

St Mary's



*Christmas Day
Choral Eucharist*



25th December 2022

CHRISTMAS TO EPIPHANY

Welcome to St Mary's North Melbourne for this celebration of the birth of Our Lord.

Christmas is the most joyous time of the Christian year, as we celebrate God coming to live amongst us in the form of Jesus Christ. The date that Jesus was born is not known. However, St Luke's Gospel tells us that Jesus was born while Quirinius was Governor of Syria.

Christmas came to be celebrated by the Church on 25 December, the same day the pagan Romans celebrated the Winter Solstice, which symbolised the re-birth of the Sun. Since the fourth century, the Church has kept 25 December as the day to celebrate the birth of the Son of Righteousness – Jesus Christ.

Prior to the adoption of 25 December as the celebration of Christmas, Christians celebrated the birth of Jesus on 6 January – the day on which Epiphany is now observed. The word Epiphany means 'revelation' – for Christians in the Western Tradition, this is the day on which the Wise Men came to visit the infant Jesus. For many Christians in the Orthodox traditions, Christmas is celebrated on 7 January – the day after Epiphany.

The services of Christmas and Epiphany are enjoyed for the cheerful singing of well-loved Christmas hymns, known as carols.

We hope that, through inspirational worship and beautiful music, you may be brought closer to God, and that you may have a happy and joyous Christmas with your hearts full of love and peace.

CHRISTMAS DAY CHORAL EUCHARIST

*Please join us in singing the hymns
and saying those parts of the service printed in **bold** type.*

Please also join us in singing the musical sections of the Eucharistic rite: those parts where the musical notation is included in this Order of Service.

'Eucharist' means 'thanksgiving', and in our singing together through this service we hope you may be brought closer to the real presence of God.

Please note that incense is used during the Midnight Eucharist as a symbol of prayer and blessing.

SETTING

The setting for the Proper is the Franz Schubert "German Mass" arr. By Richard Proulx with "Christmas Gloria".

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev'd Canon Jan Joustra

Organist

Beverley Phillips, Director of Music

Choristers

Members of St Mary's Choir

Please ensure your mobile phone is switched off.

INTRODUCTION

The Gospel of the birth of Jesus calls us to question and reassess our values.

We pray for the courage to do so. May our Christmas be filled with love: given and received unconditionally. May our lives reflect the unconditional love of our God, who has entered our lives with the birth of Jesus.

Christmas is not simply a time for rejoicing because of the birth of Jesus. It is a time for recalling that God has been made known to us in Jesus; and it is a time for recognising that we can find the lasting happiness we seek by trying to live and love as Jesus did.

A bell rings as a signal for all to stand as the service begins

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

**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:**

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

**Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? *Refrain***

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
glory to God in the highest: *Refrain***

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

*Words: JF Wade (1711-1786)
arr.by Sir David Willcocks CBE MC (1919-2015)*

THE GREETING

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

Peace be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**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.**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

Silence is kept

Lord of grace and truth,
we confess our unworthiness
to stand in your presence as your children.

We have sinned:

forgive and heal us.

The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.
Forgive our disobedience to your will.

We have sinned:

forgive and heal us.

Your Son, our Saviour, was born in poverty in a manger.
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

We have sinned:

forgive and heal us.

The Shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.

We have sinned:

forgive and heal us.

The Wise Men followed the star to find Jesus the King.
Forgive our reluctance to seek you.

We have sinned:

forgive and heal us.

THE ABSOLUTION

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.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Response:

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major, 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (F major), and a common time signature. It features a melodic line starting on G4, moving to A4, then a series of eighth notes: B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. A slur covers the notes from A4 to G4. The lyrics "Glo" are under the first note, and "ri - a" are under the last two notes. The second staff continues the melody with notes G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. A slur covers the notes from G4 to E4. The lyrics "in ex - cel - sis De - o o." are under the notes. A repeat sign is placed after the note D4, and a dashed line indicates a continuation of the melody.

THE COLLECT

God Most High,
whose eternal Word chose a dwelling among us,
that we might live in your presence:
grant us a spirit of wisdom
to know how rich is the glory you have given us,
and how great is the hope to which we are called
in the Word made flesh;
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

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. 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. 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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. 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.

For the word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98

TIS 268

- 1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
let earth receive its king;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**
- 2. Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns;
let us our songs employ;
while fields and streams, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,**

**repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

- 3. He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

Isaac Watts 1674–1748 alt.

THE SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to Titus.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

For the word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

1 The north wind is toss - ing the leaves, _____ the
2 The tree - ferns in green gul - lies sway, _____ the

1 red dust is o - ver the town, _____ the spar - rows are un - der the
2 cool stream flows si - lent - ly by, _____ the joy - bells are greet - ing the

1 eaves and the grass _____ in the pad - dock is
2 day, and the chimes _____ are a - drift in the

1 brown, _____ as we lift up our voi - ces and sing to the
2 sky, _____ as we lift up our voi - ces and sing to the

v. 1 Christ-child, the hea - ven - ly King. _____

v. 2 Christ-child the hea - ven - ly King. _____

- The north wind is tossing the leaves,
the red dust is over the town,
the sparrows are under the eaves
and the grass in the paddock is brown,
as we lift up our voices and sing
to the Christchild, the heavenly King.**

**2. The tree ferns in green gullies sway,
the cool stream flows silently by,
the joybells are greeting the day,
and the chimes are adrift in the sky,
as we lift up our voices and sing
to the Christchild the heavenly King.**

*John Wheeler 1901–
Words and music John Wheeler/William Garnet James
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Please remain standing and turn to face the Gospel as it is proclaimed.

GOSPEL READING

Choir Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
All **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**
Cantor Good News and great joy to all the world:
today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.
All **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The Word was with God in the beginning. Everything came into being through the Word, and without the Word nothing came into being. What came into being through the Word was life, and the life was the light for all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light.

A man named John was sent from God. He came as a witness to testify concerning the light, so that through him everyone would believe in the

light. He himself wasn't the light, but his mission was to testify concerning the light. The true light that shines on all people was coming into the world. The light was in the world, and the world came into being through the light, but the world didn't recognize the light. The light came to his own people, and his own people didn't welcome him. But those who did welcome him, those who believed in his name, he authorized to become God's children, born not from blood nor from human desire or passion, but born from God.

The Word became flesh and made his home among us. We have seen his glory, glory like that of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. John testified about him, crying out, "This is the one of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is greater than me because he existed before me.'" From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace; as the Law was given through Moses, so grace and truth came into being through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. God the only Son, who is at the Father's side, has made God known.

This is the Gospel of Christ.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SERMON—FATHER JAN

THE CREED

Let us declare our faith in God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
We proclaim the Church's faith in Jesus Christ.

**We believe and declare that our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Son of God, is both divine and human.**

God, of the being of the Father,
the only Son from before time began;
human from the being of his mother, born in the world;

**fully God and fully human;
human in both mind and body.**

As God he is equal to the Father,
as human he is less than the Father.

**Although he is both divine and human
he is not two beings but one Christ.**

One, not by turning God into flesh,
but by taking humanity into God;

**truly one, not by mixing humanity with Godhead,
but by being one person.**

For as mind and body form one human being
so the one Christ is both divine and human.

**The Word became flesh and lived among us;
we have seen his glory,
the glory of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.**

from the Athanasian Creed

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given.
Wonderful Counsellor, give your wisdom to the leaders of the nations.
We pray for those who seek to bring peace and justice to your people.
We pray that you will turn the hearts of all those who make for war.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Mighty God, make the whole world know that the government is on

your shoulders. We pray for our political leaders and we pray for wise government.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Everlasting Father, establish your reign of justice and righteousness for ever.

We pray for all who suffer in this world because of war, civil strife, persecution and poverty. We pray for all agencies of healing, praying especially for the world of the United Nations and all its agencies.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Prince of Peace, bring in the endless kingdom of your peace. We particularly pray for the peoples of the Holy Land, Palestinians and Israelis, Christians, Jews and Muslims that they may be a sign of reconciliation to the world and live together in your peace.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Holy God, bring us all to your heavenly city, to the joyful gathering of thousands of angels, to the assembly of your first born, to the spirits of good people made perfect, to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant and to the sprinkled blood that promises peace.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers:

**Grant that what we have asked in faith,
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE PEACE

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN

TIS 312

*A collection may be taken as we sing this hymn together.
Your support is truly appreciated.*

**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.**

**And through all his wondrous childhood,
day by day like us he grew;
he was little, weak, and helpless,
tears and smiles like us he knew;
and he feeleth for our sadness,
and he shareth in our gladness.**

**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.**

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Blessèd are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessèd be God for ever.

Blessèd are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessèd be God for ever.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Sursum Corda

The musical notation consists of three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff is divided into two parts: the left part is for the Celebrant and the right part is for the People. The lyrics are: Celebrant: "The Lord be with you." People: "And also with you." The second staff follows the same format: Celebrant: "Lift up your hearts." People: "We lift them to the Lord." The third staff: Celebrant: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." People: "It is right to give our thanks and praise."

All glory and honour, thanks and praise be given to you at all times and in all places, Lord, holy Father, true and living God, through Jesus Christ

our Lord.

For he is your eternal Word through whom you have created all things from the beginning and formed us in your own image.

In your great love you gave him to be made man for us and to share our common life.

In obedience to your will your Son our Saviour offered himself as a perfect sacrifice, and died upon the cross for our redemption. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin and reconciled us to yourself, our God and Father.

He is our great high priest whom you raised from death and exalted to your right hand on high where he ever lives to intercede for us.

Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit and made us a royal priesthood called to serve you for ever.

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we proclaim your great and glorious name, for every praising you and singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of pow'r and might.
Hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Merciful Father, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,
and we pray that we who eat and drink them
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
in obedience to our Saviour Christ
in remembrance of his death and passion
may be partakers of his body and his blood.

On the night before he died, your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread;
when he had given you thanks he broke it,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;
when he had given you thanks he gave it to his disciples and said:
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, to remember me.
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

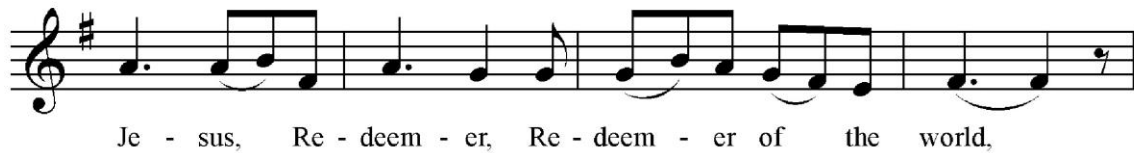
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8

Lord, by your cross and res-ur - ec - tion, you have set us
free, Lord, by your cross and re sur - ec-tion, you have set us
free, You are the Sav - iour of the world.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body:
because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI



GIVING OF COMMUNION

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

*God invites everyone to gather around his table.
All are welcome to come forward
and receive this Holy Sacrament, or a blessing.*

ANTHEM

“Nova radist’ stala”

“Joy on earth now appearing”

*Tradnl. Ukrainian Carol from liturgy St John Chrisostom.
Arr. & Translated. Charles H. Giffen (1983).*

“When Christmas was born of Mary free”

*Anon C15th
Arr. John Gardner (b.1917).*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord.

Amen.

We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

**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’.**

Refrain

**Hark! The herald angels sing
glory to the new-born King.**

**Christ, by highest heav'n 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.**

Refrain

**Hail the heav'n-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 man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.**

Refrain

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

BLESSING

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered
into one things
earthly and heavenly,
fill you with peace and goodwill
and make you partakers of the divine nature;
and the blessing of God Almighty:
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

We go into the world to walk in God's light,
to rejoice in God's love and to reflect God's glory.
Amen! We go in the name of Christ!

POSTLUDE

“In Dulci Jubilo” (Postludium)

Leo Sowerby (1895-1968)

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KOOYOORA
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

The Anglican Diocese in conjunction with St Mary's Anglican Church North Melbourne does not tolerate abuse, harassment or other misconduct within our communities. If any person has concerns about behaviour of a church worker, past or present. The Diocese of Melbourne is committed to doing all that is possible to ensure that abuse does not occur. All complaints of abuse are taken very seriously, and we do all we can to lessen harm. We offer respect, pastoral care and ongoing long-term support to anyone who makes a complaint. St Mary's Statement of Commitment to Child Safety is on our noticeboard and can be downloaded from our website www.stmarys.org.au.

PLEASE REPORT ABUSE CALL 1800 135 246