

**The Benefice of St. Wilfrid Cantley
with St. Hugh of Lincoln,
New Cantley
St. Wilfrid's Church,
Church Lane, Cantley, DN4 6QR**



Vigil Mass of Christmas and Christingle



The Opening Hymn

Please stand when the bell rings

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!

Author: Phillips Brooks (1868)

Public Domain

Tune: Forest Green – Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

The Introductory Rites

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

The Priest introduces the Mass and invites the congregation to confess their sins.

The Kyrie

P: Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and prince of peace:
Lord have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

P: Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:
Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

P: Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father:
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

P: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us
to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

The Gloria

**Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

Lord God, heavenly King,
Peace you bring to us;
We worship you, we give you thanks,
We sing our song of praise.

Jesus, Saviour of all,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away our sins, O Lord,
Have mercy on us all.

At the Father's right hand,
Lord, receive our prayer,
For you alone are the Holy One,
And you alone are Lord.

Glory, Father and Son,
Glory, Holy Spirit,
To you we raise our hands up high,
We glorify your name.

The Collect

P: Let us pray.
O God, who gladden us year by year as we wait in hope for our redemption,
Grant that, just as we joyfully welcome your Only Begotten Son as our Redeemer,
We may also merit to face him confidently when he comes again as our Judge.
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Please sit down for the readings

The First Reading

Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

R: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Carol

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the 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 Thee 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.

Words: verses 1–2 Anon. ca. 1885; verse 3, John T. McFarland, 1851–1913
Public Domain

Tune: Cradle Song; William James Kirkpatrick, 1838–1921

The Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

Please stand

All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Cantor: Tomorrow there will be an end to the sin of the world
and the Saviour of the world will be our King.

All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your Spirit.

P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Presentation or Talk

Please sit down

The Christingles are lit.

Carol

See him lying on a bed of straw:
a draughty stable with an open door;
Mary cradling the babe she bore
the prince of glory is his name.

**O now carry me to Bethlehem
to see the Lord appear to men:
just as poor as was the stable then,
the prince of glory when he came.**

Star of silver, sweep across the skies,
show where Jesus in the manger lies;
shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise
to see the saviour of the world!

Angels, sing again the song you sang,
Bring God's glory to the heart of man;
Sing that Bethl'em's little baby can
be salvation to the soul.

Mine are riches, from your poverty,
from your innocence, eternity;
mine, forgiveness by your death for me,
child of sorrow for my joy.

Michael Perry (1942 - 1996)
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CCL 1187093

The Christingles are extinguished.

P: Pray, 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.

The Prayer over the Gifts now follows.

The Eucharistic Prayer

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

The preface continues until we sing:

The Sanctus and Benedictus

**All: 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 or sit

P: The Mystery of faith

**All: (Said) We proclaim your death O Lord,
And profess your Resurrection
Until you come again..**

P: for ever and ever

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Please stand

P: At the Saviour's command, and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**All: 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.**

P: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, 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.

**All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever.**

The Priest continues.....

P: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And with your spirit.

P: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

The Agnus Dei

Lamb of God,
you take away
the sins
of the world
Miserere nobis

**Lamb of God,
you take away
the sins
of the world,
Miserere nobis (x2)**

Lamb of God,
you take away
the sins
of the world
Dona nobis pacem

**Lamb of God,
you take away
the sins
of the world,
Dona nobis pacem.**

P: 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 is now distributed.

*All those who are regular communicants in their own church are
welcome to receive the Sacrament at this celebration.*

Please bring a service book with you if you would like to simply receive a blessing.

Carol

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.

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."

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 (1816)
Music: Stille Nacht - Franz Xaver Gruber (1818)
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The Concluding Rite

P: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

The priest blesses the congregation

All: **Amen**

P: Go forth, the Mass is ended.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Carol

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

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, glory in the highest:

Words: John F Wade tr. Frederick Oakley 1841
Music: Adeste Fideles
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We hope you have enjoyed this service and wish you a very happy Christmas.

As you leave there will be a collection for The Children's Society.

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