

Midnight Mass of Christmas

25 December 2021

Acknowledgement of Country. As a community, we recognise that the church is built and our worship is offered on the traditional lands of the Kurna people, and close to Tarntanyangga (Victoria Square), which is still an important meeting place for the Kurna people today. We express our gratitude in the sharing of this land; our sorrow for the personal, spiritual and cultural costs of that sharing; and our hope that we may walk together in harmony, in the spirit of Reconciliation.

COVID Safety and Face Masks. The Emergency Management (Activities—General No 3) (COVID-19) Direction 2021 and the Emergency Management (Activities—Associated Direction No 16) (COVID-19) Direction 2021 provide that face masks must be worn at all times other than when a person is reading or otherwise leading worship.

When the bell rings, all stand and sing the hymn

Processional Hymn

Let us proceed in peace.

✠ **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
and manifest thy virgin-birth:
let every age adoring fall;
such birth befits the God of all.**

**2 Begotten of no human will,
but of the Spirit, thou art still
the Word of God, in flesh arrayed,
the Saviour, now to us displayed.**

Prayers at the Advent Wreath

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Today we celebrate the gift of the Incarnation, Emmanuel, God with us. We celebrate the birth of Christ who is the Light of the World—a Light no darkness can extinguish. Christ's Light can enter any darkness; as members of the Body of Christ, we live in that Light.

The Christ Candle is lit, and the Priest says

Loving God, we thank you for your mystery of the Incarnation—Emmanuel, God with us. Help us receive the Light of Christ in our hearts and share it generously and joyfully in our families and communities. We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord. **Amen**

The hymn resumes

**3 The virgin womb that burden gained
With virgin honour all unstained,
The banners there of virtue glow,
God in his temple dwells below.**

**4 Forth from his chamber goeth he,
That royal home of purity,
A giant in twofold substance one,
Rejoicing now his course to run.**

- 5 **From God the Father he proceeds,
to God the Father back he speeds,
runs out his course to death and hell,
returns on God's high throne to dwell.**
- 6 **O equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,
the weakness of our mortal state
with deathless might invigorate.**

Blessing of the Crib

Let us pray.

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Saviour was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. Lord, ✠ bless this crib, and bless all who look upon it; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to the one who is God-with-us and Saviour of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen.**

The crib is censed, then the hymn concludes

- 7 **Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
and darkness glow with new-born light,
no more shall night extinguish day,
where love's bright beams their power display.**
- 8 **O Jesu, Virgin-born, to thee
eternal praise and glory be,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit, evermore.**

St Ambrose 340-97, tr. JM Neale and others

Entrance Antiphon

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Saviour has been born in the world.
Today true peace has come down to us from heaven.

Greeting

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The grace and peace of God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

The Priest may briefly introduce the Mass of the day

Penitential Act

The choir sings

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

The priest, deacon, or another minister says

Christ the grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all.

Silence

Let us bring our weaknesses and infirmities to the Lord,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

All say

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The priest says

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness
to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon ✠ you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on
earth. Lord God, heav'n - ly King, al - migh-ty God and Fa - ther, we
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are

seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer. For
 you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone
 are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit,
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Collect

Let us pray.

Eternal God, who made this most holy night
 to shine with the brightness of your one true light:
 bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth,
 to see the radiance of your heavenly glory;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9.2-7

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, an heir given to us; upon whose shoulders rests authority; and who is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace; whose authority shall grow continually. And there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and over David's kingdom, which will be established and upheld with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



℞. All the ends of the earth shall see the sal - va - tion of our God.

Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
With his own right hand and with his holy arm
he has brought deliverance. **℞.**

The LORD has made known his salvation
and his righteousness to the nations.
He has remembered his mercy and truth
towards the house of Israel. **℞.**

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Let the world be glad in him,
sing, rejoice and give him thanks. **℞.**

Let music sound upon the harp,
and psalms be offered to his praise:
with trumpets and with songs of joy
shout the praise of God our King. **℞.**

New Testament Reading

Titus 2.11-14

A reading from the letter of Paul to Titus.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who was given for us that we might be redeemed from all iniquity and purified, Jesus' own people, who are zealous for good deeds.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 2.10-11

Alleluia.
I bring you news of great joy:
today a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord.
Alleluia.

Gospel Reading

Luke 2.1-20

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

✠ Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was

descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

For the Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Fr Gwilym Henry-Edwards

Profession of Faith

All stand. On this day, it is customary to kneel at the reference to Christ's birth.

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and 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,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation,
he came down from heaven;**

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with 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 and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who 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 for the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Pray for the world and for the church

Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.
God's Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

All stand to sing the Offertory Hymn. Please note that there will be no Collection taken up: offerings of money can be left in the Collection plates at the front and rear of the pews.



Good Christians, all rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now give 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.

- 2 Good Christians, all rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now you hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this.
He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this;
Christ was born for this.
- 3 Good Christians, all rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now you need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save,
calls you one and calls you all
to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save;
Christ was born to save.

John Mason Neale 1818-66 alt.

When all is prepared, the priest says

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the Father almighty.

**May the Lord accept our sacrifice
for the praise and glory of God's name,
for our good, and the good of all God's holy Church.**

Prayer over the Offerings

Source of light and gladness,
accept all we offer on this joyful feast.
May we grow up in the One who unites our lives to yours;
who is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The musical notation consists of three staves of music. The first staff is labeled 'Celebrant' and contains the lyrics: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift'. The second staff is labeled 'Congregation' and contains the lyrics: 'up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to'. The third staff is labeled 'Congregation' and contains the lyrics: 'the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

All glory and honour, be yours now and always,
mighty Creator, everliving God.

You created light out of darkness
and brought forth life on the earth.

You formed us in your image
and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away from you, and our love failed,
your love remained ever steadfast.

You made a covenant to be our God,
and spoke to us through your prophets.

In the fullness of time
you gave your only Son, Jesus Christ
to be our Saviour,
and at his birth the angels sang glory to you in the highest
and peace to your people on earth.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
san - na in the high - est.

Merciful God, you are blessed indeed,
and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ.

As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem
and there found no room,
so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem
and was despised and rejected.

As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born,
so, by the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection
you gave birth to your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death
and made with us a new covenant
by water and the Spirit.

As your Word became flesh,
born of woman on that night so long ago so,
on the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me'.

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me'.

And so, in remembrance of his birth,
his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and exaltation,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice.

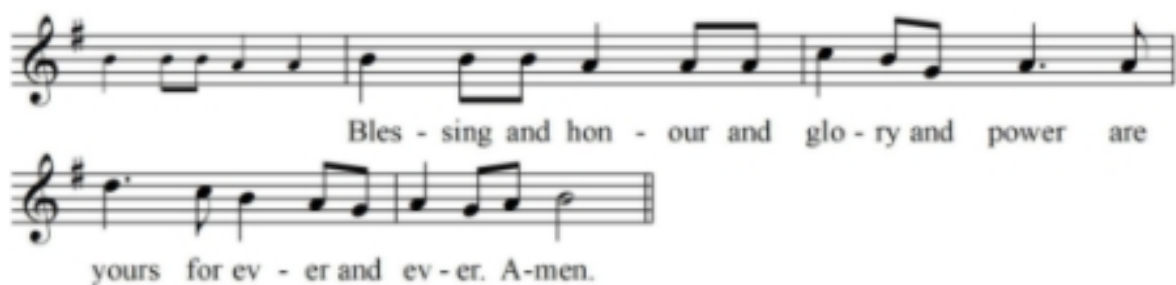
United to God and one in love, we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and our celebration:
may these gifts of bread and wine be for us
the body and blood of Christ.

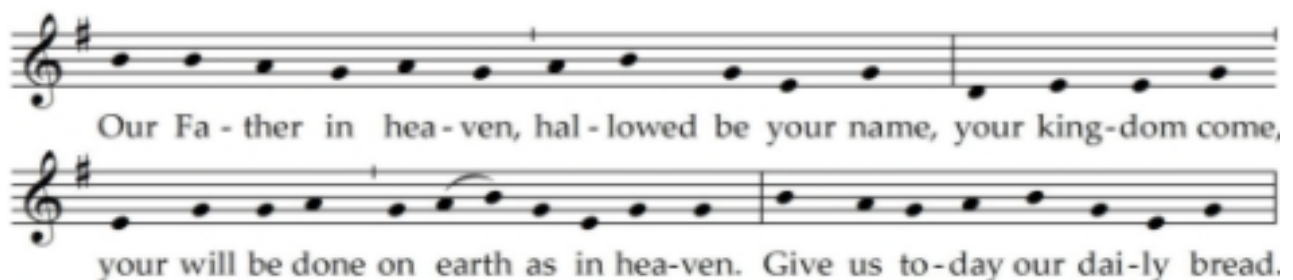
Make us one with Christ and with each other,
and one in service to all the world,
until the day of final glory comes
and we feast at his heavenly banquet
with all your saints for ever.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:



The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us we are confident to pray:



For-give us our sins as we for-give those who sin a- gainst us. Save us
from the time of trial and de- liv - er us from e - vil.

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

For the king- dom, the power and the glo- ry are yours now and for ev - er.
A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the bread, saying

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,

for we all share in the one bread.

While the bread is broken Agnus Dei is sung

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us. —
— Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: — grant us your peace.

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ
in remembrance that he died for us,
and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All receive Holy Communion. Communion will be administered in one kind only. Communicants should approach in single file, maintaining physical distance, returning via the side aisles. Communicants should remove their face masks immediately prior to receiving Holy Communion, replacing them afterwards.

Those who are not to receive the Blessed Sacrament are invited to unite themselves with Jesus by making a Spiritual Communion.

Act of Spiritual Communion

St Alphonsus Liguori

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

During Communion, the choir sings

Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas,
Star and angels gave the sign.
Worship we the Godhead,
Love incarnate, Love divine;
Worship we our Jesus:
But wherewith for sacred sign?
Love shall be our token,
Love be yours and love be mine,
Love to God and neighbours,
Love for plea and gift and sign.

Christina Rossetti 1830-94 alt.

Communion Antiphon

John 1.14

The Word became flesh: and we have seen his glory.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

God of heaven, dwelling among us,
we thank you for feeding us with this holy food.
By your grace keep us ever faithful to your Word made flesh
that as the body of Christ in the world
we may bring your presence to all people.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All stand to sing the Postcommunion hymn



- 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 gracious King.”
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.
- 2 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 over its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.
- 3 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.
- 4 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 send back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Blessing and Dismissal

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

May the God of infinite goodness,
who by the incarnation of his Son has driven darkness from the world
and by that glorious Birth has illumined this most holy night,
drive far from you the darkness of vice
and illumine your hearts with the light of virtue. **Amen.**

And may God, who wills that the great joy
of his Son's saving Birth
be announced to shepherds by the Angel,
fill your minds with the gladness he gives
and make you heralds of his Gospel. **Amen.**

And may God, who by the Incarnation
brought together the earthly and heavenly realm,
fill you with the gift of his peace and favour
and make you sharers with the Church in heaven. **Amen.**

And the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The priest, deacon or another minister says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

The priest and ministers depart.

NOTICES

**A happy and blessed Christmas to all! Please join us
after Christmas Masses for hospitality in the Mission Hall.**

Fr Gwilym's term as locum priest ends on 31 December. His last public Mass will be the daily Mass on Thursday 30 December at 12.10 pm. Fr Steven Ogden will commence as locum priest on Sunday 2 January. Pray for Fr Gwilym as he enjoys a well-earned period of rest and recreation, and for Fr Steven as he prepares to embark on a new ministry.

Sunday and weekday Masses will continue as usual throughout January, with the Sunday Mass at 10 am and the Thursday Mass at 12.10 pm, following the Angelus at 12 noon.

SERVICE TIMES IN THE COMING WEEK

Saturday 10 am Procession and Sung Mass
Sunday 10 am Sung Mass with children's ministry and choir
Thursday 12 noon Angelus; 12.10 pm Mass (traditional rite)

From Christmas to the end of January, Mass is offered at St Peter's Cathedral on Wednesday and Friday at 7.30 am, and on Wednesday at 10 am.

Inquiries about Baptisms and Weddings to the Locum Priest. Confessions or confidential personal time with a priest are always available on request.

Regular Giving and Donations

Financial support for our mission and ministry through electronic funds transfer (EFT) is an efficient way of making regular contributions to your congregation. Regular giving helps us plan for the future and ensures you continue offering support when you can't make it to Church.

Our Details: Bank: Bankwest, 8 Rundle Mall, Adelaide 5000
BSB 305 122, account no 0324654. Reference: Your name

The Magdalene Centre

A partnership in mission between St Mary Magdalene's, St John's Halifax Street,
St Peter's Cathedral, and Anglicare SA

82 Gilbert Street, Adelaide Tel (08) 8305 9389

Non-perishable food for those in need can be left in the baskets at the back of the church or delivered to the Magdalene Centre from 12 noon to 3 pm, Monday to Friday.

Donations of cash are welcome via <https://anglicaresa.com.au/cause/magdalene-centre/>.

The Collective of St Magdalene (Drop-In Centre)

Pray for all those who receive the Collective's weekly support,
and who are seeking meals and companionship at other times during the week.

Directory

Locum Priest (to 31 December): Fr Gwilym Henry-Edwards

Email: stmarymagdalene_adelaide@outlook.com • 0497 079 420

Office Email: StMMAdeelaide.Parish@outlook.com • Web: stmarymagdalenes.weebly.com •

Blog: stmarymagdalenesadelaide.org • Facebook: St Mary Magdalene's Anglican Church

Next Sunday, 26 December, at 10 am – The Feast of the Holy Family

Readings: Micah 5.2–5a • (Canticle) Luke 1.46b–55 • Hebrews 10.5–10 • Luke 1.39–45

For Your Prayers

Pray for responsible leadership among the nations as the Covid-19 pandemic continues; pray for an end to racist violence and oppression; pray for peace and justice, especially for refugees, asylum seekers, and those seeking places of safety and security.

Pray for all those who are troubled in body, mind or spirit, especially Paull, Valerie, Sim, Clarice, Dulcie, Jasmin, Henry, John Edwards (priest), Peter Garland (priest), Linda, Alex and Mark.

For those who have died. Those who have worked and worshipped in this place before us; those who have died as a result of COVID-19 and in other tragic circumstances; those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

Rest ✕ eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.