

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF WARRNAMBOOL

Celebrating God's Love For All People

&

Serving our Community

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

BLESSING OF THE CRIB & MASS



CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAY OF JESUS

WELCOME

In the name of the ✠ Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Priest: The Lord be with you:
And also with you.

Priest: Welcome! Today is Christmas Eve – a day of great joy. Christmas Eve is the evening before the day we remember the birthday of Jesus over 2000 years ago. The birth of Jesus brought joy to the world. The birth of Jesus brought joy to Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, the animals in the stable and to the wise men who travelled to greet him. This evening we share in the joy of Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, the Magi and the animals. As we meet to celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us pray that God will bless us all with the gift of love.

Carol: *Silent Night.* TIS - 311

1. *Silent night, holy night:
all is calm, all is bright
round the virgin mother and child,
holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.*

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! **Or** Glory to God, glory to God. Glory in the highest
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia! Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!



Music From Taize, Vol. 1 Collins, 1993

THE OPENING PRAYER

Priest: Let us pray: **Silence.**

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ,
may we come to worship you with the shepherds,
proclaim you with the angels,
seek you with the three Kings,
offer ourselves to you with Mary and Joseph,
and rejoice in your love.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
whose birthday we celebrate
and who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD & CAROLS

Gospel Acclamation: *Halle, Halle.*

Halle,halle, halle-lujah! Halle,halle, halle-lujah!

Halle,halle, halle-lujah! Halle-lujah! halle-lujah!

There is One Among Us. WGRG

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

Good News and great joy to all the world:
today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Today a Saviour has been born for you. The Emperor gave orders for the names of all the people to be listed in record books. This was the first time records were made. Everyone had to go to their own hometown to be listed. Mary was engaged to Joseph and travelled with him to Bethlehem. She was soon going to have a baby, and while they were there, she gave birth to her first-born Son. She dressed him in baby clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. That night in the fields near Bethlehem some shepherds were guarding their sheep. All at once an angel came down to them from the Lord, and the brightness of the Lord's glory flashed around them. The shepherds were frightened. But the angel said, "Don't be afraid! I have good news for you, which will make everyone happy. This very day in King David's hometown a Saviour was born for you. He is Jesus Christ, the Lord. You will know who he is, because you will find him dressed in baby clothes and lying in a manger." Suddenly many other angels came down from heaven and joined in praising God. They said: "Praise God in heaven! Peace on earth to everyone who pleases God." 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 Lord, Jesus Christ.

Carol: *Away In A Manger.*

Away in 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 side until morning is nigh.*

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

*Anonymous
Philadelphia 1883
Tune: CRADLE SONG*

BLESSING OF THE CRIB

Priest: God, you are Lord of heaven and earth.
We thank you for the gift of your love.
We thank you that Jesus was born of the blessed Virgin Mary.
We thank you for this crib and those who prepared it.
We ask you to bless ✠ this crib
and may all who see it be strengthened in faith, hope and love.
We ask this in the name of the Father ✠ and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

STORY



PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest: On this joyful evening when we celebrate the birthday of Jesus,
let us pray to God for all people and our world.

Dear God, we pray for all the children of the world.
May they know your peace and love.

Lord, in your glory.

Hear our prayer.

Dear God, we pray for all people who are sad and alone.
May they know your peace and love.

Lord, in your glory.

Hear our prayer.

Dear God, we pray for all people of faith & hope.
May they know your peace and love.

Lord, in your glory.

Hear our prayer.

Dear God, we pray for all who are sick, unwell or dying.
May they know your healing and love.

Lord, in your glory.

Hear our prayer.

Dear God, we pray for all who have died.
May they rest in your peace and love.

Lord, in your glory.

Hear our prayer.

Dear God, we pray for our families and friends.
May they know our love and your love.

Lord, in your glory.

Hear our prayer.

Priest: Lord our God,
by creating us and sending your Son Jesus
you confirm your love for us.
Help us to become people who share your love with others,
that all might share your life and love for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Priest: Please stand for the greeting of peace.

Priest: We are the body of Christ.
His Spirit is with us.

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

Priest: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn: *O Come All Ye Faithful.* TIS – 304.

1. *O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
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. *True God of true God, Light of light eternal,
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created:* **R.**
6. *Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing all ye citizens of heaven above,
'Glory to God, glory in the highest':* **R.**

*Latin 18th century Tr. Fredrick Oakley 1802-80 and others
Tune: ADESTE FIDELES*

INVITATION TO PRAYER

Priest: Pray, my friends, that our sacrifice
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
**May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name, for our good,
and the good of all his Church and world.**

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Priest: Lord, as we keep the feast of Christmas,
may we celebrate this Eucharist with greater joy than ever.
May we receive the gift of divine life
and be strengthened by our offering,
so that we may share the gift
of your unconditional love with all people.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Priest: The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, ...

... for ever praising you and saying/singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
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.**

Holy and gracious God, ...

... do this in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Therefore, ...

....in songs of never ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen. Amen. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER OR OUR FATHER

Lord Jesus, as we celebrate your birth, teach us to pray:

**Our Father,
who 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:**

*Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days, that,
by the help of your mercy and love,
we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

**for the kingdom, the power, the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Priest: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

**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 your peace.**

Priest: Behold the lam the Lamb of God
Behold the one who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

On this joyful day of celebration, we invite all communicant members of all Christian Churches to share with us in this holy meal of the body and blood of Jesus. If you prefer you can receive a blessing, please come to the altar, with your arms crossed and bow your head when you approach the front.

Communion Hymns:*Silent Night.**TIS - 311*

- 1.** *Silent night, holy night:
all is calm, all is bright
round the 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:
wondrous star, lend your light;
with the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King;
Christ our Saviour is born,
Christ our Saviour is born.*

*Joseph Mohr 1792–1848
tr. John Freeman Young 1820–85 alt.*

Child In The Manger.*TIS - 319*

- 1.** *Child in the manger,
infant of Mary;
outcast and stranger,
Lord of all!
Child who inherits
all our transgressions,
all our demerits
on him fall.*
- 2.** *Once the most holy
child of salvation
gentle and lowly
lived below;
now, as our glorious
mighty Redeemer,
see him victorious
over each foe.*
- 3.** *Prophets foretold him,
infant of wonder;
angels behold him
on his throne;
worthy our Saviour
of all their praises;
happy for ever
are his own.*

*Mary Macdonald 1789–1872
tr. Lachlan Macbean 1853–1931 alt.
Arrangement © L. F. Bartlett*

Eat This Bread.*TIS – 714*

*Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and you will not thirst.*

Taize.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Priest: Let us pray: ***Silence.***

Priest: Father,
we ask you to give us new birth
as we celebrate the beginning of your Son's life on earth.
Strengthen us in spirit
as we receive the body and blood of Jesus,
so that we may bring your presence to all people.
We ask this through your Word made flesh, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Notices:

Song: *We Wish you a Merry Christmas.*

*We wish you a merry Christmas, we wish you a merry Christmas,
we wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin.
We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!*

THE BLESSING

Deacon/Priest: Let us bow our heads and pray for God's blessing. ***Silence.***

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

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

May the Holy Spirit, by whose overshadowing
Mary became the Godbearer, give you grace
to carry the Good News of Jesus Christ.

And the blessing of God almighty
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
enfold you with his love
and remain with you and all those you love
now and always. **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

The Promise of His Glory,
Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3NZ, England

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon/Priest: Go in the peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Song: *Christ Is Born Today*

1. *Many years ago,
in a stable far away,
Christ the Lord was born.
What a joyful day!
Singing filled the air,
glory shone around,
shepherds on the hillside
were astonished by this sound.*

Refrain: *Have no fear!
Have you heard?
Christ is born today.
Go and see him lying there
in a manger filled with hay – hey!
Then the sky came alive,
angels everywhere
singing hymns of joyful praise
to the God who sent them there.*

2. *On to Bethlehem,
in a most exciting way,
shepherds went to see
Christ the Lord that day.
When they saw him there
they were filled with joy,
on their knees they worshipped him
God's special baby boy.*

Refrain: *Have no fear!
Have you heard?
Christ is born today.
Go and see him lying there
in a manger filled with hay – hey!
Then the sky came alive,
angels everywhere
singing hymns of joyful praise
to the God who sent them there.*

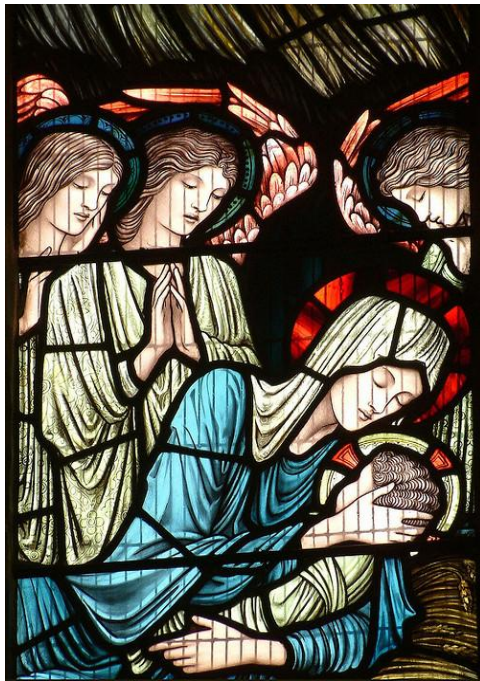
Tune: Jingle Bells.





**A GRAND MYSTERY!
A WONDERFUL SACRAMENT!
ANIMALS LOOK AT THE NEWBORN LORD
LYING IN THE CRIB.
BLESSED ARE YOU, O VIRGIN,
FOR YOUR WOMB WAS PRIVILEGED
TO BEAR CHRIST THE LORD!**





Detail of the memorial window by Burne-Jones to James Kelway (died 1899) depicting the Adoration of the Magi.

