



WELCOME

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CAROL SERVICE

20th December 2020

ST MICHAEL'S HYMNS

Please see the Order of service for the full list of hymns and carols.



COLLECT

Eternal God,
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangs of this
present age
to see, with her, our great salvation
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed
Virgin Mary to be the mother of the
promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your
holy will and with her rejoice in your
salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FOR OUR PRAYERS: Demi, Prosperity, Bill, Brenda, Joe and Kemi

SATURDAY MORNING PRAYER

Will take place at 09:30 at St George's and online. For Zoom contact details email morwenna2@ntlworld.com.



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED From

Christmas Day the parish office will be closed until **Monday 4 January 2021!** Have a very blessed Christmas and New Year, Luiza



FROM JANET & JULIE

Julie and Janet have just moved to their new flat and Christmas cards are lost among the chaos of packing cases! Apologies that we won't be sending cards this year, but wishing everyone at St George's a happy, peaceful and hopeful Christmas.



ONLINE SERVICES: **ST GEORGE'S**

Our services will be recorded and uploaded to our YouTube channel as soon after the service as is possible. You can see them on our channel here: <https://bit.ly/328OLfC>



ONLINE SERVICES: **ST MICHAEL'S**

We are holding our 10:00 Sunday service on Zoom and livestreamed on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3mlEs0h>. More details here: stgeorgeandstmichael.org.uk/st-michaels-online-services/

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday 21 December

St George's: 20:00 - **Advent group in person**

Tuesday 22 December

St George's: 09:30 - Morning prayer

St George's: 10:30 - Eucharist

St George's: 20:00 - **Advent group on Zoom**

Wednesday 23 December

St George's: 19:00-21:00 New Life

St George's: 23:30 **Midnight Mass**

Thursday 24 December

St Michael's: 16:30 **Zoom nativity!**

St George's: 23:30 **Midnight Mass**

Friday 25 December

St George's: 10:00 **Christmas Communion**

St Michael's: 10:00 **Christmas Communion**

Saturday 26 December

St George's: **10:00** - Morning Prayer **Zoom ONLY!**

Sunday 27 December

St George's: 10:00 - Eucharist

St Michael's: 10:00 - Eucharist



ST GEORGE'S YOUTUBE CAROL SERVICE

As well as Words & Music for Christmas in church, we've recorded a traditional carol service with readers from church and carols from our great cathedrals, now available on our YouTube channel.

ST GEORGE'S CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 20 December 16:00

Words & Music for Christmas

Christmas Eve 23:30

Midnight Mass

Christmas Day 10:00

Christmas Communion

Encouraged by Richard, we have become a bit relaxed about giving notice about coming to church on Sundays when we have never reached capacity. For our Christmas services, please let Richard or the parish office know if you intend to come to any of these services. This is a time when we might need to accommodate more than our socially distanced capacity of 60 so let us know as soon as possible which you hope to come to.



ST GEORGE'S ADVENT GROUPS

Advent groups are meeting in-person at church on Monday at 20:00 and on

Zoom on Tuesday at 20:00. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN PASSWORD!**

The Zoom details for the meeting on **22 December** is:

<https://tinyurl.com/yy2kyaac>

Meeting ID: 837 095 9916

Passcode: garden

ST MICHAEL'S CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 20 December 10:00

9 Lessons & Carols Service

Thursday 24 December 16:30

Nativity Service on Zoom ONLY

Friday 25 December 10:00

Christmas Service

BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP NOTES JANUARY—APRIL 2021

...are now available from Richard. They cost £4.70 standard print or £5.95 large print.



ST MICHAEL'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Will meet tonight for the last time this year at 18:00 on Zoom: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/765 49332409](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/76549332409) or you can join calling the usual number and the same Meeting ID: 765 4933 2409. We will re-start on **17 January 2021**.



ST MICHAEL'S NATIVITY SERVICE

Zoom Nativity service at 16:30 on Christmas Eve. All welcome but with younger children especially in mind. Dressing up for those who like. It's going to be different. Use the usual Zoom details, as above.

First Lesson: Genesis 3: 8-19

⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

¹⁰ He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

¹¹ And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

¹² The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴ So the Lord God said to the serpent,
“Because you have done this,
“Cursed are you above all livestock
and all wild animals!
You will crawl on your belly
and you will eat dust
all the days of your life.

¹⁵ And I will put enmity
between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will crush your head,
and you will strike his heel.”

¹⁶ To the woman he said,
“I will make your pains in childbearing very
severe;
with painful labor you will give birth to
children.

Your desire will be for your husband,
and he will rule over you.”

¹⁷ To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat from it,’

“Cursed is the ground because of you;
through painful toil you will eat food from
it
all the days of your life.

¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you,
and you will eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow
you will eat your food
until you return to the ground,
since from it you were taken;
for dust you are
and to dust you will return.”



Second lesson: Genesis 22.1-19

Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

² Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”

³ Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵ He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”

⁶ Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, ⁷ Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?” “Yes, my son?” Abraham replied. “The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

⁸ Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together.

⁹ When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

¹² “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”

¹³ Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So

Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided.”

¹⁵ The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time ¹⁶ and said, “I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, ¹⁸ and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

¹⁹ Then Abraham returned to his servants, and they set off together for Beersheba. And Abraham stayed in Beersheba.



Third lesson: Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

² The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;

on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.

⁶ For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his
shoulders.

And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the greatness of his government and
peace

there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.

The zeal of the Lord Almighty
will accomplish this.



Fourth lesson: Micah 5:2-4

² “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of
Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.”

³ Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labor
bears a son,
and the rest of his brothers return
to join the Israelites.

⁴ He will stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his
God.

And they will live securely, for then his
greatness

will reach to the ends of the earth.

Fifth lesson: Isaiah 60.1-6,19

“Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

² See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the Lord rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.

³ Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴ “Lift up your eyes and look about you:
All assemble and come to you;
your sons come from afar,
and your daughters are carried on the hip.

⁵ Then you will look and be radiant,
your heart will throb and swell with joy;
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,
to you the riches of the nations will come.

⁶ Herds of camels will cover your land,
young camels of Midian and Ephah.

And all from Sheba will come,
bearing gold and incense
and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.

¹⁹ The sun will no more be your light by day,
nor will the brightness of the moon shine
on you,
for the Lord will be your everlasting light,
and your God will be your glory.



Sixth lesson: Matthew 1.18-23

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,

“Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).



Seventh lesson: Luke 2: 8-16

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

Eighth lesson: Matthew 2: 1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi^[a] from the east came to Jerusalem² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”^[b]”

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.



Ninth lesson: John 1: 1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome^[a] it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God. ¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.



