

**The Parish Church of
St John the Evangelist
Upper Norwood**



**The First Mass of Christmas
2020
9pm**

Communion Service in E

Harold Darke

Fr John Pritchard, Vicar of St John's, presides at tonight's Mass.

Organ Music before the service:

Desseins Éternels *from* La Nativité du Seigneur
Olivier Messiaen 1908 -1992

Communicant members of other churches are welcome to receive Holy Communion at this Mass. If you would like to receive a blessing, please bow your head when the priest comes to you.

A retiring collection will be taken and contactless donations are possible.

*If you are a UK tax payer, please **gift-aid** your donation. It is worth an extra 25p for each pound you give.*

This Christmas St John's is financially supporting

www.pathwaystoindpendence.org.uk

We are a social purpose business with not-for-profit activities that has seen a two decade record of successfully supporting thousands of young people across the South East of England. We provide high quality supported accommodation, specialist UASC support and bespoke life skills training to our service users, aged sixteen and over. We use our expertise to help people navigate the difficult path to independence, the complicated asylum process, life in the UK and help them integrate into their local communities. We use our expertise in safeguarding to ensure that concerns are followed up, compromising behaviours are disrupted and risk-taking behaviours are managed and reduced.

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The Gathering

*We **STAND** to hear the choir sing the hymn, during which the altar party enter*

NEH 32 / CfC1 p92



**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.**

**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 wond'ring love.**

How silently, how silently,

**The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.
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.**

Bishop Phillips Brooks 1835-93

Forest Green

English traditional tune

arranged by R Vaughan Williams 1872-1958

Descant by Thomas Armstrong 1898-1994

+ Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The president may introduce the theme of the Mass.

Prayers of Penitence

Christ the light of the world has come
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

God our Father, you sent your Son full of grace and truth:
forgive our failure to receive him.
Lord have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

Jesus our Saviour, you were born in poverty and laid in a manger: forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Spirit of love, your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call: forgive the hardness of our hearts.

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself,

+ and cleanse you from all your sins,

that you may behold the glory of his Son,

the Word made flesh,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

The Choir sing

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

The Collect

The president introduces a period of silent prayer.

Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration
that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever.

Eternal God,
who made this most holy night
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:
bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on
earth,
to see the radiance of your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

We SIT.

Readings

read by Terence Roberts

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

9.2-7

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness

from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Carol

The choir sing

NEH 42 / CfC1 p166



**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:**

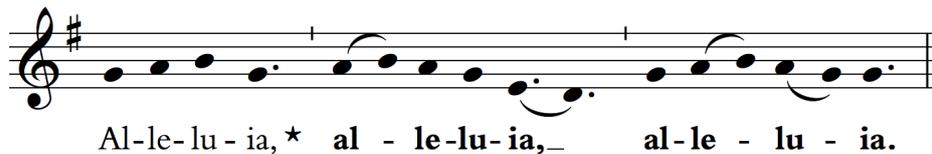
**'All glory be to God on high,
 And on the earth be peace;
 Good-will henceforth from heaven to men
 Begin and never cease.'**

Nahum Tate 1652-1715
 Thomas Este's *Psalter* 1592

Westminster Old

Gospel Reading

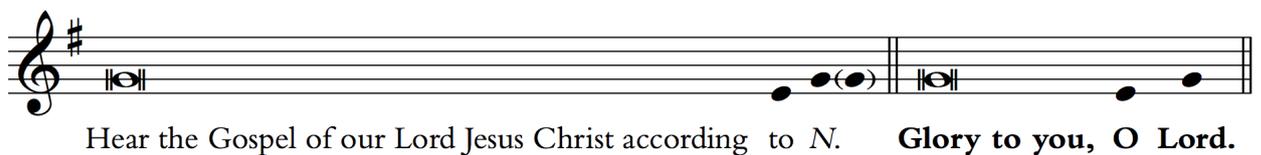
*We **STAND** for the acclamation to welcome the Gospel.
 We face the Book of the Gospels, as Christ speaks to his people.*



Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

I bring you news of *great* joy :
 today a saviour has been born *to* us, Christ the Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.



Luke 2.1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth,

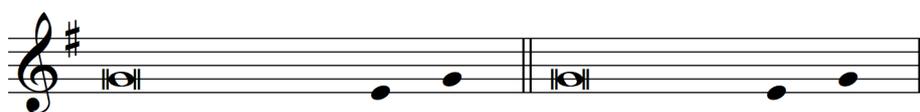
and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.



This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon
Fr Myles Owen

We SIT. The sermon is followed by a short period of silence.

The Creed

We STAND.

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
We believe in one God,
**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
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.**

**We 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 worshipped and
glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

*We remain **STANDING**.*

The Peace

The president introduces the Peace

This holy night the angels sang, 'Glory to God in the highest
heaven, and on earth peace to all in whom he delights'.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

The deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Maintaining a social distance, we greet those around us with the
sign of Peace*

**Preparation of the Table
Taking of the Bread and Wine**

Carol

NEH 30 / CfC1 p88



Adeste, fideles

**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, let us adore him, ...***

**See how the shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:
*O come, let us adore him, ...***

**Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing, in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God
In the highest:
*O come, let us adore him, ...***

Latin 18th century

Adeste

Fidelis

Tr Frederick Oakeley 1802-80
and others

Melody probably by JF Wade 1711-86
arranged by David Willcocks 1919-2015

The following prayers are said

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

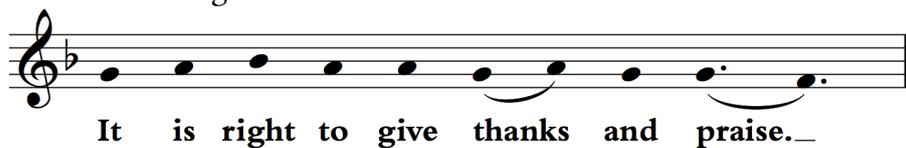
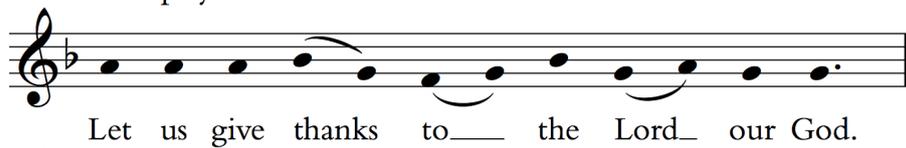
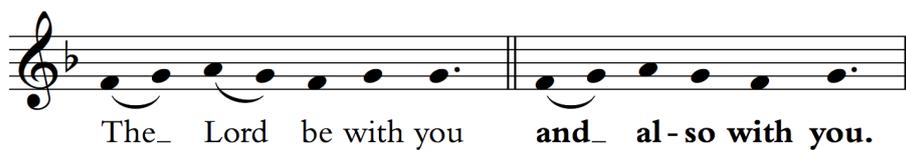
**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands,
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Let us pray.

Word made flesh, life of the world,
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:
by your Spirit may we share in your riches.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer



All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,

mighty creator, ever-living God.
We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,
and on this night was born of the Virgin Mary
by the power of your Spirit,
and lived as one of us.
In this mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In him we see our God made visible
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.
Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

The choir sings the Sanctus and Benedictus

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.

*We **KNEEL** or **SIT***

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

The deacon says

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.
Reveal her unity, guard her faith,
and preserve her in peace; make us grow in love,
together with Christopher our Bishop,
Justin our Archbishop, Jonathan, Bishop of Croydon,
and all your people.

Remember all those in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness
or any other adversity, especially those for whom we now
pray:

Donovan Donaldson, Liz Woodhouse, Pat Parker, Nathan Tulip,
Celeste Prinsloo, Roy Rae, Robbie Middleton,
Christopher Love, Lorna Gautier, David Maitland, Simon Gabe, Michael Hale, Vinnette & Mike Melbourne, Michael Cooper, Adam Phillips, Peter Bibby, Janet Kempson, Philippa Pearce, Julie Loh, Ann Newman, Naomi Ioannou, Alan Driedger, June McCallum, Carmen Alveraz, Paul Allen, and Poh Wong

Remember our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again. George Rae, Alison O'Melia, Jeremy Westwood, Tony Croft, Michael Gwinnell, Neville Prinsloo and Terry Paxton

Remember past priests, benefactors, friends, and all whose year's mind occurs this week: Edith Winkworth, Henry Lane, Cyril Beard, Kenneth Timbers, *Priest*, Marjorie Francis, Mabel Pawsey, Brian Chapman, *Priest*, Edward Adams, Bertha Taylor, Arthur Bucknall, Pat Wong, George Poole, Eliza Dresser, Edith George, Francis Wood, Allan Cooper, Molly Hunter, Pamela Grant, Tony Alberly, Douglas Ashby, Marcel Zaire, Robert Duckworth, Alexander Cassidy, Kathleen Emy, Eva Parker. Bring them and all the departed into the light of your presence.

Look with favour on all your people,
gather us in your loving arms and bring us with Our Lady Mary, Saint John the Evangelist, Saint Alban the Martyr and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.



A- men.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in the presence of God hear among us,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

**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 our trespasses,
as we forgive those who 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
**God here among us, light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Invitation to Communion

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.
Lord, give us this bread always.

The body and blood of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**
The choir sings the Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

The sacrament will be brought to you in your places.

Communion Carols

In the bleak mid-winter
Frosty wind made moan.
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter
Long ago.

Our God, Heav'n cannot hold him
Nor earth sustain;
Heav'n and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign:
In the bleak mid-winter
A stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty
Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim
Worship night and day,
A breastful of milk
And a manger full of hay;
Enough for him, whom angels
Fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel
Which adore.

What can I give him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb,
If I were a Wise Man
I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give him
Give my heart.

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
 Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch
 are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds
 worship and angels sing: haste, haste to bring him praise, the
 Babe, the Son of Mary. Why lies he in such mean estate, where
 ox and ass are feeding? Good Christians fear: for sinners here
 the silent Word is pleading. Nails, spear shall pierce him
 through, the Cross be borne for me, for you: Hail! hail the Word
 Made Flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary. So bring him incense,
 gold and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own him! The King of
 Kings salvation brings: let loving hearts enthrone him! Raise,
 raise the song on high! The Virgin sings her lullaby. Joy! joy! for
 Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

William Chatterton Dix 1837-98

Thomas Hewitt Jones b1984

In dulci jubilo,	In sweet rejoicing,
Nun singet und seid froh!	now sing and be glad
Unsers Herzens Wonne	Our hearts' joy
Leit in Praesepio;	lies in the manger;
Und leuchtet wie die Sonne	And it shines like the sun
Matris in gremio	in the mother's lap.
Alpha es et O!	You are the alpha and omega!

Old German tune arr. R L Pearsall

Prayer after Communion

We STAND

Let us pray.

God our Father,
in this night you have made known to us again
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him
until the day dawns
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.
To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood
of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

The Dismissal

The Blessing

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The president pronounces God's blessing

May the Father, who has loved the eternal Son
from before the foundation of the world,
shed that love upon you his children. **Amen.**

May Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things
earthly and heavenly, fill you with joy and peace. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, by whose overshadowing Mary became
the God-bearer, give you grace to carry the good news of
Christ. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, + the Father, the Son, and
the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Blessing of the Crib

The infant Jesus will be placed in the crib.

Dear friends, let us pray that God our Father will bless this
Crib, and that all who worship His Son, born of the Virgin
Mary, may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father, on this night
your Son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary
for us and for our salvation:

+ bless this crib,

which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth;
may all who see it be strengthened in faith
and receive the fullness of life he came to bring,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.
Glory, thanks and praise to God.

Recessional Carol

We remain standing

NEH 26 / CfC1 p39



**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 th'angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.***

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Off-spring of a virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the God-head see,
Hail th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel,
*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.***

**Hail the heav'n-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 by Charles Wesley 1707-88
and others

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy 1809-47
Descant and organ part by David Willcocks

Voluntary

Carillon-Sortie

Mulet

Henri

1878 - 1967

We wish you a very blessed Christmas.

The Parish Church of St John the Evangelist, Upper Norwood

Vicar: The Reverend John Pritchard.
T: 020 8771 6686 E: johnapritchard@hotmail.co.uk

Please take this booklet home with you.



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