

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 & MIDNIGHT MASS



CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF JESUS

INTRODUCTORY RITE, BLESSING OF THE CRIB & LIGHTING OF CANDLE

Introit Antiphon: *Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.*

Liturgy of St. James; trans. by Gerard Moultrie
Music: French carol melody; harm. from The English Hymnal
Tune: PICARDY

SILENCE.

Entrance Hymn: Once In Royal David City. TIS - 312

1. 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.
2. 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, despised and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.
5. 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,
when his children gather round
bright, like stars, with glory crowned.

Cecil Frances Alexander 1818–95 alt.

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

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

And also with you.

Priest: Dear friends, today is Christmas Eve – an evening of great joy. 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 on their journey and the animals. As we meet to celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us pray that God will bless this crib, and that all who worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory. ***Silence.***

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.**

Hymn: Away In A Manger. TIS – 318.

1. 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.
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 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

Priest: Jesus is the light of the world, let us celebrate his birthday.
We light the central candle on the Advent wreath.
A sign that Jesus is the light of world.

Priest: Blessed are you, sovereign Lord,
just and true: to you be praise and glory for ever.
Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets,
but in our days you speak through your Son,
whom you have appointed the heir of all things.
Grant us, your people, to walk in his light,
that we may be found ready and watching
when he comes again in glory and judgement;
for you are our light and our salvation.
Blessed be God now and for ever. **Amen.**

PENITENTIAL RITE

Deacon/Priest: Let us prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Jesus,
by calling to mind the times we have hurt others and God,
by our words and actions, seeking God's forgiveness and strength.

Silence.

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.

Priest: Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness
to all who turn to him in faith,
pardon ✕ you,
and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GLORIA

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST!

*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!*

*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!*

*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia! .*

THE OPENING PRAYER OR COLLECT

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

Priest: 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

First Reading: A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah 9:1-7.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shone. 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 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 onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 95.

Response: **Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.**

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.

O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,
let the land and all it bears rejoice,
all the trees of the wood shout for joy
at the presence of the Lord for he comes,
he comes to rule the earth.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

With justice he will rule the world,
he will judge the peoples with his truth.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Second Reading: A reading from the letter of Paul to Titus 2:11-14.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and 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.

Gradual Hymn: While Shepherds Watch. TIS - 299

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. '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:
3. 'the heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swaddling clothes
and in a manger laid.'
4. All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
to those on whom his favor rests
goodwill shall never cease."

Nahum Tate 1652-1715 *alt.*

Gradual Acclamation: Halle, Halle. TIS - 720

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! hallelujah!

Trad Caribbean,
arr John Bell, © WGRG

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia!**

Good News and great joy to all the world:

today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke 2:1-14.
Glory to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

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!"

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

HOMILY

THE CREED

Priest: Let us stand and affirm our faith in God with all the Church.

Priest: Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
who made the world?

All: **I believe and trust in God the Father.**

Priest: Do you believe and trust in his Son,
Jesus Christ, who redeemed humanity?

All: **I believe and trust in Jesus Christ.**

Priest: Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God?

All: **I believe and trust in the Holy Spirit.**

Priest: Do you believe in the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting?

All: **This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest: Let us pray for all people and for the Church throughout the world.

Intercessor: Lord, in your glory,
hear, our prayer.

Priest: Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.
**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by you grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Priest: Please stand for the greeting of peace.

Priest: Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given:
and his name is called the Prince 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.

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

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn: Angels From The Realms Of Glory. TIS – 309.

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

Refrain: Come and worship Christ, the newborn King,
Come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

2. Shepherds, in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant Light;

R.

4. Saints, before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord descending,
in his temple shall appear:

R.

James Montgomery 1771-1854 Tune: IRIS



INVITATION TO PRAYER

Priest: *Pray, my friends, that your sacrifice and mine,
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 for 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 EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 our 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.'

Deacon/Priest: 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.**

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 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.**

or
Let us pray to our Father in the words Jesus gave us:

**Our Loving God in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin
against us.
Save us in a time of trial
and 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.

Priest: *May this mingling of the body and blood of Christ,
bring eternal life to all God's people.*

**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 Lamb of God,
Behold him 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, I invite you to share in this holy meal of the body and blood of Christ. If you prefer you can receive a blessing please come forward and cross your arms as you approach the front. Come as you celebrate the birth of Christ. Come, for it is God who invites you to meet Christ here, for this is the Lord's Table. Come, because he loved you and gave himself for you. Come to share in the body and blood of Christ.

Communion Voluntary:

Communion Hymns. Infant Holy. TIS – 292

1. Infant holy,
infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing,
little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all;
swift are winging
angels singing,
nowells ringing,
tidings bringing,
Christ the babe is Lord of all,
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
2. Flocks were sleeping,
shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new
saw the glory,
heard the story,
tidings of a gospel true;
thus rejoicing,
free from sorrow,
praises voicing,
greet the morrow,
Christ the babe was born for you,
Christ the babe was born for you.

Polish carol (13th cent.)
tr. Edith Gellibrand Reed 1885–1933

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.

Silent Night. TIS – 311.

No Wind At The Window. TIS - 287

O Little Town Of Bethlehem. TIS – 316. Child In The Manger. TIS – 319.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing. TIS - 303

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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

Priest: God our Father,
in this night you have made known to us again
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and we rejoice at his birth.
We thank you for nourishing us with this sacrament of new life.
By your grace keep us faithful to the Word made flesh
that as Christ's body in the world
we may bring your presence and love to all people.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Notices:

THE BLESSING & SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE OR DISMISSAL

Deacon/Priest: Let us stand 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. **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 Godbearer, give you grace
to carry the Good News of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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 and hold dear
now and always. **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

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

Deacon/Priest: Go now to share the peace
and joy of Christmas with others.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional Hymn: O Come All Ye Faithful. TIS – 304.

1. O Come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
We to the Christ Child
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
In the Highest: **R.**

7. Yea, Lord we greet thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing: **R.**

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

✺
Resources: *A Prayer Book for Australia, Roman Missal
Common Worship, Together in Song, Common Praise,
Glimpses of Glory, Celebrating with Children*

✺

MID-NIGHT MASS

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah 9:1-7.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shone. 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 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 onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 95.

Response: **Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.**

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.

O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,
let the land and all it bears rejoice,
all the trees of the wood shout for joy
at the presence of the Lord for he comes, he comes to rule the earth.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

With justice he will rule the world,
he will judge the peoples with his truth.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

MID-NIGHT MASS

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Second Reading: A reading from the letter of Paul to Titus 2:11-14.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and 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.

MID-NIGHT MASS

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke 2:1-14.

Glory to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

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

The Nativity



The Nativity - He Qi



Adoration of the Shepherds



Detail - Adoration of the Shepherds by Domenico Ghirlandaio 1485



Collect

Almighty Father, we rejoice in the coming of Christ our Lord. We pray that, as he has taken on our humanity, through your grace and goodness we may share in your divinity, and so partake in the radiance of your glory; through him who came down for us and is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Glimpses of Glory – Year C
David Adam

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.**

Common Worship

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God.
Lord Jesus, you are Son of Mary.
Lord Jesus, you are the giver of all life.

Heavenly Father, may the birth of Jesus bring us to a new life with you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Father, accept the gifts we bring on this joyful feast. May they become for us your gift of life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, we rejoice at the birth of Jesus. May we live as he taught us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Go now to share the peace and joy of Christmas with others.