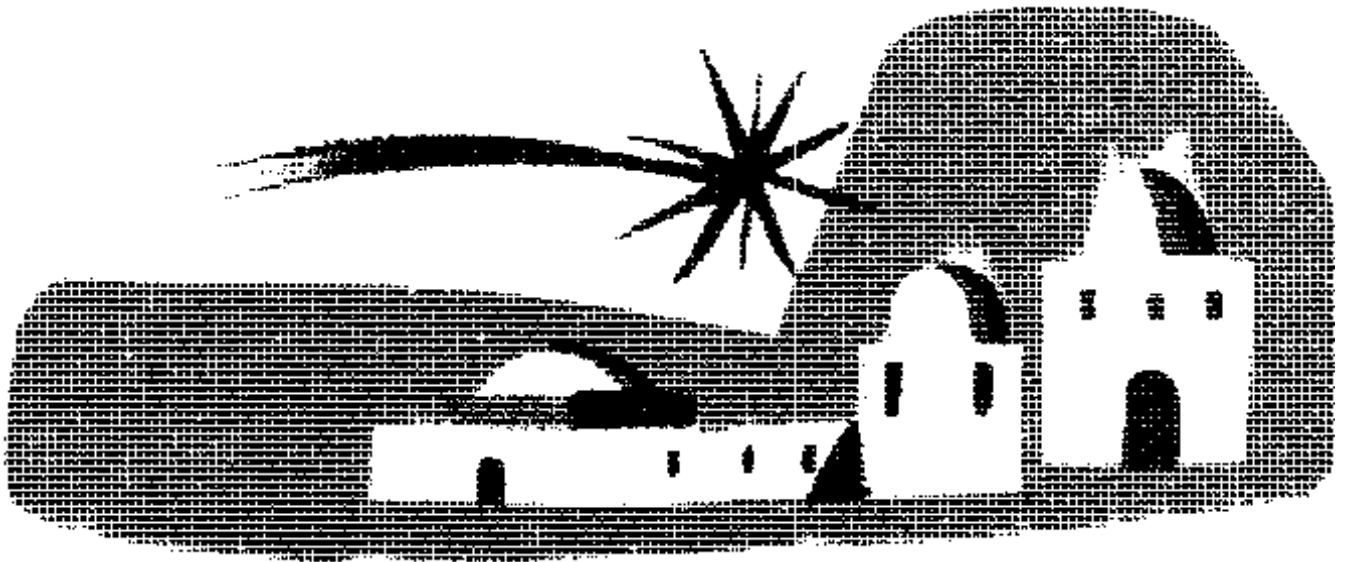


**The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
25th December 2025, 10.30am**



Introductory Rites

Entrance Procession

1. God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born on Christmas Day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r
When we were gone astray:
*O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*
2. From God our Heavenly Father
A blessed 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 ...
3. The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding
In tempest, storm and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway
This blessed babe to find:
O tidings ...
4. But when to Bethlehem they came,
Whereat this infant lay,
They found Him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His Mother Mary kneeling,
Unto the Lord did pray.
O tidings ...
5. 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 others doth deface.
O tidings ...

English traditional carol. arr. John Stainer (1840-1901).

Sign of the Cross

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

(All make the sign of the cross)

All: Amen.

Greeting

Priest: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And with your spirit.

Lighting of the Wreath

Please sing:

**Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness,
Christ be our light! Shine in your church gathered today**

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Penitential Act

Gloria

Please sing the refrains after each verse sung by the cantor:

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Refrain arrangement © 1971, 1979, 1982, 1986 Paul Inwood. Published by Magnificat Music. All rights reserved.

Collect (Opening Prayer)

At the end of the prayer, “...for ever and ever...”

All: Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

Please sit.

First Reading Isaiah 52:7-10

At the end of the reading:

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 98

Please join in the response after the cantor and after each verse



R. All the ends of the earth have seen_____ the sal - va - tion_____ of our God.

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Second Reading Hebrews 1:1-6

At the end of the reading:

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand and join in the response after the cantor and after each verse



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Gospel John 1:1-18

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your Spirit.

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end of the gospel:

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Please sit.

Homily

Please stand.

The Creed

All: I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages,
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

(At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all kneel.)

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Faithful

After each intercession:

Reader: Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Then we say together:

All: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy
womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the
hour of our death. Amen.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Please sit.

Preparation of the Gifts

The bread and wine used for the mass are brought to the altar.

During the procession with the gifts, we sing:

1. While shepherds watched their flocks
by night, all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.
2. 'Fear not,' said he, (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind);
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring to
all of humankind.'
3. '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:
4. 'The heavenly Babe you there shall
find to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing
bands, and in a manger laid.'
5. Thus spoke the Seraph; and
forthwith appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:
6. 'All glory be to God on high, and on
the earth be peace,
goodwill henceforth from heaven to
all begin and never cease.'

Nahum Tate (1652–1715)



Please stand.

Priest: Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.**

Prayer over the Offerings

At the end of the prayer, “...through Christ our Lord...”

All: Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your Spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

Sanctus

At the end of the Preface, all sing:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel.

Memorial Acclamation

After the Consecration, the Priest says or sings:

Priest: The mystery of faith.

**All: We proclaim your death O Lord and profess your resurrection
until you come again, until you come again**

At the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer the Priest says or sings:

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him,
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever.

All: Amen

Communion Rite

Please stand.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

The Priest continues, and concludes "as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ":

**All: For the kingdom,
 the power and the glory are yours
 now and for ever.**

The Priest continues.

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

All: And with your spirit.

The Deacon, or Priest: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*All exchange a sign of peace with those around them, with the words:
'Peace be with you'.*

Then all sing:

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
 have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
 have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
 grant us peace.**

Music (New Celtic Liturgy) © 2010 Christopher Walker. Published by OCP Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.
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Please kneel.

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: **Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Communion Procession

During Holy Communion, please either remain kneeling or seated. If you are not Catholic or not receiving Holy Communion for some other reason, we warmly invite you to join in with the procession and ask for a blessing, by crossing your arms in front of you as you approach the altar. After receiving the blessing, respond with “Amen” and return to your seat.

At the end of the Communion Procession, we sing

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.

Words Joseph Mohr (1792-1848), trans. J. Young.
Music Franz Grüber (1787-1863) arranged by David Willcocks © 1987 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved



Please sing

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
2. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
3. How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray,
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today!
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1865-93).
Melody: trad. arr. R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). All rights reserved.



Prayer after Communion

Please stand.

At the end of the prayer

All: Amen.

Solemn Blessing

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit.

Bow down for the blessing

please answer 'Amen' at the end of each part.

After the dismissal by the Deacon or Priest:

All: Thanks be to God.

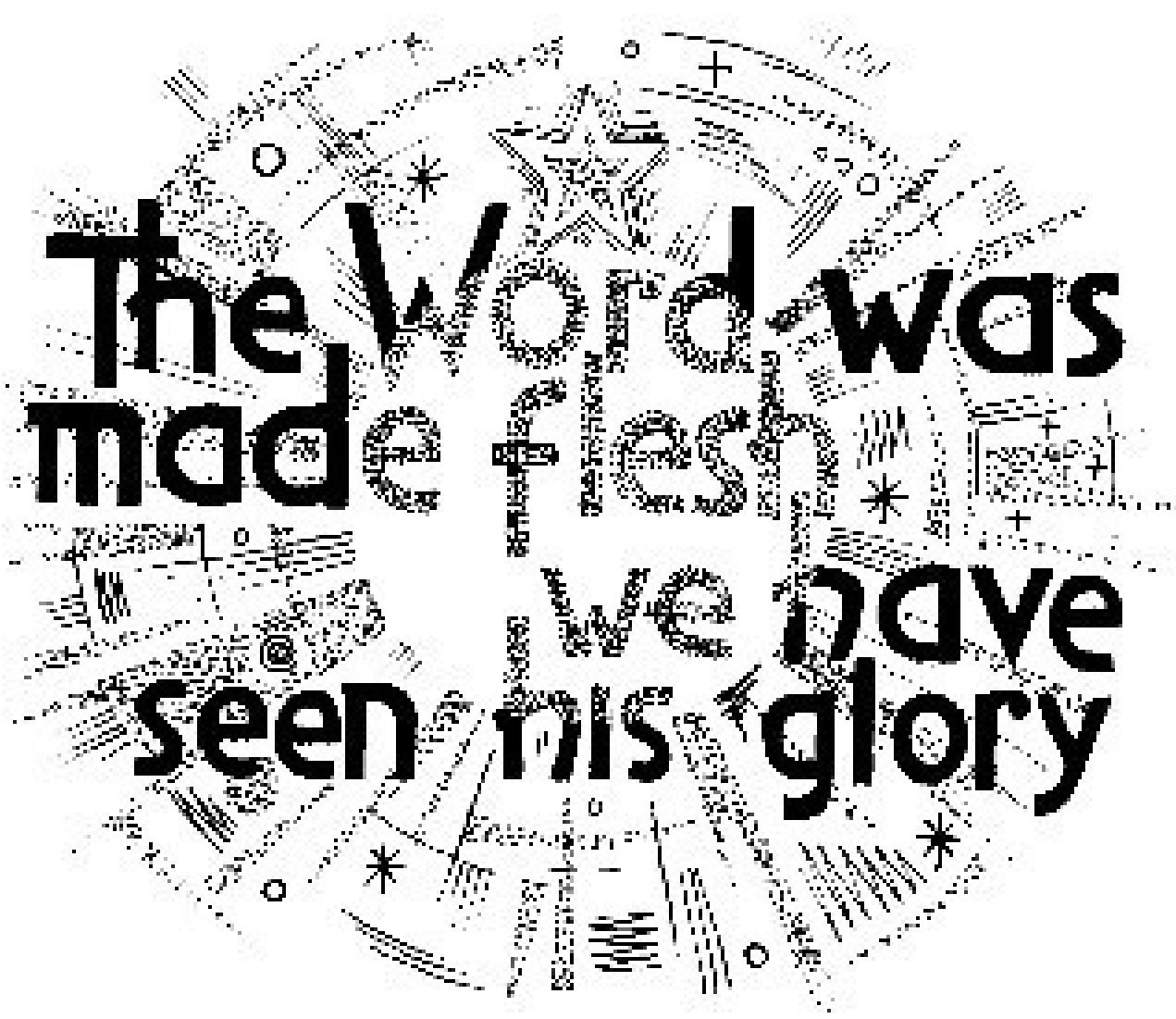
Recessional

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all ye nations rise; join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, glory to the new-born King.
2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see! Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel:
Hark! The herald angels sing, glory to the new-born King.
3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings:
Mild, he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, glory to the new-born King..

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88) and others; Melody: F. Mendelssohn (1809-47).
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We'd love you to stay connected with us and share in all the excitement as the parish of St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs celebrates 100 years of St Peter's Church.

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