

Notices :

Christmas Communion: Fr Mark is very willing to bring Holy Communion to the sheltering. He does not need to sit down—or have a glass of something! Holy Communion will be put into the ciborium using the metal tongues here in Church and then the Communicant will administer your own Holy Communion. Please encourage those who continue to shelter to contact Fr Mark to receive Holy Communion.

Fr Mark will be away from The Epiphany. He is returning to pack up his parents house after their move to sheltered accommodation. Fr Grant Holmes is coming to Paris and will cover the offices, weekday and Sunday masses. Fr Grant is looking forward to moving to Paris in April with Fr Jeffrey. Fr Mark will return for Sunday 17th January.

We regret to announce that Paul Sherrell died peacefully on Sunday 29th November. Fr Martin was in contact with Janet from the start of his final illness and will speak at his funeral at St Nicholas, Saltdean (not St Nicholas, Brighton) on Thursday 17 December at 14h30 GMT. A Memorial Service will be held at St George's in 2021. If you would like to contact Janet personally please ask Anne for her contact details via the Office. **The Carol Service this year is online.** A huge thanks to all those who recorded material for this service.

In Your Prayers please remember those on our sick-list: Mary Berg, Jean-Paul Buffet, Paul Bultez, Angela Casone, Anne Cozic, Jeanine & Caroline Cullinan, Gregor Dallas, Eric Benson, Mimi de Bentzmann-Fouilland, Isabelle Foulon, Ophélie Gourbault, Irene Hicks, Prudence Kupka, Muriel Lamoureux, Amy Linton, Mirentxu Le Maire, Kenneth Nyakana, Bernadette Pédeflous, Simone Rabaud, Pascale Stephany, Grace Valéry, Margaret Woods, Anitha Yannick, Lucas, Margo, Alex and Max, Sarah, Maroussia, Laurence, Marie-Thérèse, Susan, David, Paul, Saul.

Those who have died: Paul Sherrell, Carol Hughie and all who have died this week of Covid-19.

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England,
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St George's Paris

Family Eucharist for the Night before Christmas

A warm welcome to St George's online worship this week. Everything you need for today's service you'll find in this pamphlet.

Thursday 24th	<i>Christmas Eve</i> 1730 Family Eucharist with Carols 2200 Midnight Mass of Christmas w Blessing of the Crib
Friday 25th	Christmas Day 0830 Holy Communion (1662) 1030 Solemn Mass with Prayers at the Crib 1615 Messe Malgache 1745 Messe Malgache
Saturday 26th	<i>Stephen, deacon</i> 1200 Mass
Sunday 27th	1st Sunday of Christmas 0830 Holy Communion (1662) 1030 Solemn Eucharist
Monday 28th	<i>The Holy Innocents</i>
Tuesday 29th	<i>John, Apostle</i> 1800 Evensong 1830 Mass
Wednesday 30th	<i>Christmas FERIA</i> 1200 Mass
Thursday 31st	<i>St Sylvester</i> 1800 Evensong 1830 Mass
Friday 1st	<i>Naming and Circumcision of Jesus</i> 1200 Mass
Saturday 2nd	<i>Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzus</i> 1200 Mass
Sunday 3rd	The Epiphany 0830 Holy Communion 1030 Solemn Mass 1630 Messe Malgache

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The Gathering

As the bell rings, we stand to sing.

**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.**

**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.**

**And through all his wondrous childhood 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;
where like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around**

Greeting

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The celebration is introduced and we are invited to remember and confess our sins in preparation for our celebration together. The choir sings the Kyries.

Penitential Rite

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.**

Opening Prayer

Eternal God, in the stillness of this night your almighty Word leapt down from
heaven: pierce the worlds' darkness with the light of salvation and give to the earth
the peace we long for through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land
of deep darkness—on them light has 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,

**It came upon a midnight clear That glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold
Peace on the earth, good will 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 blessèd 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.**

Blessing

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

God sent his angels from glory to bring to shepherds the good news of Jesus' birth.
Amen, we thank you, Lord.

You have heard his story, the story of God's own Son.
Amen, we thank you, Lord.

May he fill you with joy to bring this good new to others today.
Amen, we thank you, Lord.

And may the blessing... always. **Amen**

As we await our coming Saviour, go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.



**Have a very
Happy & Blessed
Christmas —
from all at St George's
Anglican Church.**

**And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the bread

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**God is here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

*As we prepare for Holy Communion the Choir sing the **Agnus Dei**.*

**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, that take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Lord, give us this bread for ever.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion if you do so in your own church. If you would prefer, please come forward and bow your head for a blessing. If you don't want to receive Holy Communion you may like to use the following prayer:

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament,
I love you above all things and I desire you in my soul.
Since I cannot receive you now sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my soul.
As though you were already there I embrace you and unite myself wholly to you;
permit not that I should ever be separated from you. Amen.*

Please follow the directions of the Sides-people. After all have received Communion, we sing

**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.**

**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.**

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father, in this night you have made known to us again the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts; to him be glory both now and for ever. **Amen.**

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.

Gradual

**Long ago, prophets knew Christ would come, born a Jew.
Come to make all things new; Bear his People's burden,
Freely love and pardon.
Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, When he comes, Who will make him welcome?**

**God in time, God in man, This is God's timeless plan:
He will come, as a man, Born himself of woman,
God divinely human. Refrain**

**Mary, hail! Though afraid; She believed, she obeyed.
In her womb God is laid; Till the time expected
Nurtured and protected. Refrain**

**Journey ends! Where afar Bethlem shines, like a star,
Stable door stands ajar. Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!
Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes! Jesus comes! We will make him welcome!**

Holy Gospel: Luke 2: 8-20

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!'

Sermon

Please be seated for the short address.

Tonight Christ is born; **alleluia**
Tonight the Saviour will come; **alleluia**
Tonight the angels sing on the earth; **alleluia**

We stand to say together

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

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

Blessing of the Crib

Affirmation of Faith

Prayers of Intercession

We remain standing to prayer together. At the end of each petition this response is used

Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

After a pause for silent prayer, we conclude

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

We are invited to give one another a sign of peace without touching—please use the Namaste or a bow of the head (a smile is really good too!). Our financial offering will be brought up by the Sidespeople from the Lower Landing table.

**In the bleak mid-winter frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone:
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid-winter, long ago.**

**Our God, heaven cannot hold him nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
in the bleak mid-winter a stable-place sufficed
the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.**

**Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day,
a breast full of milk, and a manger full of hay:**

**enough for him, whom angels fall down before,
the ox and ass and camel which adore.**

**Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim thronged the air -
but only his mother in her maiden bliss
worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.**

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.**

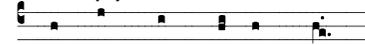
Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you



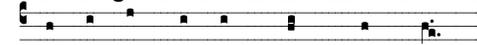
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts



We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give thanks and praise.

The celebrant praises God for his mighty acts in the Preface and the Choir sings the Sanctus.

**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 prayer continues until the Proclamation of Faith

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

At the end of the prayer we all respond Amen. We remain standing to pray together

**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.**