THE PARISH OF
ST WILFRID
HARROGATE

The Crib Service

Christmas Eve – Tuesday 24th December 2024
5pm

Welcome!

Please wait quietly before the service, listening to the music being played.

We ask parents to help their children to join in – the best example is for parents to join in too!

A collection, shared between the work of the Children's Society supporting underprivileged children and the work of this church, is taken at the end of this service.

There is a Vigil Mass following this service at 6pm. You are more than welcome to stay for this.

May I wish you all a holy and happy Christmas.

Fr Gary Waddington
Team Rector

There is a **loop system** and those who wish to make use of this should turn their hearing aids to "T"

Please make sure that your mobile phone is **switched off**.

Before mass begins, you are asked to keep **silence**, remembering that you have come into the presence of God, whom we worship.

Lavatories can be found in the cloister just outside the Hall for gentlemen, or for ladies, through the double doors at the rear of the hall.

Facilities for **Baby Changing** can be found in the larger lavatory just in the narthex of the Hall

We can reclaim tax on donations given in the yellow 'Gift Aid' envelopes. Please complete to help us to receive this extra vital income. Thank you!

Whilst the wearing of face coverings is not required, you are welcome to do so if you wish. Please do be aware of the needs of others around you – and respect those who wish to maintain their own personal space.

The organ music played before and after this service is:

'Walking in the Air'	*Howard Blake*
Three Versets on 'Away in a Manger'	*Mark Blatchly*
Sleigh Ride	*arr. Thomas Trotter*

The Gathering

When everything is ready, you are invited to stand to sing:

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.

Hail the heaven-born prince of peace!
Hail the Son of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with glory 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.

✠ In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Lord be with you
And also with you

A priest introduces the service and we then listen to:

The First Reading *Luke 2: 1-6*

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.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

The Prayer of Penitence

We say sorry to God for the things that we do which are wrong:

Lord Jesus, you call us to love one another: Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you make us all children of God: Christ, have mercy
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you invite us all to call God our Father: Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy.

The Priest then says the prayer of forgiveness:

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Opening Prayer

Father,
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.
Amen.

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 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 Second Reading *Luke 2: 7-14*

And Mary 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!'

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Homily

The Procession to the Crib

The Third Reading *Luke 2: 15-20*

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.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Prayers at the Crib

We pray for our families and friends.
Lord Jesus,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are homeless or hungry.
Lord Jesus,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for all your creation.
Lord Jesus,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for all nations and peoples.
Lord Jesus,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for all in need, for the sick and for those who have died.
Lord Jesus,
Hear our prayer.

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.
For thine is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Hymn

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

The Blessing and Lighting of Christingles

The Christingles are lit. Silence is kept for a moment.

Today we remember Jesus and the story of his birth;
Jesus is our King

Jesus Christ is the light of the world
Jesus is our way

With Jesus, even dark places are light
Jesus is the Truth.

In Jesus we shall life for ever
Jesus is our Life.

:

Heavenly Father,
pour down your abundant blessing upon these Christingles
prepared to celebrate the coming of your Son:
may the world for which he shed his blood
know that Christ is the light of the world;
and may we bear fruit in every place and season
to the praise and glory of your name.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen.

The Blessing and Dismissal

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
Fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;
And may almighty God bless you,
✠ the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Final 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
In the highest:

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