



SAINT JOHN'S MALONE



**THE ORDER FOR
THE FIRST EUCHARIST OF CHRISTMAS**

**CHRISTMAS EVE
Friday 24th December 2021
At 11.00 p.m.**

All stand to sing (quietly behind face masks):

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 172

1 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, Christ the Lord

2 See how the shepherds,
summoned to the cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither
bend our joyful footsteps:

Blessing of the Crib

Dear friends, as we meet to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us pray that God will bless this crib, that all who worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father, on this night your Son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary for us and for our salvation:

bless this crib, which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth;
may all who see it be strengthened in faith and receive the fullness of life he came to bring, who is alive and reigns for ever.

All Amen.

4 Lo! star-led chieftains,
Magi, Christ adoring,
offer him incense, gold and myrrh;
we to the Christ-child
bring our hearts' oblations:

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

7a Yea, Lord, we greet,
born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father
now in flesh appearing:

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The Presiding Minister says:

Welcome all wonders in one sight!
Eternity shut in a span.
Summer in winter, day in night,
heaven in earth and God in man.

Great little one whose all-embracing birth
brings earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.

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

All say

Almighty God
**to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name:
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

PENITENCE

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

The response is: **Lord, have mercy on us,
and write these your laws in our hearts.**

The priest says the following sentence.

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts.

Let us turn to the light and confess our sins.

Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments, and to live in love and peace.

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.

The presiding minister pronounces the absolution:

May the God of all healing and forgiveness

draw you to himself, that you may behold the glory of his Son,

the Word made flesh, and be cleansed from all your sins,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Glory to God in the highest, (*sung*)

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.

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.
**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. Amen.**

THE COLLECT

Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever.

Silence

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 our Lord. **Amen**

PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 9: 2-7

² *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. ³ 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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶ 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.

⁷ 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.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 96 pg 703 BCP 2004

GRADUAL HYMN 179

See amid the winter's snow,
Born for us on earth below,
 see the tender Lamb appears,
 promised from eternal years.

*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail redemption's happy dawn!
 sing through all Jerusalem:
 'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'*

Lo, within a manger lies
he who built the starry skies;
 he who, throned in height sublime,
 sits amid the cherubim!

Say, ye holy shepherds, say
what your joyful news today;
 wherefore have ye left your sheep
 on the lonely mountain steep?

As we watched at dead of night,
lo, we saw a wondrous light;
 angels singing "Peace on earth"
 told us of the Saviour's birth'.

Sacred Infant, all divine,
what a tender love was thine,
 thus to come from highest bliss
 down to such a world as this!

Teach, O teach us, holy Child,
by thy face so meek and mild,
teach us to resemble thee,
in thy sweet humility.

THE GOSPEL:

Luke 2: 1-14, 15-20

(The congregation turns to face the Gospel reader)

Today Christ is born:

alleluia.

Today the Saviour has come:

alleluia.

Today the angels sing on earth:

alleluia. Glory to God in the highest.

The Gospel is introduced:

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to St Luke in the second chapter beginning at verse one

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

2 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah,* the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.'

¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!’

¹⁵ 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.’ ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

At the end of the reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Father, in this holy night your Son our Saviour was born in human flesh.
Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.

Holy God
hear our prayer.

In this holy night there was no room for your Son in the inn.
Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty.

Holy God
hear our prayer.

In this holy night Mary, in the pain of labour, brought your Son to birth.
Hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress.

Holy God
hear our prayer.

In this holy night your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness.

Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world.

Holy God

hear our prayer.

In this holy night the angels sang, 'Peace to God's people on earth.'

Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in all the world.

Holy God

hear our prayer.

In this holy night strangers found the Holy Family, and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love.

Holy God

hear our prayer.

In this holy night heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven. Hold in your hand all those who have passed through death in the hope of your coming kingdom.

Holy God

hear our prayer.

In this holy night Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth.

Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.

Holy God

hear our prayer.

Father, in this holy night angels and shepherds worshipped at the manger throne.

Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary,

Joseph and the saints through him who is your Word made flesh,
our Saviour Jesus Christ

Merciful Father

accept these our prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ.

THE PEACE

All stand

This holy night the angels sang, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.’

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

*Members of the congregation may turn and acknowledge each other as a sign of
peace. Please refrain from hand shaking etc. due to Covid19.*

THE OFFERTORY

The organ plays quietly during the preparation of the Altar-table

CELEBRATING AT THE LORD’S TABLE

Preparation of the Table ~Taking of the Bread and Wine

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

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:

therefore let us celebrate the feast.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

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.

Father, almighty and everliving God,

at all times and in all places

it is right to give you thanks and praise:

You have given Jesus Christ your only Son

to be born of the Virgin Mary,

and through him you have given us power to become the children of God:

And so with all your people,
with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

sung

**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!**

Blessed are you, Father,
the creator and sustainer of all things;
you made us in your own image,
male and female you created us;
even when we turned away from you,
you never ceased to care for us,
but in your love and mercy you freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving your only begotten Son to become man
and suffer death on the cross to redeem us;
he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world:
he instituted, and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death
until he comes again:

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup;
and when he had given thanks to you,
he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you, for
this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we do as Christ your Son commanded:

**we remember his passion and death,
we celebrate his resurrection and ascension,
and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts,
grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit
that we may be made one in your holy Church
and partakers of the body and blood of your Son,
that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
**all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

All kneel



Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The bread which we break
is a sharing in the body of Christ.
**We being many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.
Lord, give us this bread always.

Agnus Dei is sung

THE COMMUNION

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life.
The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life.

Communicants are administered the consecrated bread (communicating in one kind only at present)

*And the communicant replies: **Amen.***

Motet: O holy night - Adolphe Adam

THE GREAT SILENCE

Let us pray (All kneel)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our Father, in this night you have made known to us again the power and 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**

All say:

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Blessing: 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 always. **Amen.**

FINAL HYMN 160

1 Hark! The herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all you 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.*

- 2 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 us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
- 3 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 we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth.

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

Organ: Postlude on Mendelssohn – Sir David Willcocks

Office Setting: Macmillan Galloway Mass / Darke in F

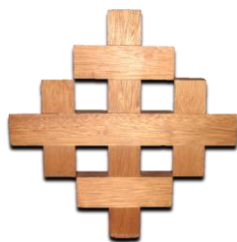


Clergy: Rev Canon Stephen Fielding (Rector)

Rev Dr Brian Crowe (Assistant priest)

Director of Music: Mr Richard Campbell





Services this week

Saturday 25th December

Christmas Day

9.00am Eucharist

10.30am A Christmas Morning Service

Sunday 26th December

St Stephen's Day- Christmas 1

9.00am Eucharist

10.30am Eucharist

Monday 27th December

Saint John Apostle and Evangelist

10.30am Matins (1)

Tuesday 28th December

The Holy Innocents

No Services on Wednesday & Thursday this week.

Saturday 1st January 2022

10.00am Eucharist with prayers for the new year.



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St John's Malone Charities Registration Number NIC101984

Please PRINT your name and the names of any accompanying you today and supply a phone number to enable tracking and tracing. If you become ill with any symptoms of Covid19 *and are subsequently tested positive*, please contact the Rector as soon as possible and follow government guidelines. Deposit this sheet in the box in the porch on the way out. Thank you.

NAME:

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PEW NUMBER(S) (FOUND AT THE PEW END):

DATE:

Note: Please disperse *directly* from your pew in the church into the churchyard whilst maintaining social distancing of 2 metres.

You may like to tear off this back page for the Track & Trace box on the way out and retain the order of service.

