

*St Peter's Anglican Church, Cremorne*

*A Festival  
of  
Lessons and Carols  
for Christmas*





The Reverend Tim St Quintin  
*Rector*

Glenn Amer  
*Director of Music*

Susie Bishop  
*Soprano*

Johanna Knoechel,  
*Mezzo-Soprano*

Together with Redlands Year 11 music classes



**WELCOME to St Peter's Church.** I am delighted that you can join with us for our Carols and Lessons service online.

This is a joyous time of year when we, as a church, enjoy celebrating the birth of Christ with our wider community. This year is different, so with the support of Redlands we have put together this service that small communities might gather together in homes to share in this service and the joy of Christmas.

May I invite you to join us at one of our regular Sunday services during 2021.

I wish you a merry and meaningful Christmas,

Tim St Quintin, **Rector**



*Welcome* Reverend Tim St Quintin - Rector of St Peter's

## *O Holy Night*

O Holy Night, the stars are brightly shining,  
it is the night of the dear Saviour's birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
till he appeared, and the soul felt its worth.

A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,  
for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.  
Fall on your knees! Oh hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born.

Truly He taught us to love one another,  
his law is love and his gospel is peace.  
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,  
and in his name all oppression shall cease.

Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,  
let all within us praise His Holy name.  
Christ is the Lord, then ever, ever praise we,  
His power and glory evermore proclaim.

*Text: Cantique de Noël Placide Cappeau (1808-1877)*  
*Trans. John Sullivan Dwight (1813-1893)*  
*Music: Adolphe-Charles Adam (1803-1856)*

## *The Bidding Prayer*

Beloved in Christ, at this Christmastide let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the babe lying in a manger.

Therefore 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.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all God's people; for unity and brotherhood within the church he came to build, and especially in this, our own community.

And because this would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and 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; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

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 man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are one forevermore.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath 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 for ever. Amen**

*First Lesson: God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.*

*Genesis Chapter 3*

*Reader Margot MacDonald*

<sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> But the LORD God called to the man, 'Where are you?' <sup>10</sup> He answered, 'I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.' <sup>11</sup> And he said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?' <sup>12</sup> The man said, 'The woman you put here with me – she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.'

<sup>13</sup> Then the LORD God said to the woman, 'What is this you have done?' The woman said, 'The snake deceived me, and I ate.'

<sup>14</sup> So the LORD God said to the snake, '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. <sup>15</sup> 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.'

This is the word of the Lord; Thanks be to God

*Second Lesson: God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed.*

*Genesis Chapter 22*

*Reader Naveen Noronha*

<sup>15</sup> The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time <sup>16</sup> and said, 'I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup> 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, <sup>18</sup> and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.'

This is the word of the Lord; Thanks be to God

## *Once in royal David's city*

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  
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.

And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love;  
for that child so dear and gentle  
is our Lord in heav'n 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;  
when like stars his children crowned  
all in white shall wait around.

*Text Cecil F. Alexander (1818-1895)*  
*Tune Irby, by Henry J. Gauntlett (1805-1876)*

## *Silent Night*

Silent Night, holy night,  
All is calm, all is bright;  
Round yon virgin mother and child,  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,  
Shepherds quake at the sight:  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia:  
Christ the Saviour is born  
Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light;  
Radiance beams from thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

*Words: J Mohr  
Music: F.Grüber*

### *Third Lesson: Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by the prophet Isaiah Isaiah Chapter 9*

*Reader*     *Ross Psaroulis, Redlands*

<sup>2</sup>The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

<sup>3</sup>You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy;  
they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest,  
as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.

<sup>4</sup>For as in the day of Midian's defeat,  
you have shattered the yoke that burdens them,  
the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

<sup>5</sup> Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> 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 Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> 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 for ever.  
The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

This is the word of the Lord; Thanks be to God

*Fourth Lesson: The prophet Micah foretells the  
glory of little Bethlehem  
Micah Chapter 5*

*Reader Makito Miyashita*

<sup>2</sup> '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.'

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

<sup>4</sup> 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.

This is the word of the Lord; Thanks be to God



*Fifth Lesson: The angel Gabriel salutes the virgin  
Mary  
Luke Chapter 1*

*Reader Edwina Waddy*

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> The angel went to her and said, 'Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.'

<sup>29</sup> Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. <sup>31</sup> You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over Jacob's descendants for ever; his kingdom will never end.'

<sup>34</sup> 'How will this be,' Mary asked the angel, 'since I am a virgin?'

<sup>35</sup> The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup> For no word from God will ever fail.'

<sup>38</sup> 'I am the Lord's servant,' Mary answered. 'May your word to me be fulfilled.' Then the angel left her.

This is the word of the Lord; Thanks be to God

## *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 men their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make His blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as, the curse is found.

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.

*Tune Antioch*  
*Music by George Friedrich Handel*  
*Text Isaac Watts 1719*

## *Sixth Lesson: Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus* *Matthew Chapter 1*

*Reader Mr Stephen Webber, Principal of Redlands*

<sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> 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. <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> 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.' <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> 'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel' (which means 'God with us').

This is the word of the Lord; Thanks be to God

## *Seventh Lesson: The shepherds go to the manger* *Luke Chapter 2*

*Reader Lisa Robbins*

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

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

<sup>14</sup> 'Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.'

<sup>15</sup> 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.' <sup>16</sup> So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

This is the word of the Lord; Thanks be to God

## *The first Nowell the angel did say*

The first Nowell the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields as 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.*

They lookèd 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.  
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.*

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

This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.  
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.*

Then entered in those wise men three  
Full reverently upon their knee,  
And offered there in his presence  
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.  
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.*

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
That hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
And with his blood mankind hath bought.  
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.*

*English traditional*

## *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 the angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem".

*Hark the herald angels sing  
glory to the new-born king.*

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 in human flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel.

*Hark the herald angels sing  
glory to the new-born king.*

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 need die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth.

*Hark the herald angels sing  
glory to the new-born king.*

*Charles Wesley (1707-88), alt.*

*Eighth Lesson: The wise men are led by the star to  
Jesus  
Matthew Chapter 2*

*Reader Rachel Kinghorn, Redlands*

<sup>1</sup> After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup> 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.'

<sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> 'In Bethlehem in Judea,' they replied, 'for this is what the prophet has written:

<sup>6</sup> "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."

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> 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.'

<sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup> On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

This is the word of the Lord; Thanks be to God

## *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.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign.

*O star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.*

## *Ninth Lesson: John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation John Chapter 1*

*Reader      Rev'd Tim St Quintin*

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

<sup>14</sup> 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.

This is the word of the Lord; Thanks be to God

## *The Holly and the Ivy*

The holly and the ivy,  
when they are both full grown,  
of all trees that are in the wood,  
the holly bears the crown:

*O, the rising of the sun,  
and the running of the deer  
the playing of the merry organ,  
sweet singing in the choir.*

The holly bears a blossom,  
as white as lily flow'r,  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,  
to be our dear Saviour:

*O, the rising of the sun.....*

The holly bears a berry,  
as red as any blood,  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,  
to do poor sinners good:

*O, the rising of the sun....*

The holly bears a prickle,  
as sharp as any thorn,  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,  
on Christmas Day in the morn:

*O, the rising of the sun...*

The holly bears a bark,  
as bitter as any gall,  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,  
for to redeem us all:

*O, the rising of the sun...*

*Traditional British folk carol*

## *Closing Prayers*

Let us pray.

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your only son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come to be our judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen**



May he who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, grant you the fullness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

## *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!*

God of God,  
Light of Light,  
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God,  
begotten, not created:  
*O come, let us adore him....*

See how the shepherds  
summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with holy fear;  
we too will thither  
bend our joyful footsteps:  
*O come, let us adore him....*

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.  
*O come, let us adore him....*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing all ye citizens of heaven above,  
'Glory to God,  
in the highest':  
*O come, let us adore him....*

*Possibly by John Francis Wade (c. 1711-1786)  
tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-80)  
William Mercer (1811-73), and others*

*Postlude*



*May the timeless message of Christmas  
fill your hearts and homes with joy and peace  
today and throughout the coming year.*



**Join us this Christmas  
at St Peter's**

**Christmas Eve**

5:30pm Family Service  
11pm Solemn Eucharist

**Christmas Day**

9am Christmas Service  
with Holy Communion

*Regular services*

Sunday: 7am Eucharist (Holy Communion);  
9am Sung Eucharist;  
10:30 am Service with Children's Program (SPC JAM)

Tuesday: 10am Eucharist

**St Peter's Anglican Church, Cremorne**

29 Waters Road Cremorne NSW 2090

Tel [02] 9953 1050

[info@stpeterscremorne.org.au](mailto:info@stpeterscremorne.org.au)

[www.stpeterscremorne.org.au](http://www.stpeterscremorne.org.au)

**Rector: Rev'd Tim St Quintin**