

**The Parish Church of  
St Mary the Virgin, Great Shelford**



Charity No: 245456

**Sunday 27th December, 2020 - St. John the Evangelist  
10:00 Parish Communion**

**Opening hymn: Unto us a boy is born**

1. Unto us a boy is born!  
King of all creation,  
Came he to a world forlorn,  
The Lord of every nation.
2. Cradled in a stall was he  
With sleepy cows and asses;  
But the very beasts could see  
That he all men surpasses.
3. Herod then with fear was filled:  
'A prince', he said, 'in Jewry!'  
And all the little boys he killed  
At Bethlem in his fury.
4. Now may Mary's son who came  
So long ago to love us,  
Lead us all with hearts aflame  
Unto the joys above us.
5. Omega and Alpha he!  
Let the organ thunder,  
While the choir with peals of glee  
Doth rend the air asunder.

Trad. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hvnceCVScDI>

For children <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3InYDohCNSM>

**Gloria:**

**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.**

**Collect:**

**Merciful Lord, cast your bright beams of light upon the Church:  
that, being enlightened by the teaching of your blessed apostle and evangelist Saint John, we may so  
walk in the light of your truth  
that we may at last attain to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ your incarnate Son our  
Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen**

### First Reading: Exodus 33. 7 - 11a

Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp; he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the LORD would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp. Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise and stand, each of them, at the entrance of their tents and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent. When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the LORD would speak with Moses. When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise and bow down, all of them, at the entrance of their tents. Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend.

### Second Reading: 1 John 1.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

### Gradual hymn: See amid the winter's snow

1 See amid the winter's snow  
Born for us on earth below,  
See, the tender Lamb appears,  
Promised from eternal years.

#### *Refrain*

*Hail, thou ever bless-ed morn,  
Hail, Redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'*

2 Lo! Within a manger lies  
He who built the starry skies,  
He who throned in height sublime,  
Sits amid the Cherubim. ...*Refrain*

3 Say, ye holy shepherds, say,  
What your joyful news today?  
Wherefore have ye left your sheep  
On a lonely mountain steep? ...*Refrain*

4 As we watched at dead of night,  
Lo! We saw a wondrous light,  
Angels singing "Peace on earth"  
Told us of the Saviour's birth. ...*Refrain*

5 Sacred Infant, all divine,  
What a tender love was thine  
Thus to come from highest bliss  
Down to such a world as this! ...*Refrain*

6 Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,  
By thy face so meek and mild,  
Teach us to resemble thee  
In thy sweet humility! ...*Refrain*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xlQTIN2HOAq>

### **Gospel: John 21. 19b - 25**

After this Jesus said to Peter, 'Follow me.' Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, 'Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?' When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, 'Lord, what about him?' Jesus said to him, 'If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!' So the rumour spread in the community that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, 'If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?' This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

### **Offertory hymn: Angels from the realms of glory**

- 1 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:           Glo-----ria in excelsis Deo,  
                      Glo-----ria in excelsis De-o.*
  
- 2 Shepherds in the fields abiding,  
Watching o'er their flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing;  
Yonder shines the infant light.           *Refrain*
  
- 3 Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations;  
Ye have seen his natal star:           *Refrain*
  
- 4 Saints before the altar bending;  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In his temple shall appear:           *Refrain*
  
- 5 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*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ymJFcBPcUY>

### **Sanctus/Benedictus:**

**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.**

### **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.**

### **Communion hymn: Let all mortal flesh keep silence**

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
And with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
For with blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descendeth,  
Our full homage to demand.

2. King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
As of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords, in human vesture,  
In the body and the blood:  
He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heavenly food.
3. Rank on rank the host of heaven  
Spreads its vanguard on the way,  
As the Light of light descendeth  
From the realms of endless day,  
That the powers of hell may vanish  
As the darkness clears away.
4. At his feet the six-winged seraph;  
Cherubim with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the Presence,  
As with ceaseless voice they cry.  
Alleluya, Alleluya,  
Alleluya, Lord most high!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ynzuVpmrRQM>

#### **Post Communion Prayer:**

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that the Word made flesh proclaimed by your apostle John may, by the celebration of these holy mysteries, ever abide and live within us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

#### **Final hymn: God rest you merry, gentlemen**

1. God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
Let nothing you dismay,  
Remember Christ our Saviour  
Was born on Christmas Day,  
To save us all from Satan's power  
When we were gone astray:

*Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!  
O tidings of comfort and joy!*

2. From God our heavenly Father  
A blessèd angel came,  
And unto certain shepherds  
Brought tidings of the same,  
How that in Bethlehem was born  
The Son of God by name: *Refrain*
3. And when they came to Bethlehem  
Where our dear Saviour lay,  
They found him in a manger,  
Where oxen feed on hay;  
His mother Mary kneeling down,  
Unto the Lord did pray: *Refrain*
4. Now to the Lord sing praises,  
All you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood  
Each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas  
All other doth efface: *Refrain*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FlfHyb397VY>



**Hello Children** Mary Mouse is very happy to see you all back in church again! She is social distancing, so cannot be picked up or touched, but she will be in church every Sunday, see if you can spot her.

**Sunday Club** will not meet until further notice. We will be offering a regular Mary Mouse letter. For details contact Gillian, [gillian.pett29@gmail.com](mailto:gillian.pett29@gmail.com)

## INTERCESSIONS

Please refer any pastoral concerns for members of the congregation or members of the local community to any member of the Ministry team including our Co-ordinator for Pastoral Services, Mrs Frances Simms. Please pray for the sick, frail, housebound and those in care. Please let the Vicar know about all cases of sickness and others for whom we should pray.

## SUPPORTING OUR CHURCH

Before the pandemic we were already concerned about the increasing financial deficit we have been facing for several years. Some of our regular expenses, e.g. utilities, have been reduced during lockdown, but ongoing expenses have continued. Additionally the provision of sanitiser products, signage and other purchases connected with providing online services has added costs. Our greatest expense by far is the Ministry Share paid to the Diocese (currently £52,189 pa), which has to be found every month, under all circumstances. We still very much need the support of all our Church members and visitors.

Donations can be made by:

- Parish Giving Scheme (PCC's preferred option)
- Standing Order or Bank transfer
- Donating via the Giving Page on website <https://www.stmarysgreatshelford.org/>
- Traditional envelope donations (posted through the vicarage letterbox, or left in the collection box at the back of church). Please write your PIN on the envelope, if you have one.

To help further, at no cost to yourself, please Gift Aid your donations if you are able. Our Treasurer Pat Brown is happy to assist with any of the above. Contact details: phone 07811 563597 or email: [patbrown2591@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:patbrown2591@yahoo.co.uk) . Thank you very much for all your support.

## ST. MARY'S GREAT SHELFORD - WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**Christmas & New Year Blessings:** On behalf of the whole team at St Mary's, can I wish you every blessing this Christmastide and sincere good wishes for 2021.

**Thank you:** Thank you to everyone who has contributed in any way to make the Advent and Christmas services special this year. It would not really be fair to single out individuals, but the choir and organist and our sacristan deserve a special vote of thanks. Well done to all!

**Thank you from the Vicarage:** A sincere 'thank you' from Mary and myself for all the cards and good wishes we have received already. Far too many to respond to individually – you are all very generous.

**Making contact over the holiday period:** I will be taking time off from Boxing Day until Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan.

If you need any pastoral support during the period of my absence, please contact the Churchwardens in the first instance.

**8:00 Holy Communion cancelled today:** Sincere apologies for the late cancellation of this service.

**David Macey RIP:** The funeral of David Macey will take place at St Mary's on Wed. 6th Jan. at 2pm, followed by an interment in the village cemetery. David lived in Stapleford and died in Addenbrooke's aged 69 after a struggle with cancer. David had been living with his sister Dawn in Headley Gardens recently. We give thanks for his life and remember his sister Dawn Sanders at this sad time.

**Cambridge City Foodbank:** Our next monthly collection will be made on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2021**. A list of the foods most urgently needed can be found at the back of church or on the Foodbank website.

<https://cambridgecity.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

**'Drive in Carols' collection:** Sincere thanks to those who so generously donated £867.63 at both the 'Drive In' events before Christmas. The total is being divided equally between Shelford & Stapleford Youth Initiative and the village Mobile Wardens scheme. The organisers of both schemes are so grateful for your support.

**' Comfort & Joy':** The Church of England is offering special resources for prayer and reflection over the Christmas and New Year period. Visit the website:-

<https://www.churchofengland.org/ComfortAndJoy>

**Hon. Canon of Ely Cathedral:** My collation and installation as an Hon. Canon of the Cathedral which was due to take place in November just after the recent lock-down started has been rearranged for Sat. 23rd January during Choral Evensong at 5.30pm in the Cathedral. I would very much welcome your support on the day - please do come long.



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers



**CONNECTIONS**

provides a hymn and reflection.

**Daily HOPE:** This is an excellent national Church of England initiative for those who are especially isolated and do not have access to the internet.

**Daily HOPE** is a freephone line, available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044**. Callers will hear a special greeting from the Archbishop of Canterbury before being able to choose from a range of options, including Prayer During the Day and Night Prayer updated daily, from Common Worship, and a recording of the Church of England's weekly national online service. A section called Hymn Line will also offer callers a small selection of hymns, updated daily. An option entitled 'Hymns We Love',

**We are delighted to welcome visitors to St Mary's for private prayer and reflection.**

**Sunday 27th December, 2020**

**08:00 The service is cancelled this week**

10:00 Parish Communion

No evening service

**Sunday 3rd January, 2021**

08:00 Holy Communion (BCP)

10:00 Parish Communion

16:00 Evening Prayer (BCP)

**Vicar:**  
**The Rev'd Simon Talbott**

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**Contact Churchwarden:**  
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**Reader/Licensed Lay Minister:**  
**Mrs. Maureen Dobson**

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**Parish Administrator:**  
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**Pastoral Services Co-ordinator**  
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**Children's work contact:**  
**Gillian Pett**

[gillian.pett29@gmail.com](mailto:gillian.pett29@gmail.com)

Applications for baptisms, marriages and the calling of Banns of marriage should be made please to the Parish Administrator.

**Small scale marriages and Baptisms are now permitted under quite strict conditions. Please make contact with the Parish Administrator in the first instance.**

**27/12/20**