

Celebrating 200 Years



Carols by Candlelight

Traditional Readings and Carols for all

Monday December 9, 2024

with

Rev'd Yvonne Ginnelly

Cuore Chamber Choir

Director Amy Ryan

Organists Siobhán Kilkelly, Simon Stroughair

Brass Quintet

Soloist Helen Blackmore

CHOIR ONLY

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.

ALL STAND AND SING

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 should be
kind, obedient, good as he.

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.

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818 - 95)

The Bidding Prayer
Rev Yvonne Ginnelly

The Lord's Prayer

First Lesson: Genesis 1: 1-3, 26-31a

God's purpose is that humanity should be the crown of his creation.

Reader: Rachel Bennett :A parishioner

Cuore Chamber Choir sings:

Virga Jesse Anton Bruckner

Second Lesson: Genesis 22: 15-18

God promises Abraham that in his seed shall all nations be blessed.

Reader: Anna McKay

ALL STAND AND SING

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!

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. *Edward Caswall (1814-78)*

Third Lesson: Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

Isaiah foresees the Prince of Peace.

Reader: Aisling Dunne, Irish Architectural Archive

Cuore Chamber Choir sings:
As Dew in Aprylle Peter Warlock

ALL STAND AND SING

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 swaddling clothes,
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 to the earth be peace!
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to earth
begin, and never cease.

Nahum Tate (1652-1715)

Fourth Lesson: Isaiah 11: 1-9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown

Reader: Clíodhna O Reilly

Principal St Matthews Primary School, Irishtown

Cuore Chamber Choir *sings*:
Good-will to men Dobrinka Tabakova

ALL STAND AND SING.

It came upon the 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 heav’n’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 heav’nly music floats
o’er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hov’ring wing,
and ever o’er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

Continued over

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.

Fifth Lesson: St. Luke 1: 26-35, 38

The Angel Gabriel visits the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Reader: Anne O Regan, St Ann's Parishioner

ALL STAND AND 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.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all 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.

Philip Brooks (1835-93)

Sixth Lesson: St. Luke 2: 1-7

Caesar Augustus taxes the Empire.

Reader: Maeve Gebruers Irish Traditional Music Archive

Cuore Chamber Choir sings:
Réalt na hOiche Colm Ó Foghlú

ALL STAND AND SING

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,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia; Christ the Saviour is born!
Christ the Saviour is born!

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,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. *Joseph Mohr (1792-1848)*

Seventh Lesson: St. Luke 2: 8-14

The angels sing the first Christmas carol

Reader: Cathal Twomey
A member of St Stephen's Church Choir

ALL STAND AND SING

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

They looked 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:

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:

This star drew nigh to the north-west.,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay:
continued over

Then entered in those wise men three,
Full rev'rently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence,
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense:

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 brought:

Eighth Lesson: St. Matthew 2: 1-2, 7-12

The Wise Men are led by a star to Jesus.

Reader: Fr Fachtna Mc Carthy
Administrator St Mary's, Haddington Rd

Cuore Chamber Choir
soloist Maria O Connor
O Holy Night : Adolphe Adam

Ninth Lesson: St. John 1: 1-14

ALL STAND

St. John unfolds the mystery of the incarnation.

Reader: Rev Yvonne Ginnelly

**Collection in aid of Dublin's 'Black Santa' Appeal
for the homeless in Dublin**

ALL STAND AND SING

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.***

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:

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

tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802 - 80) adpt.

**The Collect
Ven Edgar Swann**

The Blessing

ALL STAND AND SING

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.*

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:

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:

Charles Wesley (1707 - 88) and others

Organ Voluntary J. S. Bach *In dulci jubilo*

***Everyone is invited to remain behind for light refreshments
courtesy of The Merrion Hotel***

CHRISTMAS DAY

Holy Communion at 11a.m. in St Ann’s Church, Dawson Street

CUORE CONCERT

Christmas with Cuore

**Saturday December 14, 2024 7.30pm
St Mary’s Church, Haddington Rd, Dublin 4
(cuore.eventbrite.ie)**