

All Saints
Gosforth

All Saints Church

Carol Service



Christmas Eve 2024

4.00pm and 6.30pm

Collection in aid of The British Red Cross and
All Saints Church

Welcome to All Saints for our Carol Service on Christmas Eve.

In this service, through the readings from the Bible and the carols and songs we sing, we hear how God, the creator of the universe, has come to be with us. The child whose birth we celebrate embraces our human condition, bringing us hope. We believe that Jesus, born in a manger, supports and guides us even now. His light shows us a way forward in these unpredictable times.

May this time of worship bring each of us closer to the peace and joy of which the angels sing.

Practical points:

- This booklet contains everything you need to take part in the Service. If you need any assistance, please ask one of the sidespeople at the doors.
- Please ensure all mobile phones are switched off before the Service begins.
- Please remember that candles can be dangerous so do take care when they are lit, particularly where children are present. Buckets of water and towels are available around the church. Exits are at the back of the church and through the curtain at the front on the north side.
- A collection will be taken during the Service for the work of The British Red Cross and All Saints Church. More details can be found about their work in the Service booklet.
- You are welcome to take this Service booklet away with you after the Service.
- Large print versions of this Order of Service are available; please ask at the door.

The Service begins in darkness.

Procession

Please remain seated until verse 3.

Solo: 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.

Candles are lit from those on the windowsills during the next verse, and the light spreads through the church.

Choir: 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 and mean and lowly,
 Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

Please stand.

**All: And through all his wondrous childhood
 He would honour and obey,
 Love and watch the lowly maiden
 In whose gentle arms he lay:
 Christian children all must be
 Mild, obedient, good as he.**

**For he is our childhood's pattern,
Day by day like us he grew;
He was little, weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him
Through his own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above:
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.**

**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 like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.**

Verse one solo by Frances Smith

Welcome and Bidding Prayer

At the end of the prayers, please put out your candles and sit down.

Reading: Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7
God's promise of the Messiah

Choir: Ding Dong Merrily On High – trad. French

*Ding dong, merrily on high!
In heav'n the bells are ringing;
ding dong, verily the sky
is riv'n with angel singing.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*E'en so here below, below
let steeple bells be swungen,
And io, io, io,
by priest and people sungen.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Pray you dutifully prime
your Matin chime, ye ringers
may you beautifully rhyme
your eve-time song, ye singer.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

Reading: Micah 5:2-4
The Messiah will be born in Bethlehem

Please stand.

During this carol, there will be a collection for The British Red Cross and All Saints Church. If you would prefer to donate online please follow the instructions from this QR code.



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.**

Please sit.

Reading: Luke 1:26-33, 38
The Annunciation to Mary

Choir: Gabriel's Message

*The angel Gabriel from heaven came
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame
"All hail" said he "thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!*

*"For known a blessed mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honour thee,
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold
Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!*

*Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name."
Most highly favoured lady. Gloria!*

*Of her Emmanuel the Christ was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn
And Christian folk throughout the world
will ever say:
"Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!*

Reading: Luke 2:1-7
The Birth of Jesus

Choir: A Maiden Most Gentle – Andrew Carter

*A maiden most gentle and tender we sing
Of Mary the mother of Jesus our King
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.*

*How blessed is the birth of her heavenly child
Who came to redeem us in Mary so mild
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.*

*The archangel Gabriel foretold by his call
The Lord of creation and Saviour of all
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.*

*Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare
And marvelled in awe at the babe in her care
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.*

*Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray
Sing praise to the Saviour, sing endless "Ave".
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.*

Reading: Luke 2:8-18
The Shepherds go to the Manger

Please stand

4.00pm Carol Service

Carol: **The Calypso Carol** featuring the Calypso Crew

**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.
*O now carry me to Bethlehem ...***

INSTRUMENTAL BREAK

**Angels, sing again the song you sang,
Bring God's glory to the heart of man.**

**Sing that Bethlem's little baby can
Be salvation to the soul.**

***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.***

6.30pm Carol Service

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 on the earth be peace;
Good-will henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease.'**

Reading: Matthew 2:1-11
The Wise Men are led by the Star to Jesus

Please stand.

During the last two verses of this carol all the children in the church (accompanied, if appropriate, by an adult) gather at the crib.

Carol: We three kings of Orient are:
bearing gifts we traverse afar;
field and fountain, moor and mountain
following yonder star:
*O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.*

Born a King on Bethlehem plain,
gold I bring, to crown him again,
King for ever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign:
O star of wonder, star of night ...

Frankincense to offer have I,
incense owns a Deity nigh,
prayer and praising, gladly raising,
worship him, God most high:
O star of wonder, star of night ...

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb:
O star of wonder, star of night ...

Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and sacrifice;
Heav'n sings alleluia,
Alleluia the earth replies:
O star of wonder, star of night ...

The Blessing of the Crib

Please remain standing as a short prayer is said to bless the crib.

Carol: Away in a Manger

Children: Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky look down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

All: **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 for ever, and love me, I pray
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.**

All return to their places at the end of the carol.

Please sit

Choir: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly - Trad. arr. John Lewis

*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,
noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all!
Christ the babe is Lord of all!*

*Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new*

*Saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of the 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.*

The Address

The Revd Canon Andrew Shipton

Please stand.

Carol: **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 the angelic host proclaim:
Christ is born in Bethlehem:
 *Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.***

**Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of a Virgin's womb!
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the 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 heaven-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.*

Please remain standing for the Christmas Gospel and the Collect.

Reading: **John 1:1-14**
The Incarnation of the Word of God

Prayer **The Collect for Christmas Eve**

The Blessing

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:

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

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,

O come, let us adore him

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, Choirs of Angels,

Sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;

Glory to God in the Highest:

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Thank You

To all who have contributed in any way to this Service and its preparation: musicians, readers, stewards, ringers, servers, office staff and volunteers, and many more ...

This Christmas All Saints is supporting the
British Red Cross
through our Carol Service collections.

The British Red Cross

Whether it's in the UK or abroad in
Gaza, Lebanon, Sudan and Ukraine, it
feels like the British Red Cross has
never been needed more.



We know that through conflict, flooding or food shortages and
fires, families and communities are facing unimaginable hardship.
No matter how difficult or dangerous things get, the British Red
Cross is ready to face these challenges, bringing comfort and aid
when all hope and humanity feels lost.

<https://www.redcross.org.uk/>

A proportion of the money given today will be used to support the
mission and ministry of All Saints.

Please give generously.

At your service ...

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you feel we might
be able to help in any way, for example to explore the Christian
Faith. For weddings, please contact the Vicar; for enquiries about
baptism (christening) contact the Parish Administrator initially.

Vicar:	Andrew Shipton	(284 5540)
Assistant Curate:	Miriam Jones	07474095190
Assistant Priest:	Ruth Birnie	(284 1393)
Churchwardens:	Nick Glover & Dana Corso	
Parish Administrator:	Louise Waugh	(213 0450)
<i>Parish Office hours: 9.30am—12.30pm (Mon - Fri)</i>		
Organist & Choirmaster	John Lewis	(07981156751)
Website:	www.allsaints-gosforth.org.uk	
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/allsaintsgoforth	
Twitter:	Twitter.com/allsaintsgos	

Our Vision as a Church!

We aim by 2026 to be a diverse community all ages of more than 300 active members, who inspired by our encounter with God are making real difference in our context. We aim for our worship to be thoughtful, rich and distinctive, our liturgical and theological inheritance to engage the present age. We aim to be open and receptive to those who feel particularly on the edge.

We seek to live a generous life rooted in practices of listening, learning, bible reading, prayer, celebrating the sacraments and loving service.

We are committed to the sustainable future, our community, and our planet. We strive for individual and communal accountability and the preservation of our God-given resources, with the view to future generations who should inherit a world that is as viable and beautiful as God intends.

Characteristics of our community:

We continually hope for self-awareness in order to listen deeply to the movement of the Spirit in ourselves and in one another.

Two qualities we hope to live out:

Humility: We accept that there is an opportunity for plenty of growth in ourselves.

Loving Kindness: respect for the values, needs, and convictions in one another thereby acknowledging the Christ in the other which manifests in a generous and forgiving spirit towards each other's failings. We speak respectfully and truthfully to one another.

We care about justice, we are a member of Citizens Tyne and Wear and work with Amnesty International.

All welcome to join us!

Services on Christmas Day

8.00am Holy Communion

A quiet Service in traditional language with short sermon

9.30am Eucharist of Christmas Day

A festive modern-language Service for all the family, with the choir and plenty of congregational carols.

Usual Sunday Service Times

8.00am Holy Communion

A quiet Service in traditional language with short sermon

9.30am Parish Communion

A modern language sung Service with choir and sermon

4.00pm Faith@4pm

Last Sunday of the month

A Family Service in the All Saints Centre

6.30pm Evening Prayer

A traditional Service of psalms, readings, music and prayers

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Last Sunday of each month

A traditional Sung Service of psalms, hymns, canticles and anthems along with readings and prayers