

Face Masks

As per government guidelines, please wear a face covering in church. Those who are leading/reading at the service may remove their face covering whilst they are leading/reading but must observe social-distancing whilst doing so.

Contact Tracing

As everyone has had to book in for this service, we have contact details for each pod and the administrator of the RTÉ Cór na nÓg has contact details for all the choir, therefore we do not require you to fill in the Contact Details Forms for this evening's service. Your contact details will only be given to the HSE Contact Tracing Service in the event that they are requested should anyone test positive for COVID-19.

If they are not required for Contact Tracing purposes, they will be destroyed after 28 days.

Singing

We have been instructed that while choirs can sing as long as they are socially distanced from each other and that children's choirs operate in pods, that the members of the congregation are not to sing, shout, chant or raise their voices to each other!

Over the past few weeks, there has been some 'musical muttering into masks'! Every pod is 2 metres socially-distanced.

Welcome!

Welcome to our Carols by Candlelight this year. We particularly welcome the RTÉ Cór na nÓg under the direction of Mary Amond O'Brien and the administration of Lesley Bishop with accompanist Fergal Caulfield and steward Ciaran Crangle. RTÉ Cór na nÓg has been rehearsing in St Philip and St James' Church on a Wednesday and in St Thomas' Church on a Saturday since October 2021 and we are delighted that they are joining us this evening and bringing us added enjoyment with their talents and skills. We also warmly welcome those of you who are with us in St Philip and St James' Church for the first time this evening.

Our readings and carols recall the events surrounding the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. With the distress, anxiety and loss that COVID-19 has brought to our lives, and with the unrest and difficulties in the world around us, it is all the more important to hear and to receive the Good News of the hope and promise of God, who sent his Son into our world, to bring us peace and joy. May you and your loved ones know the peace and the joy that the Christ-Child brought to the world.

*“Let us go now, even unto 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,
from the first days of our disobedience,
unto the glorious redemption brought us
by this Holy Child:
and let us make this place glad with our
carols of praise.”*

Hymn 177 – Once in Royal David’s City

Verse 1 sung as a solo

1. 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.

2. 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.

4. 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.

6. 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;
when like stars his children
crowned
all in white shall wait around.

Bidding Prayer and Lord's Prayer

First Reading: Genesis 3: 8-15

Hymn 174 – O Little Town of Bethlehem

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.

3. How silently, how silently,
 the wondrous gift is giv'n!
 so God imparts to human hearts,
 the blessings of his heav'n.
 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.

Second Reading: Genesis 22: 15-18

Holy Night, Silent Night
sung by RTÉ Cór na nÓg

Third Reading: Isaiah 9: 2,6,7

Hymn 149 -Away in a Manger

1. 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 in the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,

and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay,
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

Fourth Reading: St Luke 1: 26 - 38

Hymn 172 – O Come All Ye Faithful

1. 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.*

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

4. Lo! Star-led chieftains,
Magi, Christ adoring,
offer him incense, gold and myrrh;
we to the Christ-child
bring our heart's oblations:

6. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n
above.

Glory to God,
In the highest:

Fifth Reading: St Matthew 1: 18 - 25

Christmas Star
sung by RTÉ Cór na nÓg

Sixth Reading: St Luke 2: 1-7

Hymn 187 – When The Crimson Sun Had Set

1. When the crimson sun had set,
sinking 'neath the frosty plain,
on a bright and cold midnight
broke the glad angelic strain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

2. Shepherds, watching by their
flocks,
upward look with wond'ring gaze,
in the sky bright hosts espy,
filling all the heav'nly ways:

4. Joy with us, good Christians all,
Christ is come to set us free;
he was born on Christmas morn,
sing the glad nativity:

Seventh Reading: St Luke 2: 8-16

Hymn 159 – Good Christians All Rejoice

1. Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart, and soul, and voice;
give ye heed to what we say;
Jesus Christ is born today,
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the stable now,
Christ is born today!

3. Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart, and soul, and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save:
calls you one, and calls you all,
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!

Eighth Reading: St Matthew 2: 1 – 12

Family Christmas Spectacular
sung by RTÉ Cór na nÓg

(Please stand)

Ninth Reading: The Christmas Gospel - St John 1: 1-14

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to John, chapter 1, beginning at verse 1.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Due to government restrictions regarding COVID-19, there will be a retiring collection, as in there are baskets at the doors of the church in which you can place your donation.

The collection will be given to the Dublin SIMON Community



Hymn 198 – The First Nowell

1. The first Nowell the angel did say
 was to certain poor shepherds in
 fields as they lay:
 in fields where they lay keeping their
 sheep
 on a cold winter's night that was so
 deep:

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
 born is the King of Israel.*

2. They lookéd up and saw a star
 shining in the east beyond them far,
 and to the earth it gave great light,
 and so it continued both day and
 night:

3. And by the light of that same star
 three wise men came from country far;
 to seek for a king was their intent,
 and to follow the star wherever it went.

Collect and Blessing

Happy Christmas
sung by RTÉ Cór na nÓg

Hymn 160 - Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1. 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:

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored!
 Christ, the everlasting Lord;
 late in time behold him come,
 offspring of a Virgin's womb:
 veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
 hail, the incarnate Deity!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell,
 Jesus, our Emmanuel:

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

3. Hail, the heaven-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 we no more may die;
 born to raise each child of earth,
 born to give us second birth:

*We Wish You All a Very Happy and Blessed Christmas,
 and a Peaceful New Year.*

In the interests of trying to keep all who come to our churches safe, please take away this service sheet and any other items that you may have brought with you or used in church this morning. Thank you.

Stay well and stay safe.



Forthcoming Services

Wednesday 22nd December 2021

10.30 Holy Communion – St Thomas’ Church



Friday 24th December 2021 - Christmas Eve

**21.30 The First Holy Communion of Christmas –
St Thomas’ Church**

**23.30 Midnight Holy Communion - St Philip and St
James’ Church (live-streamed)**



Saturday 25th December 2021 – Christmas Day

8.30 Holy Communion - St Thomas' Church

10.30 Family Holy Communion – St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed) (fully booked out)

Sunday 26th December 2021 – St Stephen's Day

8.30 Holy Communion - St Thomas' Church

10.30 Holy Communion - St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

*Unto Us
a Child is Born*



**THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO
DECORATED OUR CHURCHES SO
BEAUTIFULLY FOR CHRISTMAS. THEY
LOOK AMAZING!**

**Thank you for your extraordinary
generosity in helping Santa!**

*The Capuchin Day Centre and The Alice Leahy Trust were
blown away by the toys, food, scarves, hats, gloves,
underwear, etc. that you gave this Christmas.*



Confirmation Class

**The next Confirmation Classes will be on Saturday 15th
January 2022 in St Philip and St James' Church**

18.00-18.30 hours

and

18.30-19.15 hours

REGISTER OF VESTRYPERSONS

The Register of Vestrypersons is the electoral roll of the Parish, and is updated at the January Select Vestry meetings of our respective parishes. If you are not on the Register, you are not entitled to vote on parish matters and are not able to hold any office in the parish, or serve on the Select Vestry. Please contact the Churchwardens to be placed on the Register of Vestrypersons.

It is very simple to do, the churchwardens have forms available, and all you have to do is fill in the short, simple form and give it to a churchwarden.

BOOTERSTOWN AND CARYSFORT

SELECT VESTRY

THURSDAY 27TH JANUARY 2022

20.00 HOURS *VIA ZOOM*

MOUNT MERRION

SELECT VESTRY

MONDAY 31ST JANUARY 2022

20.00 HOURS *VIA ZOOM*
