



**The Cathedral Church of
Saint Michael and
All Angels
The Diocese of Barbados**

Diocesan Bishop

The Most Rev'd & Dr. The Hon. John W.D. Holder, CBE, LL.D

Dean

The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson

Assistant Priests

The Rev'd Canon George Knight, B.Min.

The Rev'd Dr. Marcus Lashley

Assistant Curate

The Rev'd Richard Kellman, LTh.

Organist/Choirmaster

Mr. John F. Bryan, B.Sc., BMus.

Organist

Mr. Eric Cobham

Administrative Assistant

Ms. Armel Marshall, B.Sc.;; Cert SM: Cert HRM

Verger

Mrs. Chloe Grant

Assistant Verger

Ms. Harriet Lowe

December 24th, 2017

Service: 11:30 P.M.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, 2017

CHRISTMAS EVE

11:30 PM

VIGIL & SUNG EUCHARIST

***President: The Most Rev'd & Dr. the Hon John W. D.
Holder, CBE, LLD***

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE VIGIL

The Officiant: The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson

The Call to Worship

All stand, and the Officiant greets the people with these words:

Light and Peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

The Collect for Light

Let us pray.

ALL:

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Carol: *O Holy Night*

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appear'd 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! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born;
O night divine, O night, O night Divine.

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here come the wise men from the Orient land.
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger;
In all our trials born to be our friend.
He knows our need, to our weaknesses no stranger,
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King, Before Him lowly bend!

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! O praise His Name forever,
His power and glory evermore proclaim.
His power and glory evermore proclaim.

First Reading

Genesis 3:1-15

(Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden)

Reader: **Dr. Sherlock Bradshaw**

Carols: #60 “Angels, from the realms of glory,”
#67 “Good Christian friends, rejoice”

Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant Light:

Refrain

Sages, leave your contemplations;
Brighter visions beam afar:
Seek the great Desire of Nations;
Ye have seen his natal star:

Refrain

Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In his temple shall appear:

Refrain

Though an infant now we view him,

He shall fill his Father's throne,
Gather all the nations to him;
Every knee shall then bow down

Refrain

~~~~~

**Good Christian friends, 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 manger now.  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye hear of endless bliss;  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He hath opened heaven's door,  
And we are blessed for evermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, 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!  
Christ was born to save!

Second Reading

Isaiah 7:10-15

*(God promises that a child shall be conceived who will be known as "God with us")*

Reader: **Ms. Mary Haynes**

**Carols: #58 "A great and mighty wonder"**

**#65 "Go tell it on the mountain"**

**A great and mighty wonder,**  
a full and holy cure!  
The Virgin bears the Infant  
with virgin-honour pure:

***Refrain:***

*repeat the hymn again!*  
*'To God on high be glory,*  
*and peace on earth to men.'*

The Word becomes incarnate,  
and yet remains on high;  
and cherubim sing anthems  
to shepherds from the sky:

***Refrain***

While thus they sing your Monarch,  
those bright angelic bands,  
rejoice, ye vales and mountains,  
ye oceans, clap your hands:

***Refrain***

Since all he comes to ransom,  
by all be he adored,  
the infant born in Bethl'em,  
the Saviour and the Lord:

***Refrain***

~~~~~

Refrain

**Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is born!**

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

Refrain

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! Above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Saviour's birth.

Refrain

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

Third Reading

Luke 1:26-38

(The angel Gabriel announces the birth of Jesus)

Reader: **Ms. Kurlyne Alleyne**

Carol: "What child is this?"

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:

Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and donkeys are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spears shall pierce him through,
the cross he bore for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise a song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The babe, the Son of Mary.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRIB

Hymn 642 “**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 in the hay.

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 cradle till morning is nigh.

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.

Organ Voluntary

(Entrance of the Servers, Choir, Eucharistic Minister and Clergy)

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

President: The glory of the Lord has been revealed:

ALL: And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

The Christ Candle is now lit with the words:

President:

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

The four other candles are lit from the centre and all say:

ALL:

We beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

President: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

President:

All praise to you, Eternal Father, giver of all good things; you have filled our hearts with joy at the wonder of your love. Christ, your Son from eternity, now is born in time. Alleluia, Christ is born!

ALL: Alleluia, Christ is born!

The Processional Hymn 61

Christians, awake! Salute the happy morn,
whereon the Saviour of the world was born;
 rise to adore the mystery of love,
which hosts of angels chanted from above:
 with them the joyful tidings first begun
 of God incarnate and the Virgin's Son.

Then to the watchful shepherds it was told,
who heard the angelic herald's voice, 'Behold,
 I bring good tidings of a Saviour's birth
 to you and all the nations upon earth:
this day hath God fulfilled his promised word,
this day is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord.'

He spake; and straightway the celestial choir
in hymns of joy, unknown before, conspire;
 the praises of redeeming love they sang,
and heaven's whole orb with alleluias rang:
 God's highest glory was their anthem still,
 peace upon earth, and unto men good will.

To Bethlehem straight the enlightened shepherds ran,
to see the wonder God had wrought for man,
and found, with Joseph and the blessèd Maid,
 her Son, the Saviour, in a manger laid:
then to their flocks, still praising God, return,
and their glad hearts with holy rapture burn.

O may we keep and ponder in our mind
God's wondrous love in saving lost mankind;
trace we the Babe, who hath retrieved our loss,
 from his poor manger to his bitter cross;
 tread in his steps, assisted by his grace,
till man's first heavenly state again takes place.

Then may we hope, the angelic hosts among,
to sing, redeemed, a glad triumphal song:
 he that was born upon this joyful day

around us all his glory shall display;
saved by his love, incessant we shall sing
eternal praise to heaven's almighty King.

Words: John Byram (1692-1763), alt.

YORKSHIRE

THE STATION AT THE CRIB

The Introit Hymn 77

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:

Refrain:

*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:

Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing all ye citizens of heaven above:
'Glory to God in the highest:'

Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing:

Refrain

*Words: anonymous, from Adeste, fideles, 18th century,
Latin; translation: Frederick Oakley (1802-1880), alt.*

THE EUCHARIST

The Gloria in Excelsis

Glory to God in the highest,
And peace to His people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks,
We praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father;
Receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One;
You alone are the Lord;
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

THE COLLECT: Christmas Day

Let us pray. Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory: through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

Lector: *Mrs. Judy King*

PSALM 96 (CPWI)

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- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the LORD when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.

- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now, and shall be forever. Amen.*

SECOND LESSON

Titus 2:11-14

Lector: Mr. Trevor King

Gradual Hymn 82

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.

For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.

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 to-day.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-14

*The Gospeller: **The Rev'd Richard Kellman***

The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Reader

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke, the second chapter, beginning at the first verse.

ALL: Glory to Christ our Saviour.

After the reading

Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ.

ALL: Praise to Christ our Lord.

The Sermon: The Most Rev'd & Dr. The Hon. John W. D. Holder

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
The Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,

Of all that is seen or unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
The only Son of God,
Eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
True God from true God,
Begotten, not made,
one in Being with the Father.

Through Him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
He came down from heaven:
By the power of the Holy Spirit
He was born of the Virgin Mary,
And became man.
For our sake He was crucified
Under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered, died and was buried.
On the third day He rose again
In fulfillment of the Scriptures;
He ascended into heaven
And is seated at the right
Hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
The living and the dead,
And His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
The Lord, the giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father.
With the Father and the Son
He is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
And apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism
For the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
And the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

INTERCESSION “B”

Intercessor: Mrs. Jeanette Rollock

LEADER: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

ALL: That we all may be one.

LEADER:

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly
serve you.

ALL: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

LEADER: We pray for all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons;

**ALL: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and
Sacraments.**

LEADER:

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the
world;

ALL: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

LEADER: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

ALL: That our works may find favour in your sight.

LEADER:

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

ALL: That they may be delivered from their distress.

LEADER: Give to the departed eternal rest;

ALL: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

LEADER: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

ALL: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

LEADER: Let us pray for our needs and those of others.

Silence may be kept.

ALL:

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords to your will; and the good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ACT OF PENITENCE

THE PRESIDENT: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

A period of silence shall be kept

ALL:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and one another, in thought, word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are sorry and repent of all our sins.

For your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

President

Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

PRESIDENT:

We are the body of Christ, By the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, and have all been made to drink of the one Spirit.

ALL:

Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and build up the common life.

PRESIDENT: The peace of the Lord be with you

ALL: And also with you.

HYMN OF FELLOWSHIP

Let There Be Peace on Earth
And let it begin with me
The peace that was meant to be
With God our Creator
Children all are we
Let us walk with each other
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment, and live
Each moment in peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.

~~~ *Welcome and Greetings* ~~~

## THE EUCHARIST

### The Offertory Hymn 88

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.

#### *Refrain:*

*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.

#### *Refrain*

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.

*Refrain*

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.

*Refrain*

Then entered in those Wise Men three,  
full reverently upon the knee,  
and offered there, in his presence,  
gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

*Refrain*

Then let us all with one accord  
sing praise to our heavenly Lord;  
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
and with his blood our life hath bought.

*Refrain*

*Words: anonymous  
18<sup>th</sup>-century English carol*

**THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

President and People

Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us; this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord.      *Amen.*

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

**President:** The Lord be with you.

**ALL:** **And also with you.**

**President:** Lift up your hearts.

**ALL:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**President** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**ALL:** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

### **President**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Father Almighty, everlasting God:

### **Proper Preface**      ***“Christmas”***

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the Flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

### **ALL:**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might;  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is He who comes  
In the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING “A”

### PRESIDENT

All Holy and glorious Father,  
our Creator God,  
we give you thanks  
because in your loving wisdom  
you brought all things into being,  
and are truly worthy of praise  
from every creature you have made.

Again and again  
we have turned away from you;  
yet in every age your steadfast love  
has called us to return,  
to live in union with you:  
for it is your eternal purpose  
to put new life into all things  
and make them holy.

Through your Son, Jesus Christ  
who took our human nature upon Him  
you have redeemed the world  
from the bondage of sin:  
and by the power of your Holy Spirit  
you have gathered a people to yourself,  
to make known in every place  
His perfect offering which He made  
to the glory of your Name.

Hear us, therefore, Father,  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;  
And grant that these gifts of bread and wine  
may be unto us His Body and Blood.

For, on the night He was betrayed

He took bread,  
and when He had given thanks to you,  
He broke it and gave it to His disciples  
and said: "Take this, and eat it:  
This is my Body which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me."

And after supper  
He took the cup of wine:  
and when He had given thanks,  
He gave it to them and said:  
"Drink this, all of you:  
This is my Blood of the New Covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this for the remembrance of me."

PRESIDENT:

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

**ALL:**

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

PRESIDENT

And so, Heavenly Father,  
rejoicing in His Holy Incarnation;  
His Blessed Passion and His Perfect Sacrifice  
made once for all upon the Cross;  
His Mighty Resurrection from the dead;  
His Glorious Ascension into heaven;  
and looking for His Coming in glory;  
we offer to you this Bread and this Cup.

We pray that you will accept this sacrifice of  
praise and thanksgiving;  
and grant that who eat and drink of the Body and Blood, of your  
Son, our great High Priest,  
may be renewed by your Holy Spirit,  
and be one Body, one Spirit, in Him.

Let faith and love increase in us.  
Unite us with all Bishops,  
all other ministers of your Word and Sacraments,  
and with the whole people of God,  
living and departed,  
whom you have made for yourself.

Confirm us in holiness,  
that we may be found ready to join the company  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Holy Apostles,  
and all your saints,  
when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again:  
Forever giving you thanks and praise  
through Him for whom all good things do come.  
With Him and in Him and through Him,  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you, Father Almighty,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**ALL**

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**PRESIDENT**

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

**ALL:**

**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.**

## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

### **PRESIDENT**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**ALL:**  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## **THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

### **PRESIDENT:**

My brothers and sisters in Christ, draw near and receive His Body which He gave for you, and His Blood which He shed for you. Remember that He died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

**ALL:**  
**Grant gracious Lord, that we so eat the flesh of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, and drink His blood, that we may evermore dwell in Him and He in us. Amen.**

## The Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
Grant us peace.

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

### THE COMMUNION HYMNS:

**70 "It came upon a midnight clear"**

**91 "While shepherds watched their flocks by night"**

It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold:  
'Peace on the earth, good will to men,  
from heaven's all-glorious King!'  
the world is solemn stillness lay  
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,  
with peaceful wings unfurled;  
and still their heavenly music floats  
o'er all the weary world:  
above its sad and lowly plains  
they bend on hovering wing;  
and ever o'er its Babel-sounds  
the blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
the world has suffered long;  
beneath the angel-strain have rolled

two thousand years of wrong;  
and man, at war with man, hears not  
the love-song which they bring:  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,  
and hear the angels sing.

\*And ye, beneath life's crushing load,  
whose forms are bending low,  
who toil along the climbing way  
with painful steps and slow,  
look, now! For glad and golden hours  
come swiftly on the wing;  
O rest beside the weary road,  
and hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hastening on,  
by prophet-bards foretold,  
when, with the ever-circling years,  
comes round the age of gold;  
when peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendours fling,  
and the whole world give back the song  
which now the angels sing.

*Words: Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876)*

## Hymn 91

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down,  
and glory shone around.

'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind);  
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and all mankind.

‘To you in David’s town this day  
is born of David’s line  
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
and this shall be the sign:

‘The heavenly Babe you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,  
and in a manger laid.’

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith  
appeared a shining throng  
of angels praising God, who thus  
addressed their joyful song:

‘All glory be to God on high,  
and to the earth be peace;  
good will henceforth from heaven to men  
begin and never cease.’

*Words: Nahum Tate (1652-1715)*

### **Communion Anthem: “On Christmas Night” (Kelly)**

#### **Post Communion Prayer**

President: The Lord be with you

**ALL: And also with you.**

President: Let us pray

**ALL:**

**Almighty Father, We thank you for feeding us  
With the Body and Blood Of your Son Jesus Christ.  
May we who share His Body live His risen life;  
We who drink His cup bring life to others;  
We upon whom your Spirit shines give light to the world.**

**Help us to continue in faithful witness to your Word,  
So we and all your children shall be free,  
And the whole earth live to praise your Name,  
Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.***

### **The Blessing**

Christ who by His Incarnation gathered into one, all things earthly and heavenly, fill you with His Joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and your household and remain with you always.

**ALL: Amen.**

### ***Recessional Hymn 68***

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.'

#### ***Refrain:***

*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 as Man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

*Refrain*

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 man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.

*Refrain*

*Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788),  
with others*

**The Dismissal:**

**PRESIDENT:** The Lord be with you

**ALL:**           **And also with you**

**PRESIDENT:** Go in Peace and serve the Lord

**ALL:**           **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## CHRISTMAS DAY I

### First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

**Comments:** “A child is born for us”

From the Hebrew Bible we hear a **hymn of thanksgiving and hope offered at the birth of a new king in Jerusalem**. The prophet hails the one born to be the ruler of his people. His reign will end oppression and bring justice, righteousness, and a lasting peace. Christians see these words coming to fulfillment in Jesus.

**Psalm 96:** A song of praise to the Lord in which the whole heavens and earth are invited to join.

### Second Lesson (The Epistle)

Titus 2:11-14

**Comments:** “The grace of God has appeared”

This New Testament reading speaks of **the two comings of Christ: first in his sacrificial ministry for all people and then in glory**. He has enabled his disciples to free themselves from ways of evil. Disciplined and eager to do good, they look forward to the fulfillment of the hope God has given to the world in Jesus.

### The Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

**Comments:** “God with us”

The Gospel presents **the story of the birth of Jesus**. He is born amid very humble human circumstances. A government registration programme requires Joseph and Mary to go to Bethlehem, the city of David. Because there was no other place for them to stay, Mary lays her new son in a stable manger. An angel then appears to shepherds and announces the joyful news of the Saviour’s birth.

**The Archbishop of the West Indies,  
Primate and Metropolitan,  
and The Bishop of Barbados**

**The Most Reverend Dr. The Hon. John W.D. Holder, CBE, LLD**

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**BISHOP’S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2017**

**To be Shared with Congregations on  
Christmas Day**

Each year at Christmas, the world pauses to celebrate and to acknowledge the significance of this day. The focus, if only for a while, is on an event that has impacted the world in a manner in which few other events have. This event is the birth of Jesus, Our Lord.

Over the years Christmas has become wrapped in the type of sentimentality and revelry that cloud its profound message. Our celebration on this day, is about far more than the music we enjoy, the exchange of gifts, the eating and the drinking, and all the other practices associated with Christmas.

The story of Our Lord's birth in St. Matthew and St. Luke help us to understand what, and why we are celebrating on this day. They provide for us a message that speaks to the world today in a manner which is relevant and profound.

In these stories, the harsh conditions surrounding Our Lord's birth are not glossed over and ignored. They help us to understand the importance of the message that the birth of Our Lord offers to the world.

In St. Matthew, Jesus a symbol of love, freedom, peace and a new beginning becomes a threat to an establishment symbolised by Herod where the focus is on power and control.

In St. Luke, Jesus is the hope of the poor and the humble. Mary and Joseph, Elizabeth and Zechariah, along with the shepherds are drawn into new experiences, where they are offered the type of recognition and role that are unusual for those in their social class. They are offered a place in God's great plan of salvation that seeks to transform humanity. It is in the ministry of Jesus, that experiences of this salvation are shared with many persons. The healing of the sick, the feeding of the hungry, the blessing of the children, the hope offered to the destitute, and the promise of the Kingdom, are the experiences of Salvation that we celebrate at Christmas.

As we celebrate the birth of our Lord, let us be guided by the message of St. Matthew and be experiences of love,

freedom and peace, even as Jesus was. Let us, as well, accept the guidance of St. Luke, and proclaim through our lives the belief that God embraces the poor and humble. We can be experiences of this conviction for the less fortunate even as Jesus was.

Our celebrations at this time should therefore lead to our commitment to be experiences of love, freedom and peace, and so be a source of hope in a world where the very opposite, hatred, conflict and the lack of freedom, are the everyday experiences of many of God's children.

May these celebrations motivate us to use the opportunities that are available, to work for peace where there is conflict, and for love and compassion where there is hatred and anger.

When this day has passed let us continue to live its message of peace and love. It is a message that never grows old. It is a message that this world needs to hear and experience each day.

May God grant you a blessed Christmas, and may his love guide and protect you through the coming year.

Your Friend and Bishop

+John Barbados

## PARISH NEWS

**Stewardship:** The envelopes for 2018 will soon be available for collection.

### CATHEDRAL NEWS

- i. **Registration:** The Cathedral is currently seeking to update its membership record. Consequently, members are asked to complete the registration forms which are available and return them to the office as soon as possible.
- ii. **5K Charity Walk & Run has been postponed until next year at a date to be finalised.** (All proceeds will go towards The St. Michael Centre for Faith and Action and The Barbados Vagrants and Homeless Society).
- iii. **Worship Schedule:** Members are asked to note that starting with the Christmas season the first service on Sundays will commence at 7:00 a.m. Please adjust plans accordingly.

#### FLORAL TRIBUTES:

The Officers and members of the Flower Guild wish to express sincere thanks and appreciation to all persons who made contributions to the flowers:

- Ms. Joyanne Blackman-Jarvis in memory of her parents Mr. Keith Blackman & Mrs. Carmen Blackman;
- Ms. Judy Jones, son Russell, and brother Mr. Johnnie Jones and family in memory of their parents Mr. Horace Jones and Mrs. Laurine Jones & Johnnie's wife Mrs. Laura Jones; and,
- Mrs. Margaret Watson on the occasion of her husband's birthday – Mr. Arlington Watson on December 23<sup>rd</sup> and in loving memory of her parents Ms. Iretha C. Hinds and Mr. Edmund M. Taylor.

## **DIOCESAN NEWS**

**YOUTH RALLY:** The Holy Innocents Day March and Rally takes place on Thursday, December 28<sup>th</sup> 2017. Theme: Do not conform: Transform - Change your Space.

The March will commence at 4:00pm from Jubilee Gardens and conclude at Independence Square. Persons are asked to assemble at Jubilee Gardens from 3:30pm. The procession will be under the guidance of the Royal Barbados Police Force and lead by the Band of the Barbados Cadet Corps.

Attendees are encouraged to display their respective church and organization banners as well as placards advocating for change. Persons are asked to wear their Youth Month shirt, Diocesan Shirt or Parish Shirt.

Donations will be collected for the HIV/AIDS Food Bank.

## **CATHEDRAL MINISTRIES**

**Today, the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ  
CHRISTMAS DAY**

**7:00 A.M.** Holy Eucharist

Preacher: **The Rev'd Canon George Knight**

**9:00 A.M.** Sung Eucharist

Preacher: **The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson**

**11:00 A.M.** Choral Matins

Preacher: **The Rev'd Dr. Marcus Lashley**

**Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>**

**10:00 A.M.** Holy Eucharist

Preacher: **The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson**

**Thursday, December 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**The Feast of Holy Innocents**  
**12:15 P.M. Holy Eucharist**

**Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, The First Sunday after**  
**Christmas Day**

7:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist  
9:00 A. M Sung Eucharist with Baptism  
11:00 P.M. Watch Night Service



Congratulations to all celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week:

*Ms. Olga E. Marshall ~ 30<sup>th</sup>*  
*Mrs. Jeanette Rollock ~ 31<sup>st</sup>*



***May God bless and strengthen you.***

A central graphic featuring a light brown scroll with a rolled-up top and bottom. The scroll is set against a white oval background. On the left and right sides of the scroll, there are green clover plants with curly stems. At the bottom of the scroll, there are several gold coins. The text is centered on the scroll.

**THEME FOR THE WEEK**

*“The mystery  
of  
the Nativity  
fulfills the  
expectancy of our  
Advents  
all year long”*

## **OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL**

### **Church Wardens:**

Mr. Arlington Watson    Mr. Darnley King

**Secretary:** Ms. Donnah Russell

**Treasurer:** Mr. Ian Weekes

### **Synod Representatives**

Mr. Trevor King;

Mr. Samuel Maxwell;

Dr. Wendy Sealy

### **Alternative Synod Representative**

Ms. Donna Inniss



## **LEADERS OF ORGANISATIONS AND MINISTRIES**

|                             |                                                   |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Men's Fellowship:</b>    | Mr. John Moore                                    |
| <b>Mothers' Union:</b>      | Mrs. Colleen Byer                                 |
| <b>Church Army:</b>         | Captain Evelyn Jackman                            |
| <b>Woman's Auxiliary:</b>   | Ms. Shirley Clarke                                |
| <b>Ushers Guild:</b>        | Mrs. Juno Burrows                                 |
| <b>Outreach Committee:</b>  | Mrs. Delores Hinds                                |
| <b>Guild of Servers:</b>    | Major Charleston Maxwell<br>and Mr. Jerry Alleyne |
| <b>Health Ministry:</b>     | Dr. Wendy Sealy                                   |
| <b>Sunday School:</b>       | Mrs. Harriett Blackman                            |
| <b>Flower Guild:</b>        | Mrs. Anita Yarde                                  |
| <b>Guild of St. Raphael</b> | Mr. Darwin Clarke                                 |



**WE**

*wish*

**YOU A**

*Merry*

**CHRISTMAS**





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