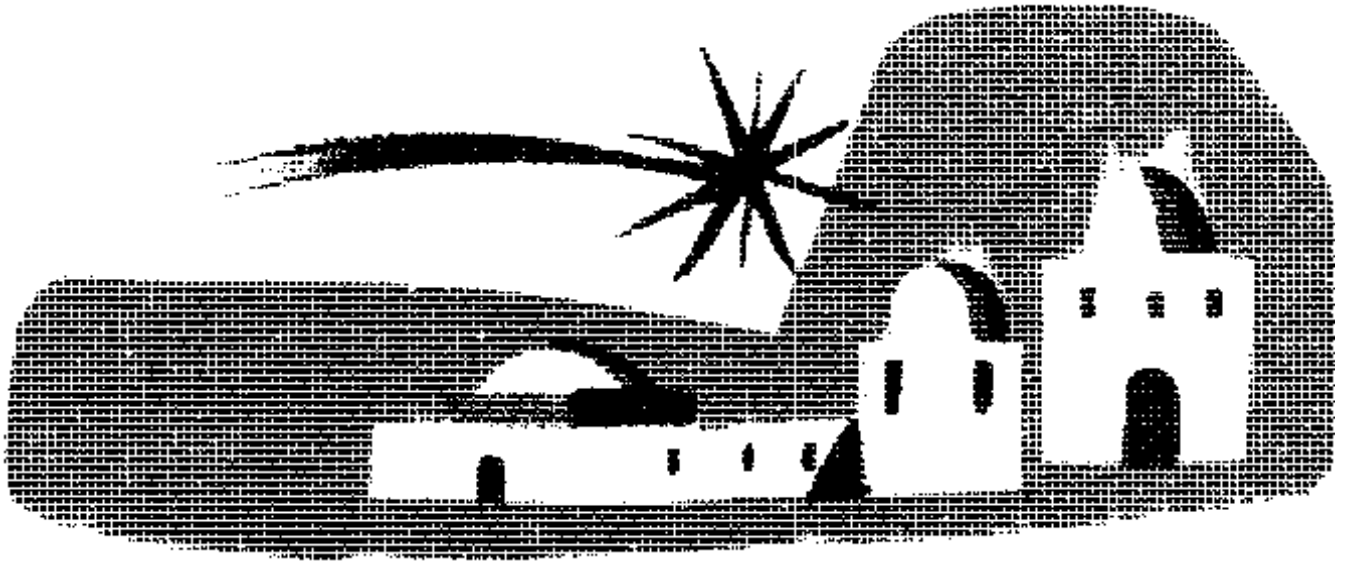


**The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
24th December 2025, 3pm**



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.

Introductory Rites

Entrance Procession

1. 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.
2. God of God, light of light
Lo he abhors not the virgin's womb
Very God, begotten, not created
O come, let us adore Him...
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, in the highest:
O come, let us adore Him...

Attributed to John F Wade c1711-1786, tr Frederick Oakley 1802-1880 alt.

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

Joyful news to you I bring: Christ the Lord is here on earth.
Our Redeemer and our King, sing with gladness at his birth

Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo

Joyful news to you I bring: Jesus Christ is born tonight
Now let all the heavens ring, praises to the Lord of light

Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

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Collect (Opening Prayer)

At the end of the prayer, "...for ever and ever..."

Response: **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word

Please sit.

First Reading Isaiah 9:2a-3a, 6-7

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



To - day a Sa-viour has been born to us; who is Christ the Lord.

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Gospel Acclamation

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



Al - le - lu - ia! Your words, O Lord, are spir-it and life.



Al - le - lu - ia! O - pen our hearts to your word. ____

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Gospel Luke 2:1-20

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your Spirit.**

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Priest: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end of the gospel:

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Please sit.

Blessing of the Crib

1. 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.
2. 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 side until morning is nigh.
3. 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

Prayer of the Faithful

Please stand.

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. 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 given!
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!

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**

Communion Rite

Please stand.

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 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.

The 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.

During 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

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Unto us is born a Son,
King of Quires supernal:
See on earth His life begun,
Of lords the Lord eternal, of lords
the Lord eternal. | 2. Christ, from heav'n descending low
Comes on earth a stranger;
Ox and ass their owner know,
Becradled in a manger, becradled in
a manger. |
|---|---|

3. This did Herod sore affray
and grievously bewilder:
So he gave the word to slay
And slew the little childer, and
slew the little childer.
4. Of his love and mercy mild,
this the Christmas story
And O that Mary's gentle child
might lead us up to glory, might
lead us up to glory.

5. O and A and A and O,
cum cantibus in choro
Let the merry organ go
Benedicamus Domino,
Benedicamus Domino

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.

And after the dismissal by the 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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