



PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, CARSHALTON

CHRISTMAS MORNING 2024
MASS & ALL AGE ADDRESS

*President & Preacher:
Fr David Fisher, Rector*

Thorne, Mass of St Thomas • Rutter, What sweeter music

A WARM WELCOME

this Christmas Morning, whether you're an established worshipper, new, visiting or trying us out. God has been worshipped on this site since Saxon times and we continue the same ministry of worship, witness and pastoral care to the people of this parish.

Baptised Christians from any Christian tradition are warmly invited to receive Holy Communion today.

If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please bring this booklet forward, as a signal to the priest.

To donate, please use the contactless devices or collection boxes by the North and Southwest Doors. Alternatively, you can donate (and Gift Aid your donation) by using this QR code with a smart 'phone:



Please ensure that mobile 'phones are turned to silent.

The Mass this morning is sung by some of our Choral Scholars

Organ Prelude
Herbert Sumsion, Prelude on 'The holly and the ivy'

THE GATHERING

Please STAND as the sacristy bell rings, to sing the entrance carol:

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 wondering love.

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.

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.

The President greets everyone:

Brothers and sisters, we gather for worship
in the name of ✠ the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Lord be with you.
And with thy Spirit.

The President adds other words of welcome, then leads the lighting of the Christmas candle in the Advent Wreath:

THE CHRIST

Holy God, Emmanuel,
have mercy upon us.



Prince of Peace, fill our lives with your Light.
Hear us, good Lord.



May we, who know your joy in our lives, share that joy with others.
Hear us, good Lord.



May we shine as your lights in the world,
and sing of your glory with the angels.
Hear us, good Lord.



We give you thanks, Heavenly Father,
for those with whom we have awaited
the fulfilment of all things:
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.
Amen.

The Deacon introduces the Prayers of Confession:

The sun of righteousness has dawned with healing in his wings.
Let us come to the light of Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

SILENT PRAYER; then we sing Kyrie Eleison:

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

We then pray together:

Lord of grace and truth, we confess our unworthiness to stand in
your presence as your children. We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.
Forgive our disobedience to your will. We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

Your Son our Saviour was born in poverty in a manger. Forgive
our greed and rejection of your ways. We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem. Forgive our
self-interest and lack of vision. We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

The President pronounces the Absolution:

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.

We sing Gloria in excelsis with the cantors:

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the Highest.

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.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the Highest.

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.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the Highest.

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.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the Highest.

In silence we pray.

Silent prayer; then the President prays the Collect for Christmas Day.

Almighty God,
you have given us your only-begotten Son
to take our nature upon him
and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:
grant that we, who have been born again
and made your children by adoption and grace,
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;
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

Please SIT

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah.

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.

Isaiah 9:2-7

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A reading from the letter to Titus.

For 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.

Titus 2:11-14

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

STAND to sing the Gradual Carol:

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 to the earth be peace,
Goodwill henceforth from heav’n to men
begin and never cease.”

Words: Nahum Tate.

Tune: *Winchester Old*, from Thomas Este’s Psalter, desc. by David Willcocks

We sing the Gospel Acclamation, which heralds the Gospel:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
- lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The cantors sing the verse:

*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory.*

We sing the Acclamation again:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
- lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Then:

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

✠ Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory be to thee, O Lord

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.

Luke 2:1-20

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to thee O Christ.

An organ fanfare sounds, in honour of the Gospel; the all age address follows.

We pause briefly to reflect on what we've heard, then STAND to affirm our Faith:

My brothers and sisters, do you believe and trust in God the Father who made all things, the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God, and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.
This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The prayers of intercession follow:

In peace, let us pray to the Lord

After each bidding is used:

Lord Jesus,
hear our prayer.

The prayers end

Receive the worship we offer
in fellowship with Mary, Joseph and all the saints,
through him who is your Word made flesh,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Please STAND as the President introduces the Peace:

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you;

and with thy spirit.

Let us offer a sign of Christ's Peace.

The Altar is prepared, during which we sing the Offertory carol:

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,
from heaven's all-gracious King!”
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,
with peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hovering wing;
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
the love-song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
and hear the angels sing!

**For lo! The days are hastening on,
 by prophet-bards foretold,
 When with the ever-circling years
 comes round the age of gold;
 When peace shall over all the earth
 its ancient splendours fling,
 And the whole world give back the song
 which now the angels sing.**

Words: Edmund Sears 1810-76

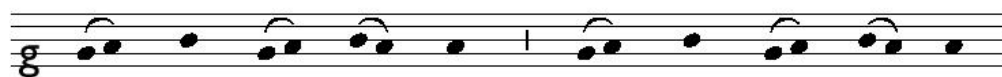
Tune: *NOEL*, trad English melody, adapted by Arthur Sullivan 1842-1900

The president takes the bread and wine and says:

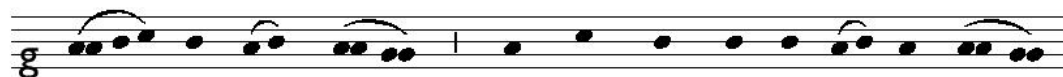
Word made flesh, life of the world, in your incarnation you embraced our poverty: by your Spirit may we share in your riches.
Amen.

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

May the Lord accept the sacrifice we offer for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.



The Lord be with you **R.** and with thy spi-rit.



Lift up your hearts. **R.** We lift them up un-to the Lord.



Let us give thanks un - to the Lord our God.



R. It is meet and right so to do.

The President continues the prayer, thanking God for all his saving works, and then invites the people to join their praises with the whole company of heaven:

(...and sing our joyful hymn of praise:)

We sing Sanctus and Benedictus:

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.

The President continues the prayer, repeating the Lord's own words over the bread and wine and asks the Father to send the Spirit on them to sanctify them. Then:

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

The President continues the Eucharistic Prayer, joining our offering with Christ's sacrifice of himself. At the end:

..... in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours,
O loving Father, for ever and ever.

C: R:
A - men, A - men,
C: R:
A - men, A - men.

Silence

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us, in the language of our choice:

Our Father, who art in heaven,...
Ein Tad, yr hwn wyt y nefoedd
Notre père, qui es aux cieux.....
하늘에 계신 우리 아버지....
Vater unser, der du bist im Himmel...
Nna-ayi, Nke bi n'elu-igwe....

The President breaks the consecrated 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.

We sing Agnus Dei:

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

The President invites all to receive Holy Communion:

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

Lord, give us this bread always.

Baptised persons who are communicant members of Churches subscribing to the Holy Trinity, and who are in good standing in their own church, may receive Holy Communion.

Please follow the direction of the stewards.

All taking part online are encouraged to make their Spiritual Communion, using the following prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, grant, that as the hem of your garment, touched in faith, healed the woman who could not touch your body, so the soul of your servant may be healed by faith in you, whom I cannot now sacramentally receive; through your tender mercy, who lives and reigns with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit ever one God, world without end. Amen.

During the administration, the Choral Scholars sing the following motet:

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King? Awake the voice! Awake the string! Dark and dull night, fly hence away, and give the honour to the day that sees December turn to May.

Why does the chilling winter's morn smile, like a field beset with corn? Or smell like a meadow newly shorn thus on the sudden? Come and see the cause, why things thus fragrant be: 'tis he is born, whose quickening birth gives life and lustre, public mirth, to heaven and the underearth. We see him come, and know his ours, who, with his sunshine and his showers, turns the patient ground to flowers. The darling of the world is come, and fit it is, we find a room to welcome him. The nobler part of all the house there, is the heart,

Which we will give him; and bequeath this holly, and this ivy wreath, to do him honour; who's our King, and Lord of all this revelling.

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King.

Words: Robert Herrick 1591

Tune: John Rutter, b1945

Once all have received Holy Communion, we keep a few moments of SILENT PRAYER.

The President then prays the Post Communion Prayer:

God our Father,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord.
Amen.

Please STAND

THE DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

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
this Christmas morning and always.
Amen

***We sing the final carol, during which the Altar party and Choral Scholars process
to the west end:***

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
offspring of a virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead 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,
ris'n 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

Tune: *Mendelssohn*, Felix Mendelssohn, desc. by David Willcocks

Please turn to face the southwest door as the Deacon dismisses the Eucharistic assembly:

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

***Organ voluntary:
Antony Matthews, A Fanfare for Christmas***

Please take this booklet away with you.

**A very Happy Christmas to you
from Fr David, the whole Ministry Team
and their families!**

Usual Sundays at All Saints:

9am – All Age Mass

*an informal celebration of the Mass, with young families in mind,
lasting about 40 minutes*

1030am – High Mass and Sunday & Crypt Clubs

*a more formal 'cathedral style' service, some of it sung by the choir,
lasting about an hour. Sunday Club for primary age children and Crypt Club
for secondary age children take place.*

6.30pm – Sung Evening Prayer

*a quiet, contemplative service from the Book of Common Prayer,
lasting about 30 minutes (replaced by Choral Evensong, sung by the Choir,
on first Sunday of the month in term time).*

Follow us on social media.....

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