

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US AT
ST PETER'S
HAZEL GROVE
for this celebration of Jesus' birth.

Service of Carols and Christmas Night Mass 2020



Unfortunately because of the current Coronavirus restrictions we cannot invite you to join in singing in church but you can at home!

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet is 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 on 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

Philip Brooks 1835-93

We now listen to 'The Star Carol' sung by our choir

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 all of humankind.'

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 spoke 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,
 Goodwill henceforth from heaven to all
 begin and never cease.'

Nahum Tate 1652-1715

The choir now sing 'The Coventry Carol

55 *J. Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)*

1. 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.
2. 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 stand by my side until morning is nigh.
3. 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.

We listen to the choir singing
 'In the Bleak midwinter



- 1 The first Nowell the angel did say
 was to certain poor shepherds in fields
 as they lay;
 in fields where they lay keeping their
 sheep,
 on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
 born is the King of Israel!*
- 2 They lookèd up and saw a star,
 shining in the east, beyond them far,
 and to the earth it gave great light,
 and so it continued both day and night.
- 3 And by the light of that same star,
 three wise men came from country far.
 To seek for a king was their intent,
 and to follow the star wherever it went.
- 6 Then let us all with one accord
 sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
 that hath made heaven and earth of nought
 and with his blood mankind hath bought.
Traditional English carol



Before Mass begins the choir sing A
 Christmas lullaby followed by the Fanfare

OPENING CAROL FOR MASS

- Once in Royal David's city
 stood a lowly cattle shed,
 where a mother laid her baby
 in a manger for a bed
 Mary was that Mother mild.
 Jesus Christ her little child.
2. 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.
 - 3 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 his is gone.
 - 4 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.

Cecil Alexander (1818-95)

The Gloria is now sung

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading from the prophet Isaiah 9:1-7
(A son is given to us)

Psalm 95

TODAY A SAVIOUR HAS BEEN BORN TO US; HE IS CHRIST THE LORD

Second Reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus 2:11-14
(God's grace has been revealed to the whole human race)

A Reading from the Gospel of St Luke 2:1-14
(Today a Saviour has been born to you, He is Christ the Lord)

The Creed is said

THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

CAROL AT THE PREPARATION OF GIFTS

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 Bethlehem
O come let us adore him (3)
Christ the Lord

2. 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

3. 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

4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning
Jesu, to thee be glory given
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing
O come, let us adore him

Attributed to John F Wade 1711-86
Tr Frederick Oakley 1802-80

Choir piece
Love came down at Christmas

Carol at Communion

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 (2)

Silent night, holy night Shepherd's quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ the Saviour is born (2)

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 (2)



Recessional 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 th'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 Son 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 bring them second birth
Hark the herald angels sing, glory to the new born King

You can read the Parish Newsletter every weekend on

www.stpeterscatholic.church

Or watch all Masses and celebrations at St Peters

by clicking on www.churchservices.tv/stockport

To attend Mass on Saturday or Sunday in St Peters you should email

admin@stpetershazelgrove.org.uk

Please give your name, the Mass you wish to attend and the numbers attending

**Fr Peter wishes you and your families
a very happy Christmas**