



SHIPLAKE COLLEGE

HENLEY-ON-THAMES



A Service of Lessons and Carols

St Mary's Church
Henley-on-Thames

Wednesday 15 December 2021
11.30am

One Solitary Life

*Here is a man, born in an obscure village, child of a peasant woman.
He worked in a carpenter's shop until he was thirty;
then for three years he was an itinerant preacher.
He never wrote a book, he never held an office.
He never owned a home, he never had a family.
He did none of those things we normally associate with greatness.
He had no credentials but himself.*

*When he was still a young man the tide of popular opinion turned against him.
His friends all ran away. He was turned over to his enemies.
He went through the mockery of a trial.
He was nailed to a cross between two thieves.
While he was dying, his executioners gambled for the only piece of property
he had on earth, and that was his coat.
When he was dead, he was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.*

*And yet... Some twenty centuries have come and gone, and today he remains the
most influential figure of the human race. Indeed, I would be well within the mark
to say that all the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the
parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together,
have not affected the life of man upon this earth as has this one, solitary life.*

Dr James Alan Francis

ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ music before the service

**Prelude in C BWV 547
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)**

**Two Chorales on In Dulci Jubilo: BWV 608 and BWV 729
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)**

**Noël No. 10
Louis-Claude Daquin (1694–1772)**

**Noël Alsacien
Alexandre Guilmant (1837–1911)**

Introit
Sung by Camerata

Ding Dong Merrily on High

**Arr. Charles Wood
(1866–1926)**

WELCOME BY THE CHAPLAIN

HYMN

Choir and congregation

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

Solo by Jack Dag (Year 8, Lower School)

SOLO

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.

CHOIR

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.

Please stand

ALL

**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 must be
Mild, obedient, good as he.**

**For he is our childhood's pattern,
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.**

**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;
Where like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.**

Please sit

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, let us at this Christmastide prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind go to Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, and the babe lying in a manger. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God and the glorious redemption brought us by this Holy Child: and let us make this church glad with our carols of praise.

But first let us pray for the needs of His whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for unity and love within the Church He came to build; and especially in the dominions of our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, and within our school.

And because this of all things would rejoice His heart, let us at this time remember in His Name the poor and the helpless; the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the Throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ himself has taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Almighty God bless us with His grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

CAROL

Sung by the Shiplake Chorus

The Truth from Above

**Ralph Vaughan Williams
(1872–1958)**

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9. 2, 6-7

Read by Rory Stewart (Year 7, Lower School)

Christ's birth is foretold

CAROL

Sung by the Male Vocal Group

Carol of the Star

**Daniel Moore
(b.1941)**

SECOND LESSON

Micah 5. 2-4

Read by Ben Watkins (Year 11, Everett)

A ruler shall come forth from Bethlehem

Please stand

HYMN

Choir and congregation

O Little Town of Bethlehem

**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 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 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!**

Please sit

THIRD LESSON

St Luke 1. 26-35, 38

Read by Cordelia Pink (Year 13, Welsh & Gilson)

The Angel Gabriel is sent to Mary

CAROL

Sung by the Shiplake Chorus

The Angel Gabriel

**Edgar Pettman
(1866–1943)**

FOURTH LESSON

St Luke 2. 1-7

Read by Kit Marsh (Year 9, Everett)

The Birth of Jesus

Please stand

HYMN

Choir and congregation

Joy to the World

**Joy to the world, the Lord is 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.**

**Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**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.**

Please sit

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2. 8-21

Read by Esme Young (Year 12, Welsh & Gilson)

The Revelation of the Birth

CAROL

Sung by Camerata

A Maiden Most Gentle

**Andrew Carter
(b.1939)**



SIXTH LESSON

Matthew 2. 1-12

Read by Zac Fisher (Year 8, Lower School)

The Wise Men visit the Infant Jesus

HYMN

Choir and congregation

UNTO US IS BORN A SON

**Unto us is born a son,
King of choirs supernal:
See on earth His life begun,
Of lords the Lord eternal,
Of lords the Lord eternal.**

**Christ, from heav'n descending low,
Comes on earth a stranger;
Ox and ass their owner know,
Be cradled in a manger,
Be cradled in a manger.**

**This did Herod sore affray
And grievously bewilder,
So he gave the word to slay,
And slew the little childer,
And slew the little childer.**

**Of His love and mercy mild,
This the Christmas story:
O that Mary's gentle Child
Might lead us up to glory,
Might lead us up to glory!**

**O and A, and A and O,
Cum cantemus in choro,
Let the merry organ go,
Benedicamus Domino,
*Benedicamus Domino.***

Please sit

CAROL

Sung by the Shiplake Chorus

O Holy Night

**Adolphe Adam
(1803–1856)**

SEVENTH LESSON

John 1. 1-14

Read by the Headmaster, Mr Tyrone Howe

St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation

HYMN

Choir and congregation

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:**

*CHOIR -
CHOIR AND COLLEGE -
ALL -*

***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:**

**See how the Shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:**

**Sing, choirs of Angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God
In the Highest:**

ALL

***O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!***

Please sit

A Poem
Amazing Peace
By Maya Angelou
Read by the Head Chapel Wardens,
Abi McCarthy and Jed Blacknell

THE PRAYERS

Led by the Chapel Wardens

THE COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS

O God, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Thy only Son, Jesus Christ; Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold Him, when He shall come to be our Judge; Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **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 God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**



Please stand

HYMN

Choir and congregation

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

**Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With th'angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

***Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn 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.**

***Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King.***

**Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n 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.**

***Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King.***



Please sit, and leave as instructed by the stewards.

A retiring collection will be taken in aid of

The Reading Drop-In Centre
for the homeless and those living on the fringe of society.

Thank you

To the Rector, Fr Jeremy Tayler, for his kind permission to use St Mary's Church, Henley.

Very special thanks to the following for their hard work before and during the service:

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Choral Directors | Mr Curran (Director of Music), Mr Jones and Mrs Rapple-Moore. |
| Organist | The Revd Mark Pybus |
| Technical Support | Mr Elliott |
| Camerata | Charlotte Baarß, Sam Bourke. James Braun, Greg Dowden, Billy Fundell, Charlotte Garnett, Mrs Green, Gesa Hallman, Elliot Jones, Miss Jones, Johnny Miller, Emma O'Shea, Merry Oaks. Jess Pallett, Cordelia Pink, Noah Scotchbrook, Tom Stuart, Esme Young. Directed by Mrs Rapple Moore. |
| Shiplake Chorus | Sopranos: Ms Davies, Charlotte Garnett, Mrs Green, Miss Jones, Mrs Magee, Jess Pallett, Berry Partridge, Cordelia Pink. Altos: Dulcie Atherton Bebbington, Charlotte Baarß, Martha Berry, Daina Jenkins, Phoebe Kay, Abigail McLaughlin, Mrs Padrick, Mrs Rapple Moore, Mrs Satch, Esme Young. Tenors: James Braun, Sebastian Crehan-Mills, Greg Dowden, Billy Fundell, Leo Guo, Henry Johnston, Elliot Jones, Noah Scotchbrook, Richard Wang. Basses: Sam Bourke, Fergus Heggie, Gregor Jones, Mr Milburn, Johnny Miller, Luke Morgan, Mr Ralph, Tom Stuart, Harry Wood. |
| Male Vocal Group | Tenor 1: Mr Brown, Sebastian Crehan-Mills, Greg Dowden, Elliot Jones, Noah Scotchbrook, Mr Settle, Tenor 2: Mr Alcock, James Braun, Billy Fundell, Mr Geyton, Leo Guo, Henry Johnston, Richard Wang. Bass: Sam Bourke, Rev Briggs, Mr Curtis, Mr Milburn, Johnny Miller, Mr Ralph, Tom Stuart, Mr Urkidi. |
| Embassy Brass: | Sarah Field - Trumpet Julie Ryan - Trumpet Katrina Lauder - French Horn Carol Jarvis - Trombone Adrian Miotti - Tuba |

Thank you also to our readers and soloists, and to Mr Settle for his oversight of the practical arrangements.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE 2022



For your information the College's
Confirmation Service
will be held next year at 7.00pm
on Thursday 10 March 2022
in the Parish Church, Shiplake.
Conducted by the Bishop of Dorchester, the Rt Revd Gavin Collins.

Preparation for Confirmation will begin in the New Year.
Please could I ask parents to discuss this with their son or daughter
to see if they are interested in being confirmed.

Please contact me for further details:

Revd Chris Briggs
Chaplain

rev@shiplake.org.uk

WE WISH YOU A VERY JOYFUL CHRISTMAS

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

AND A SAFE JOURNEY HOME

