buying the flowers (often at her own expense) plus doing the arrangements for the Altar, screen and window on the south side. Many thanks Yvonne.

After Christmas Yvonne is resigning from this commitment so, if anyone in the village would be prepared to join the rota please contact Sally Marsh (770868) or Beryl Mott (770618).

Brunch @11

The last Brunch@11 of the year will be on Sunday 20th December, and will be Christmas themed! So far the event has been a success, and so we plan to keep going on the 3rd Sundays of the month in 2016, so why not give it a try if you haven't already?

No parking on the Village Greens please

The Parish Council would like to remind residents and their visitors that they should refrain from parking or driving their vehicles on the designated green areas in village. These are the Village Green (both sides of Church Hill), the greens at the junction of West Haddon Road/East Haddon Road and the green area in Bettycroft Close. Thank you.

Village Design Statement Update

We now have a final draft almost complete and hope to submit it to Daventry for their approval and further public consultation within the next few weeks. Thanks to all who have contributed to the updated VDS so far.

Check out the latest draft on the village website. Richard Marsh

Ann's Coffee Morning

Thank you to all the helpers especially Beryl, Audrey, Lyn and Janice and the loyal support of the village, we raised in excess of £900. **Ann Fowler.**



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Message from the Editor

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this year's newsletter, without you, there is no news! Thank you distributors, you are great!

The next edition of the newsletter will be the February edition. Deadline is 23rd January 2016. ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com

Wishing you a Happy Christmas and a fabulous 2016. Viv Rees

Date	Time	Service Type	Location
Sunday 6th December	8.30am	Traditional (BCP) Communion	Ravensthorpe
Sunday 13th December	10.00am	Group Communion with refreshments	Hollowell
Sunday 20th December	9.45am	Communion with Choir and refreshments	Ravensthorpe
	11.00am	Brunch @11	Guilsborough VH
Christmas Eve	5.00pm	Carol Service	Ravensthorpe
Christmas Day	10.00am	Communion	Ravensthorpe
Sunday 27th November	10.00am	Group Communion with refreshments	Spratton
Sunday 3rd January	8.30am	Traditional (BCP) Communion	Ravensthorpe
Sunday 10th January	10.00am	Group Communion and Confirmation Service with refreshments (conducted by Bishop of Peterborough)	Ravensthorpe
Sunday 17th January	9.45am	Communion with Choir and refreshments	Ravensthorpe
	11.00am	Christmas Brunch@11	Guilsborough VH
Sunday 24th January	11.00am	Worship for All with refreshments	Ravensthorpe
Sunday 31st January	10.00am	Group Worship for All with Communion and refreshments	Guilsborough

Email newsletter contributions to ravensthorpenewsletter@gmail.com for the attention of the editor, Viv Rees by 5pm on the 23rd of the month. Note: articles will be included on a 1st come 1st served basis.

Visit the village website: www.ravensthorpe.me.uk or find us on Facebook 'Ravensthorpe Northampton'