

Our Lady of Mount Carmel & Saint George

with Our Lady of Walsingham & the English Martyrs

Carol Service

Sunday 19th December 2021

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

‘Wachet auf’ - J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

2. O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory over the grave.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

3. O come, Thou Day-spring, come and
cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to
flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

4. O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

5. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel ...

OPENING PRAYER

Where two or three are gathered, the
Lord assured us He is in our midst.
Gathered as the Body of Christ, let us
pray in the words our Saviour gave
us...*Our Father*

READING

Christ's birth and Kingdom are foretold
by the Prophet Isaiah (9:1-7)

THE LONDON CELTIC YOUTH ORCHESTRA

The Blighted Landscape- Michael Rooney
The Shores of Loughbran, Traditional

READING

St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus (Lk 2:1-7)

CHOIR

Creator of the Stars of Night

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

1. The angel Gabriel from heaven
came
His wings as drifted snow his eyes as
flame
"All hail" said he "thou lowly maiden
Mary,
Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!
2. For known a blessed mother thou shalt
be,
All generations laud and honour thee,
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers
foretold
Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!
3. Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her
head
To me be as it pleaseth God, she said,
My soul shall laud and magnify his holy
name.
Most highly favoured lady. Gloria!
4. Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was
born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn
And Christian folk throughout the world
will ever say:
Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!

ST ANNE'S SCHOOL - YEAR 12

Mary Did You Know by Elizabeth Hunt &
Sammie-Jo Kadi-Menson

READING

From a sermon of Pope St. Leo the Great
Christian, remember your dignity!

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. Enough for Him, whom Cherubim
Worship night and day,
A breastful of milk
And a mangerful of hay;
Enough for Him, whom Angels
Fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel
Which adore.
4. 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.

5. 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.

GOSPEL READING

*St John unfolds the great mystery of the
Incarnation (John 1:1-18)*

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according
to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

CHRISTMAS REFLECTION

Fr Daniel Humphreys

BLESSING OF THE TREE

Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate
the birth of your Son, who rescued us
from the darkness of sin by making the
cross a tree of life and light.

May this tree, arrayed in splendor,
remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ,
that we may always rejoice in the new life
that shines in our hearts.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

Our salvation is near at hand; may God
help us to remain steadfast in faith,
watchful in hope and ardent in charity.
Lord in your mercy...*Hear our prayer*

Today we heard in the Scriptures, the
heralding of your Son, may our hearts
and minds remain open to receive Him.
Lord in your mercy...*Hear our prayer*

For those who still await the coming of
the Messiah; may they find Him in the
One who has come, Jesus Christ. Lord in
your mercy...*Hear our prayer*

For expectant mothers and fathers; may
God bless their children and keep them
safe for eternal life. Lord in your
mercy...*Hear our prayer*

For those who will be alone this
Christmas; may they experience the
closeness of Christ. Lord in your
mercy...*Hear our prayer*

In a moment of silence, let us pray for
our own intentions...and now let us ask
the intercession of Mary, the Mother of
the Christ-child as we say...*Hail Mary*

**SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF
NAZARETH** - *Joseph Dearest, Joseph
Mine*

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.

ALMA REDEMPTORIS MATER

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fantasia – In dulci jubilo – J.S. Bach

FINAL PRAYER AND BLESSING



You are all warmly invited to festive refreshments in the Parish Centre.

As you leave the church a special collection will be taken to help with the costs of the Christmas Day lunch for the elderly, lonely and housebound of the parish.

Thank you to all those who have contributed to our celebration of carols this afternoon.

Every blessing for this Christmas,

Fr Daniel & Fr Timothy