

Wednesday January 26th
COLMWORTH 11am Holy Communion

Sunday January 30th
WILDEN 10am Choral Holy Communion
RAVENS DEN 6pm Songs of Praise for Candlemas
Readings: Malachi 3.1-5; Psalm 24.1-10; Hebrews 2.14-18; Luke 2.22-40

Wednesday February 2nd
RAVENS DEN 11am Holy Communion

Sunday February 6th
KEYSOE 10am Holy Communion & Queen 70th Accession
WILDEN 6pm Evensong & Queen 70th Accession
Readings: Isaiah 6.1-13; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15.1-11; Luke 5.1-11

Notices

Colmworth Church Coffee Stop 10:30am to 12noon on **1st and 3rd Wednesdays**. Come along and meet friends and neighbours. All welcome. The Church is open most days for private prayer.

Keysoe Church open every Wednesday afternoon 2-4pm

Wilden Church is open every Sunday morning 11-12 noon and Wednesday mornings 11-12noon for private prayer.

Saturday Dec. 4th – Colmworth 5pm Christmas Lights switch on at the Triangle followed by mulled wine and mince pies in church.

Tuesday Dec. 7th 7pm Wreath Making “On Line” with Wilden School.

Saturday December 11th Bolnhurst Walk & Turkey rolls at the Old School 10am.

Saturday Dec. 18th Colmworth 10am Festive food, drink & activities for children with rehearsal for Navtivity Service.

December’s ‘Community Cuppa’ is a shared lunch from 12.30-2.30 on Tuesday 7th December at Ravensden Village Hall. All welcome. Please bring a small plate of food to share. £2 entry. **January’s Cuppa** is back to normal on **Tuesday 4th January 2-4pm at RVH**. Our Village Agent will be visiting and there will be a book swap. £2 entry for tea/coffee and cake. Come and help us celebrate our 10th Anniversary.

Colmworth Community Lunches will be in church on **Friday 21st January at 12.30**. Come along and have a good lunch for £5. Please let Kate (378132) or Wendy (376277) know if you would like to join us and any dietary requirements.

Saturday January 29th Keysoe Village Hall 7.30 p.m. Quiz & Supper.

We have appointed Kim Reeve as Rector’s PA. Kim starts on 1st December working both from home in Bedford and in Ravensden Church room. She is looking forward to getting to know folk and I know we’ll give her a good WCRKB welcome!

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Wilden with Colmworth & Ravensden St Mary Keysoe with St Dunstan Bolnhurst

www.wcrchurches.org

NEWSLETTER

December 2021 & January 2022

Angels unawares

This newsletter covers both December 2021 and January 2022 – so even before Christmas I wish you all a very happy new year! But actually I’m not too early as Advent (that begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas) is the beginning of the Church’s year – so again Happy New Year!

Whilst Christmas itself is only 12 days, ‘The Christmas Season’ takes in Advent, Christmas and Epiphany which takes us right through from the end of November to the beginning of February as the Christmas season officially ends 40 days from Christmas Day which is 2nd February – Candlemas. Some very important characters that feature throughout our celebrations are often forgotten. They don’t even feature in most nativity scenes. And they are the Angels.

The Christmas story in the Bible – especially as Luke’s Gospel tells us – starts with a flurry of God’s action often through His angels. An angel appears to the aged priest Zechariah to tell him he and his barren wife Elizabeth will have a son called John the Baptist who will also be the cousin of Jesus.

Mary and Joseph are both separately told by the Angel Gabriel that they will have a baby son called Jesus, and the shepherds are told by the Angel Gabriel to visit the new-born saviour. But by not just one angel but a huge heavenly choir of angels! Joseph is later warned that King Herod wants to kill the new baby Jesus after the Wise Men have visited, so the holy family escape as refugees and migrants to Egypt.

But what are angels and why are they so important? They are simply ‘messengers’ as the word means. And used by God to take His word and also to guard, protect and defend as God’s heavenly beings – and sometimes to destroy evil. God also uses ordinary people who are just in the right place at the right time with the right words. The Bible talks of us entertaining angels unawares.

Much has been written about angels, and people whom God uses for His purposes. The famous poem the late King George V1 used many years ago in his new year broadcast runs ‘And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: “Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.” “Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.” So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. (Minnie Louise Haskins, 1908)

May you know God’s presence and guidance by His Angels this Christmas and New Year as we celebrate the birth of His Son Jesus Christ - the Saviour of the World.

Timothy Wilson

Services for December 2021 and January 2022

Wednesday December 1st

RAVENSDEN 11am Holy Communion
in Church 3:30pm School Cross Lighting

Sunday December 5th

KEYSOE 10am Holy Communion
WILDEN 6pm Evensong for Eve of St Nicholas Day
Readings: Malachi 3.1-4; Canticle: Benedictus; Philippians 1.3-11; Luke 3.1-6

Wednesday December 8th

WILDEN 11am Holy Communion

Sunday December 12th

COLMWORTH 10am Holy Communion
11:30am Baptism
WILDEN 4pm Service for Children & families 'Bauble Service'
RAVENSDEN 6pm Candlelit Carol Service
Readings: Zephaniah 3.14-end; Psalm 146:4-end; Philippians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18

Monday December 13th

KEYSOE 1:45pm Kymbrook School Christingle Service

Wednesday December 15th

KEYSOE 10am Holy Communion
RAVENSDEN 6pm School Carol Service in Church

Thursday December 16th

RAVENSDEN 1:30pm School End of Term service in Church
WILDEN 6pm School Carol Service in Church

Friday December 17th

WILDEN 9:30am School End of Term service in Church

Sunday December 19th

RAVENSDEN 10am Holy Communion
KEYSOE 3pm Candlelit Carols
BOLNHURST 3pm Candlelit Carols
WILDEN 6pm Candlelit Carols
Micah 5.2-5a; Psalm 80.1-8; Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.39-55

Wednesday December 22nd

COLMWORTH 11am Holy Communion
RAVENSDEN 7pm Quiet Reflective Carol Service

Christmas Eve Friday December 24th

WILDEN 3pm Christingle Service
COLMWORTH 6pm Nativity Service
KEYSOE 11:15pm Midnight Communion
RAVENSDEN 11:30pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day Saturday December 25th

COLMWORTH 10am Holy Communion
Readings: Isaiah 52.7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1.1-12; John 1.1-14

Boxing Day Sunday December 26th

RAVENSDEN 11am short service of Carols & readings
Readings: 1 Samuel 2.18-20,26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3.12-17; Luke 2.41-52

Wednesday December 29th

KEYSOE 10am Holy Communion

Sunday January 2nd

KEYSOE 10am Holy Communion
WILDEN 6pm Evensong
Readings: Isaiah 60.1-6; Psalm 72.1-15; Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12

Wednesday January 5th

RAVENSDEN 11am Holy Communion

Sunday January 9th

COLMWORTH 10am Holy Communion
WILDEN 4pm Service for Children & Families
Readings: Isaiah 43.1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8.14-17; Luke 3.15-17,21,22

Wednesday January 12th

WILDEN 11am Holy Communion

Sunday January 16th

RAVENSDEN 10am Holy Communion
WILDEN 6pm Evensong
Readings: Isaiah 62.1-5; Psalm 36.5-10; 1 Corinthians 12.1-11; John 2.1-11

Wednesday January 19th

KEYSOE 10am Holy Communion

Sunday January 23rd

BOLNHURST OLD SCHOOL 10am Holy Communion
Readings: Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6,8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a; Luke 4.14-21