



CHRISTMAS!

**Christmas Eve
Crib Service 2025**

**St Mary with Alban Church
Teddington**

Picture by lanthe Miller

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

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.

3. 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.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY – MARY AND JOSEPH

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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY – THE BIRTH OF JESUS

1. Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round the virgin and her child:
holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace;
sleep in heavenly peace!

2. Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quail at the sight,
glory streams from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born!'

3. Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light:
radiant beams your holy face
with the dawn of saving grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY – THE SHEPHERDS

1. While shepherds watched their
flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

2. 'Fear not' said he, for might dread
Had seized their troubled mind;
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind.

3. 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:

4. The heavenly Babe you there shall
find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swaddling bands
And in a manger laid.'

5. Thus spake the Seraph; and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of Angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song:

6. 'All glory be to God on high,
And on the earth be peace;
Good will henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease.'

THE CHRISTMAS STORY – THE WISE MEN

1. The first Nowell the angel did say
was to Bethlehem's 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. Then wise men from a country far
looked up and saw a guiding star;
they travelled on by night and day
to reach the place where Jesus lay:
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!

3. At Bethlehem they entered in,
on bended knee they worshipped him;
they offered there in his presence
their gold and myrrh and frankincense:
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!

4. Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
for Christ has our salvation wrought
and with his blood our life has bought:
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!

TALK

*Come and join the celebration, it's a very special day;
come and share our jubilation, there's a new King born today!*

1. See the shepherds hurry down to Bethlehem,
gaze in wonder at the Son of God who lay before them:

2. Wise men journey, led to worship by a star,
kneel in homage, bringing precious gifts from lands afar, so,

3. 'God is with us,' round the world the message bring,
he is with us, 'Welcome,' all the bells on earth are pealing:

THE BLESSING OF THE CRIB

Dear friends, as we meet to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us pray that God will bless this crib, that all who worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father, on this night your Son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary for us and for our salvation: bless this crib, which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth; may all who see it be strengthened in faith and receive the fullness of life he came to bring, who is alive and reigns for ever. **Amen**

PRAYERS

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.*

2. 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.....

3. 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.....

THE BLESSING

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas;

✠ And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, be you and remain with you always. Amen

On behalf of my clergy colleagues, the wardens, Council and staff of St Mary with Alban Parish Church may I wish you a most blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Fr David

We are here for you every day but we gather for services across the year at the following times:

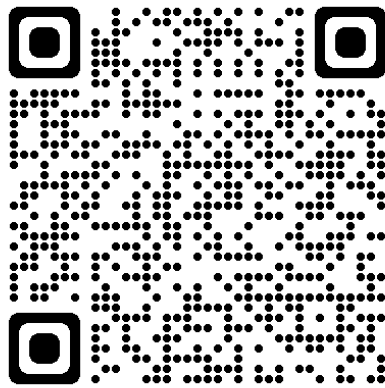
Sundays

- **8am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)** – a gentle said service
- **9am Morning Worship** a service for young families, but all are welcome. Holy Communion is offered at this service on the second Sunday, and each week we follow the service with Coffee & Craft in the parish Hall
- **10am Parish Eucharist** – this service features hymns and a sermon and is supported by our talented choir. Children's Church takes place alongside this service and we gather for refreshments together afterwards. On the third Sunday of the month, this service is an All-Age Service when we worship together young and older.
- **630pm Choral Evensong** – on the third Sunday of the month, we offer a traditional Evensong from the Book of Common Prayer, normally supported by our choir.

Wednesdays

- **930am Said Eucharist**
- **1030am Church Mice** for toddlers and those who chase behind them. Refreshments are offered after this short interactive service

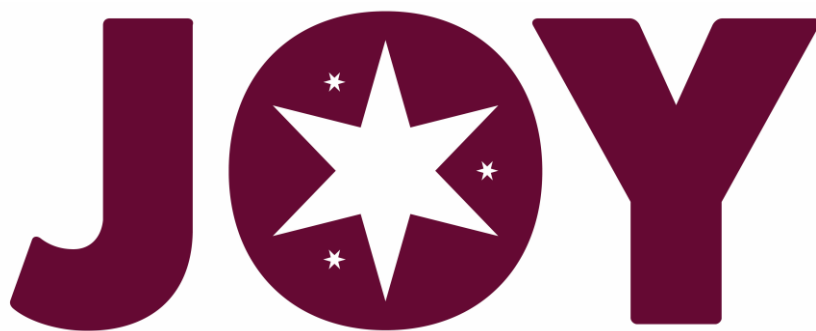
Monday to Saturday – **Morning and Evening Prayer** are shared on Zoom. Go to teddingtonparish.org/whats-on for more details



Thank you for joining us today.

We rely heavily on our Christmas collections. If you are donating by card, you can use this QR code which takes you to our donate page. There is also a card reader on the collection plate and at the back of church.

Thank you



Sign up to the Church of England free Christmas reflection emails.

Receive daily messages straight to your inbox to help you to experience the Joy of Christmas, from Christmas Eve to Epiphany

– 24 December - 6 January (except Sundays)

<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/what-we-believe/advent-and-christmas/sign-joy-christmas>