

**The 4th Sunday of Advent – 20th December 2020**
Christmas Carol Service**ORDER OF SERVICE****Introduction & Welcome****Variation on Carol: O come, O come Emmanuel (135)****Lighting of the 4th Candle on the Advent Wreath**

God our Father, the angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary that she was to be the mother of your Son. Though Mary was afraid, she responded to your call with joy. Help us, whom you call to serve you, to share like her in your great work of bringing to our world your love and healing. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world. **Amen. Lord Jesus, light of the world, blessed is Gabriel, who brought good news; blessed is Mary, your mother and ours. Bless your Church preparing for Christmas; and bless us your children, who long for your coming. Amen.**

The Candle is lit

People of God: prepare! God, above all, maker of all, is one with us in Christ. Maranatha! **Come, Lord Jesus!**
God, the mighty God, bends down in love to earth. Maranatha! **Come, Lord Jesus!**
God with us, God beside us, comes soon to the world he has made. Maranatha! **Come, Lord Jesus!**
We are God's children, we seek the coming Christ. Maranatha! **Come, Lord Jesus!**

Organ Music**Reading One**

God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee. The angel said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. 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, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

Variation on Carol: The Angel Gabriel (139)**Reading Two**

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Carol from CD: Away in a Manger (149)**Reading Three**

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of

David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.” 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.” So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

Carol from CD: While shepherds watched (188)

Reading Four

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 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.” When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 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. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: “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.” Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 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.” 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. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Variation on Carol: We three Kings (201)

Reading Five

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

Carol from CD: It came upon a midnight clear (164)

The Collect & Blessing

Service Notes

- *Services will be recorded and may be viewed online on: www.churchservices.tv and the Cathedral website (www.saintmaryscathedral.ie) within the 90 days following the service. After that time recordings will be destroyed however exceptions may apply and recordings could last longer if the Cathedral required it. Occasional services may be recorded and will be advertised on both websites www.churchservices.tv and www.saintmaryscathedral.ie and/or other communication channels of the Cathedral). If you would like further information on a particular event, please contact the Cathedral office.*
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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Saint Mary's, Saint Michael's and Ss John & Ailbe: December 20th 2020 ~ 4th Sunday of Advent

Services:

Date	Time	Venue	Service	Notes
Thursday 24 th	10.30	Saint Mary's Cathedral	Holy Communion	No booking necessary
<i>Christmas Eve</i>	21.30	Saint Mary's Cathedral	1 st Eucharist of the Nativity	Booking necessary
Friday 25 th	9.30	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington	Holy Communion	No booking necessary
<i>Christmas Day</i>	9.30	Saint Mary's Cathedral	Holy Communion	Booking necessary
	10.00	Saint Michael's	Holy Communion	Booking necessary
	11.15	Saint Mary's Cathedral	Holy Communion	FULLY BOOKED
Sunday 27 th	11.15	Saint Mary's Cathedral	A Service for Christmas	No booking necessary
Thursday 31 st	10.30	Saint Mary's Cathedral	Holy Communion	No booking necessary

*** IF YOU ARE INTENDING TO ATTEND CHURCH, PLEASE DO THE FOLLOWING**

Email limerickcityparishnews@gmail.com with your preferred choice of service, along with a second preference (should your first preference be already full)

In the email please let us have a contact number and the amount of people who will be attending

A family unit/pod or individual is kindly requested to attend only one of the above

Please arrive at least 5 mins before the beginning of a service; otherwise, we may have to give your seat to someone on a waiting list

Booking is on a 1st come, 1st served basis.

THIS WEEKS NOTICES

There will be no Newsletter next week

Cathedral pop-up shop: Saint Mary's Cathedral is delighted to announce a 'Christmas pop-up shop' on Saturday 19th December from 11am to 3pm. Handmade crafts, toddlers knitwear, stocking fillers, gifts and Christmas cards will be available.

Christmas decorating: Thank you to

- Those in our churches who helped decorate the buildings and erected the trees
- The Brickenden family who kindly donated the tree in the Cathedral in memory of Gordon and Sylvia

The Adventures of Mary & Joseph: The Road Movie (www.barnabasinschools.org.uk/resource/making-most-paperlesschristmas) tells the Christmas story in 9 entertaining episodes. There are also separately on this webpage suggestions for discussions, conversations, teaching, fun and games in lieu of Sunday School lessons. **Christmas Nativity 2020** performed by St Johns N.S, Cratloe (<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1330433677288958>) is worth a visit, for kids and adults alike.

Newslink 2021: As you are aware, the Newslink magazine covers news and information from the churches and schools around the United Dioceses of Limerick, Killaloe and Ardfert, it's a bright colourful magazine which is full of news and events. The Newslink team of Ros, Janet and Gordan are working very hard to improve the magazine, please continue to support them.

This year we have an option in how we receive the Newslink 2021:-

Price : €40 for the Magazine this includes delivery 'to the pew' for 10 issues in 2021.
or €30 for the new e-Newslink (PDF) for 10 issues in 2021.

Please return your booking form, new subscribers are always welcome - if you require more information please contact Gillian Cheatley (LCP Newslink Local Distributor) Mob. 087 1254687.

Livestreaming: Log onto www.churchservices.tv/limerickstmarys Services will be on air at 11.15am on Sundays and 10.30am on Thursdays.

Remembrance Book: Please remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time among them: Edward Richardson, Jean O'Connor, Ann Woodrow, Patrick Moort, Phil Brosnahan, Jimmy Clancy, John Pomeroy, Jane Brislane, James Hanley, Donal O'Brien, Dom Quinlivan, Tom O' Donnell, Helen Mc Mahon and Finnuala Graydon.

Cycle of Prayer: *Church of Ireland:* Our own Diocese of Limerick & Killaloe as we prepare to unite with the Diocese of Tuam, Killala & Achonry, for our Bishop Kenneth Kearon & for Bishop Patrick Rooke.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Mission agencies and their ministry throughout the Anglican Communion, including the Mothers' Union around the world.

Diocese: The Kenmare & Dromod Union of parishes, Rev Michael Kavanagh and the congregations of St Patrick's Kenmare, the Church of the Transfiguration Sneem, St Michael & All Angels Waterville and St John the Baptist Valentia.

Prayers for the Sick: Your prayers are asked for the sick in our community, especially, Rose McNamara, Andrew Prior, Anne Greenaway, Dean Sandra Pragnell, Harold Armstrong, Lorraine McCarthy, John Nix, Archie Brown, Terry Cusack, Sylvia Martin, Norman Lynas, Joe Boyle, Pat Fogarty, Frank Sheahan, William Morrissey, Emily, Lorraine McCarthy, Moira Lowry and Alice O'Connell.

NOTE ABOUT PRAYER LIST: *If you wish to place a name on the list, please email your prayer request to limerickcityparishnews@gmail.com. Under GDPR regulations please ensure you have the consent of the named person(s) before submitting a name. For confidentiality reasons the clergy would appreciate NOT being asked on the status of people. Whilst we appreciate people are showing care and concern, it can compromise the relationship between pastor and parishioner. Thank you.*

CONTACT DETAILS

- The Very Rev'd Niall J. Sloane (Dean): The Deanery, 7 Kilbane, Castletroy
Email: dean@limerick.anglican.org ; Tel: 061-338697. Day off: Friday
- The Rev'd Bernie Daly (Dean's Vicar): The Vicarage, 50 Ballinvoher, Fr Russell Road, Limerick
Email: deansvicar@limerick.anglican.org ; Tel: 061-302038. Day off: Monday
- Clergy Emergency Number: Tel: 087-3524046. (Strictly Emergency Calls Only).
- The Parish Office: Saint Mary's Cathedral, Bridge Street, Limerick, V94 E068.
Email: cathedral@limerick.anglican.org ; Tel: 061-310293.

LIMERICK CITY PARISH ~ WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Deadline for notices 12 noon every Wednesday.

To be added to the email circulation list: Please email limerickcityparishnews@gmail.com
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