



THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF
S. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
CHRISTCHURCH

24 December Christmas Eve Midnight Mass

11pm Carols

11.30pm Mass

25 December Christmas Day

8am Low Mass

10am Solemn Mass

Website: www.stmichaelandallangels.nz

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CHRISTCHURCH



**CHRISTMAS
CRIB SERVICE**

Hymn: O come, all ye faithful

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.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
sing all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, glory in the highest;

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

We have come together as Christmas draws near
to prepare for our celebration of the birth of God's beloved Son.
We have made room in our busy lives to travel in spirit with Mary
and Joseph to Bethlehem,
to sing with the angels of the coming of the Prince of Peace.
Through bible stories, and action, prayer and song,
let us tell again the wonderful story of our redemption,
and rejoice and respond with lively faith.

Let us pray...
Almighty God,
as we prepare with joy
to celebrate the gift of the Christ Child,
embrace the earth with your glory
and be for us a living hope in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Blessing

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ---child be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.



Health & Safety Regulations: In an emergency, use the closest exit and assemble in the drop-off zone. In an earthquake, drop down and shelter behind or under a pew, covering your head. Follow instructions.

Mary (Luke 1:26-38)

We have shared in the wonderful story of Mary and Joseph, of the Angels, the Shepherds and the Magi, and of Jesus himself: God with us. This Christmas, in the midst of our busy lives, we are invited to make room for the manger, and kneel in wonder at the miracle of heaven touching earth. Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, let us pray with confidence as Jesus himself has taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn: Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord has come
Let earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing

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

God sent the angel Gabriel to a young woman. Her name was Mary. She was engaged to marry a man named Joseph from the family of David. The angel came to her and said,

“Greetings! The Lord has blessed you and is with you.”

But Mary was very confused by what the angel said.

Mary wondered, “What does this mean?”

The angel said to her, “Don’t be afraid, Mary, because God is pleased with you. Listen! You will become pregnant. You will give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and people will call him the Son of the Most High. His kingdom will never end.”

Mary said, “I am the servant girl of the Lord.

Let this happen to me as you say!”

Mary is placed in the crib

Hymn: The angel Gabriel from heaven came

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame:
"All hail to thee, thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favoured lady." Gloria!

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!

Let us pray...

Lord Jesus,
your birth turned the world upside down.
We pray for those facing change,
and coming to terms with unexpected news.
Bless us in the opportunities we are given
and in the challenges we face.
In your name we pray. **Amen.**

The Journey to Bethlehem (Luke 2: 1-5)

Augustus Caesar the Roman Emperor sent an order to all people in the countries that he controlled.

Everyone must list their names in a register.

Everyone went to their own towns to be registered.

So Joseph left Nazareth.

He went to the town of Bethlehem, the town of King David.

Joseph registered with Mary because she was engaged to marry him.

Joseph and Donkey go to the crib

Hymn: O little town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see you lie!
Above your deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in your dark streets shining
the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

Let us pray....

Lord Jesus,
we pray for those who cannot stop,
whose journey of life is hard and long,
who have heavy burdens to carry.
Give strength for each next step, and light to show the way.
In your name we pray. **Amen**

Animals are bought into crib

The Wise Men follow the star (Matthew 2: 1-11)

After Jesus was born, some wise men from the East came to Jerusalem.

They asked, "Where is the baby who was born to be the king of the Jews?"

We saw his star in the east. We came to worship him."

When King Herod heard about this new king of the Jews, he was troubled.

He asked his chief priests where the Christ would be born.

They said, "In Bethlehem."

The wise men left. They saw the same star they had seen in the east.

It went before them until it stopped above the place where the child was.

When the wise men saw the star, they were filled with joy.

They went to the house where the child was

and saw him with his mother, Mary.

They bowed down and worshipped the child.

They gave him treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

The Wise Men are brought to the crib

Hymn: We three kings of Orient are

We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain,
moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of light,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

Let us pray...

The kings, Lord,
brought myrrh, frankincense and gold.
Lord, we have nothing of our own to bring;
we bring you what you have given:
our lives for your life. **Amen.**

The Shepherds go to Bethlehem (Luke 2:15-19)

The shepherds said to each other,
“Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened.
We will see this thing the Lord told us about.”
So the shepherds went quickly and found Mary and Joseph.
And the shepherds saw the baby lying in a feeding box.
Then they told what the angels had said about this child.
Everything was just as the angel had told them.

The shepherds enter the crib

Hymn: Silent night, holy night

Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round the Virgin Mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Let us pray...
Lord Jesus,
you came in the silence of the night,
an extraordinary gift to ordinary people.
Help us to see the wonderful things you are doing
in the ordinary experiences of our lives.
In your name we pray. **Amen.**

The Birth of Jesus (Luke 2:6-7)

While Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem,
the time came for her to have the baby.
She gave birth to her first son. There were no rooms left in the inn.
So she wrapped the baby with cloths
and laid him in a box where animals are fed.

Jesus is placed in the crib

Hymn: Away in a Manger

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

Let us pray...

Lord Jesus,
your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder
at heaven touching earth.
Accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you,
our Saviour and our Eternal God. **Amen.**



The Shepherds (Luke 2:8)

That night, some shepherds were in the fields nearby watching their sheep.

The Shepherds come to the outside of the crib

Hymn: While Shepherds watched their flocks by night

While Shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the Ground,
The Angel of the Lord came down,
And Glory Shone all around.



The Angel and the Shepherds (Luke 2:9-12)

An angel of the Lord stood before them. They became very frightened. The angel said to them, "Don't be afraid, because I am bringing you some good news. Today your Saviour was born in David's town. He is Christ, the Lord. This is how you will know him: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a feeding box." Then a very large group of angels from heaven joined the first angel. All the angels were praising God, saying:

All: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

The angels are brought to the crib

Hymn: Hark, the herald-angels 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.

Let us pray...

Lord Jesus,
the angels were glad to share the good news of your birth.
Help us to tell the world the good news that you are still with us,
and will never leave us.
In your name we pray. **Amen.**