

MIDNIGHT MASS

Christmas



CHRIST CHURCH BRUNSWICK



Christmas Eve 24 December 2009

CAROLS WITH THE CHOIR FROM 11:00 pm

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Chorus

Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
Yonder shines the infant light:

Chorus

Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations;
Ye have seen his natal star.

Chorus

Saints, before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear;
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In his temple shall appear.

Chorus

Though an infant now we view him,
He shall fill his Father's throne,
Gather all the nations to him;
Every knee shall then bow down:

Chorus

Deck the Halls

Deck the halls with boughs of holly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Tis the season to be jolly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Don we now our gay apparel,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

See the blazing Yule before us,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Strike the harp and join the chorus.
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Follow me in merry measure,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
While I tell of Yuletide treasure,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Fast away the old year passes,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Sing we joyous, all together,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Heedless of the wind and weather,
Fa la la la la, la la la la

Away in a manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my bedside till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

God rest ye merry, gentlemen

God rest ye merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Saviour
Was born on Christmas Day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:
*O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy!*

From God our heavenly Father
A blessèd angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name:
*O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy!*

And when they came to Bethlehem
Where our dear Saviour lay,
They found him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling down,
Unto the Lord did pray:
*O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy!*

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All other doth deface:
*O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy!*

Silent Night

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ, the Saviour is born,
Christ, the Saviour is born.

Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

As with gladness, men of old

As with gladness, men of old
Did the guiding star behold,
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright,
So, most glorious God, may we
Evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped,
To that lowly manger-bed,
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heaven and earth adore,
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
At that manger rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,
Pure, and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.

Holy Jesu, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown,
Thou its Sun which goes not down:
There for ever may we sing
Alleluyas to our King.

The first Nowell

The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

They lookèd up and saw a star,
Shining in the east, beyond them far:
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star,
Three Wise Men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wheresoever it went:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

This star drew nigh to the north-west;
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in those Wise Men three,
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with his blood mankind hath bought:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

ORDER OF SERVICE

HYMN

Once in royal David's city

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that Mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall:
With the poor and mean and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRIB

Priest: The Lord be with you;

Response: **And with thy spirit.**

Priest: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Response: **Who hath made heaven and earth.**

Almighty and everlasting God, who for our salvation didst cause thine only-begotten Son to come down from heaven, and to be born of the Blessed and Glorious Ever-Virgin Mary: Vouchsafe, we beseech thee, to ✠ bless and ✠ hallow this crib, wherein are shown forth the wonders of that sacred birth; that all we who behold it shall ponder and adore the mystery of his holy Incarnation, and be fulfilled with thy heavenly benediction unto life eternal. Through the same thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The sacred ministers kneel and adore, placing votive lights at the crib.

Priest: Glory to God in the highest;

Response: **And on earth peace, goodwill towards men.**

Priest: Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Response: **Hosanna in the highest.**

The Hymn continues:

And through all his wondrous childhood
Day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him
Through his own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above:
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him: but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high,
Where like stars his children crowned,
All in white shall wait around.

INTROIT

THE LORD hath *said* un- to me: **Thou art my Son; this day have I be- got- ten thee.** Why do the heathen so furiously *rage* to- ge- ther: **and why do the people ima- gine a vain thing?** Glo- ry be...

Remain standing

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

ALMIGHTY GOD, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE KYRIES

Communion Service in F

H Sumsion

THE GLORIA

Communion Service in F
Sung by the choir

H Sumsion

GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH,
and in earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon
us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT

O God, who hast made this most holy night to shine with the bright-
ness of the true light: grant, we beseech thee; that we, who have
known the mystery of his light on earth, may also attain to the fruition
of his joys in heaven: Who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of
the Holy Ghost. **Amen**

Sit

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.
Thou hast multiplied the nation,
thou hast increased its joy;
they rejoice before thee
as with joy at the harvest,
as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.
For the yoke of his burden,

the rod of his oppressor,
 thou hast broken as on the day of Midian.
 For to us a child is born,
 to us a son is given;
 and the government will be upon his shoulder,
 and his name will be called
 “Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”
 Of the increase of his government and of peace
 there will be no end,
 upon the throne of David, and over his kingdom,
 to establish it, and to uphold it
 with justice and with righteousness
 from this time forth and for evermore.
 The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

THE GRADUAL Chant—Hopkins *Psalm 96: 7-13*



ANTIPHON (*Choir 1st time, All 2nd time*): **In the day of thy power shall the people offer thee free will offerings with an | ho-ly | worship: the dew of thy birth is | of the | womb of the | morning. The LORD said un- | to my | Lord: Sit thou on my right hand; until I make thine | e- ne- | mies thy | footstool.**

ALL

7. Render to the Lord, you families | of the | nations: render to the | Lord | glory and | might.
8. Render to the Lord the honour due | to his | name: bring offerings and | come in- | to his | courts.
9. O worship the Lord in the beauty | of his | holiness: let the whole earth | stand in | awe of | him.
10. Say among the nations that the | Lord is | king: he has made the world so firm that it can never be moved; and he shall | judge the | peoples with | equity.
11. Let the heavens rejoice and let the | earth be | glad: let the sea

roar, and | all that | fills | it:

12. Let the fields rejoice, and every- | thing in | them: then shall all
the trees of the wood shout with | joy be- | fore the | Lord;

2nd Part

13. For he comes, he comes to judge the earth: he shall judge the
world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

Repeat antiphon once only

Sit

THE EPISTLE

Titus 2: 11–14

Dearly beloved: The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Stand

GRADUAL HYMN

It came upon the midnight clear

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
'Peace on the earth, good-will to men,
From heaven's all gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing;
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing!

For lo! The days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When, with the ever-circling years,
Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Remain standing

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

On the morrow the iniquity of the earth shall be blot-*ted* out: **and the Saviour of the world shall reign o-ver us. Alleluia.** Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors: **and the King of glo-ry shall come in.**

✠ **GOSPEL**

Luke 2: 1–14

Priest: The Lord be with you;

Response: **And with thy spirit.**

After the Gospel is announced: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrolment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them; "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!"

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise be to thee, O Christ

Remain standing

THE NICENE CREED

Merbecke

**I BELIEVE IN ONE GOD the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
And of all things visible and invisible:
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
Begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
Very God of very God,
Begotten, not made,
Being of one substance with the Father:
By whom all things were made:
Who for us men, and for our salvation came down from
heaven,
And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
And was made man,
And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried,
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
And ascended into heaven,
And sitteth on the right hand of the Father.
And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick
and the dead:
Whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost,
The Lord, The giver of life,
Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped
and glorified, who spake by the Prophets.**

**And I believe One Holy Catholick and Apostolick Church.
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.
And I look for the Resurrection of the dead,
And the Life of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

THE SERMON

Fr Robert

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN

While shepherds watched

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

'Fear not,' said he, (for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind);
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind.

'To you in David's town this day
Is born of David's line
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
And this shall be the sign:

'The heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid.'

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song:

'All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace;
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease.'

THE INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church.

Kneel

THE INVITATION

THE GENERAL CONFESSION

ALMIGHTY GOD,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Maker of all things,

Judge of all men:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,

Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed,

By thought, word, and deed,

Against thy Divine Majesty,

Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent,

And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;

The remembrance of them is grievous unto us;

The burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us,

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,

Forgive us all that is past;

And grant that we may ever hereafter

Serve and please thee

In newness of life,

To the honour and glory of thy name;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

WE DO NOT PRESUME to come to this thy Table,

O merciful Lord,

trusting in our own righteousness,

**but in thy manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table.
But thou art the same Lord,
whose property is always to have mercy:
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the Flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his Blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body,
and our souls washed through his most precious Blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.
Amen.**

Priest: The Lord be with you;
Response: **And with thy spirit.**
Priest: Lift up your hearts;
Response: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
Priest: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God;
Response: **It is meet and right so to do.**

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS *Communion Service in F H Sumston*
Sung by the choir

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord:
Hosanna in the highest.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

And all the people answer Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ hath commanded and taught us, we are bold to say,

**OUR FATHER, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done;
In earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.**

THE PAX

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you;

Response: **And with thy spirit.**

AGNUS DEI *sung by the choir*

O LAMB OF GOD, that takest away the sins of the world;
have mercy on us;
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world;
have mercy on us;
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world;
grant us thy peace.

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him that taketh away
the sins of the world.

Response: **Lord, I am not worthy that thou should'st come
under my roof, but speak the word only and my
soul shall be healed.**

***If you are a communicant member of another Church,
you are welcome to receive communion.
Anyone is welcome to receive a blessing
at the altar rail.***

MOTET

What child is this

NEH 40

COMMUNION

THE glory of the Lord shall be revealed: **and all flesh shall see the
salvation of our God.**

Stand

HYMN

O come, all ye faithful

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him,
Born the King of Angels:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb:
Very God,
Begotten, not created:
O come ...

Child, for us sinners
Poor and in the manger,
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
Who would not love thee,
Loving us so dearly?
O come ...

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
'Glory to God
In the highest':
O come ...

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

THE THANKSGIVING

Priest: The Lord be with you;

Response: **And with thy spirit.**

Priest: Let us pray

Kneel

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: The Lord be with you;

Response: **And with thy spirit.**

Priest: Depart in peace;

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

THE BLESSING

*The Vicar and People of Christ Church wish everyone
the Peace and Joy of Christmas*



*You are invited to join us for
Christmas cake and champagne
around the fountain
or in the Bardin Centre
after the service*

Dear Parishioners,

For some who may make the Christmas service their one church visit for the year, perhaps just to be back with family and old friends, the story is still familiar, a mixture of vision and faith, an opportunity to engage that latent spirituality which has not found the church ringing their bells. The Christmas story remains a sacred site for very many people inside and outside our churches. Today is the day to encourage people to enjoy it, to touch its sacredness and let it touch them.

Some who may claim the Christmas story is fantasy and ready to be dismissed underestimate the great truths embedded in the Nativity. Part of our role is to help people make the reality connections in the story. This is not the space for untangling what appears to be Luke's confusion in dating Jesus' birth to a census which took place in 6 AD, rather than back in the last years of Herod 6-4 BC. But the politics are not irrelevant. Caesar Augustus was hailed as son of God, as bringer of peace, as saviour, as a good news person. Rome made much of these claims to legitimate its regime of suppression and exploitation, law and order, through the empire. So the Christmas story is a cheeky response. It parodies these claims: the Son of God is a baby whose family can't find accommodation; the good news of peace comes to ordinary shepherd folks of the hills; the peace is about real peace, real inclusiveness. It is people's peace, people's power, people's salvation and liberation.

Without its subversive theme the story degenerates into a myth of origins: the reason why we all have a good time, a kind of aetiology of the west. At the same time it is more than a reactive story. It sets the meaning of Jesus' ministry in the portrait of his nativity. In Jesus we celebrate God's reaching out to all humanity, no one written off, no one despised, and no one too strange, too bad, and too inhuman. In Jesus we celebrate the meeting of earth and sky: the divine human encounter which gives sense and purpose to existence, the possibility of participating in the life of God and the peace of God in the world of reality.

Wishing you a happy and peaceful Christmas,

Fr Robert

YEAR'S MIND

John McKay
Thomas Gabriel Robinson

FLOWERS

... have been given in loving memory of
Ellen, Robert Francis, Robert and Adrian Stafford

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES

8:00 am Low Mass

9:30 am High Mass and Procession

PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar: The Revd Robert Newton
Phone & Fax: 9380 1064

**Associate
Clergy:** The Rt Revd James Grant
The Revd Philip Burgess
The Revd Dr Drew Hanlon
The Revd Robert Holland

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