

A very warm Welcome to
St Michael's Church



Christmas Day

2025

Opening Sentence

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us;
his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder,
and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

Hymn : The first Nowell

Greeting and Entrance

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

The Lord be with you
And with your spirit

Call to Confession

My brothers and sisters,
to prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries,
let us first call to mind our sin.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to
everlasting life. **Amen.**

Gloria: Hark the Herald Angels sing

The Liturgy of the Word

O God, who wonderfully created the dignity of human nature
and still more wonderfully restored it,
grant, we pray,
that we may share in the divinity of Christ,
who humbled himself to share in our humanity.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah(52:7-10)

How beautiful on the mountains,
are the feet of one who brings good news,
who heralds peace, brings happiness,

proclaims salvation,
and tells Zion,
'Your God is king!'
Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices,
they shout for joy together,
for they see the Lord face to face,
as he returns to Zion.
Break into shouts of joy together,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord is consoling his people,
redeeming Jerusalem.
The Lord bares his holy arm
in the sight of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Gradual Hymn: What child is this

Second Reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews (1:1-6)

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name. God has never said to any angel: *You are my Son, today I have become your father; or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me.* Again, when he brings the First-Born into the world, he says: *Let all the angels of God worship him.*

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia!

A hallowed day has dawned upon us.
Come, you nations, worship the Lord,
for today a great light has shone down upon the earth.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel

The Lord be with you, **And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (1:1-5,9-14)

In the beginning was the Word:
and the Word was with God
and the Word was God.
He was with God in the beginning.
Through him all things came to be,
not one thing had its being but through him.
All that came to be had life in him
and that life was the light of men,
a light that shines in the dark,
a light that darkness could not overpower.
The Word was the true light
that enlightens all men;
and he was coming into the world.
He was in the world
that had its being through him,
and the world did not know him.
He came to his own domain
and his own people did not accept him.
But to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God,
to all who believe in the name of him
who was born not out of human stock
or urge of the flesh
or will of man
but of God himself.
The Word was made flesh,
he lived among us,
and we saw his glory,
the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father,
full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of Our Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

Sermon (Sit)

Creed (Stand)

We believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day 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 adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

We confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins
And we look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Intercessions (Sit)

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Peace

Priest: Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And with your spirit.**

Let us offer one another a sign of that peace.

Offertory Hymn: The Holly and the Ivy

Offertory Prayers

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made; it will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands; it will become for us our spiritual drink.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. You called us into being and have now gathered us together. Renew us by your Holy Spirit that we may live to your glory and come to share the life of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

Let us pray my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands,
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good and the good of all his Church.**

Prayer over the Gifts

May the Holy Spirit, O Lord,
sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar,
just as he filled with his power the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Lord be with you, **and with your spirit.**
Lift up your hearts, **we lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right and just.....** *The Eucharist prayer continues*

Father, all-powerful and ever living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Today you fill our hearts with joy
as we recognise in Christ the revelation of your love.
No eye can see His glory as our God,
yet now He is seen as one like us.
Christ is your Son before all ages,
yet now He is born in time.
He has come to lift up all things to himself,
to restore unity to creation,
and to lead mankind from exile into your
heavenly kingdom.

With all the angels of heaven
we sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and God of might,
heaven and earth, heaven and earth are full of your glory
your power and might
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heaven.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heaven.**

**Blessed, blessed is he who comes
Blessed, blessed is he who comes
Blessed is he, blessed is he,
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heaven.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heaven.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
Who in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying.
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying.
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.
Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of all,
rejoicing at his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate the memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the holy spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Holy Mary mother of God, St Michael and
all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Communion

Our Father

Let us pray with confidence to the Father
in the words our Saviour gave us:

**Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom, the power,
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread:

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

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

Preparation for Communion:

All: **With this bread...**

Priest: 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.

People: **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my
roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

All: **With this wine...**

Communion Antiphon

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

We now come forward to receive Communion or a blessing

Communion Hymns: In the bleak mid-winter
: The Virgin Mary had a baby boy

Prayer after Communion

Grant, O merciful God,
that, just as the Saviour of the world, born this day,
is the author of divine generation for us,
so he may be the giver even of immortality.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen**

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

The Blessing & Dismissal

Priest: The Lord be with you.
People: **And with your spirit.**

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

When he came to us as man,
the Son of God scattered the darkness of this world,
and filled this holy day with his glory.
May the God of infinite goodness
scatter the darkness of sin
and brighten your hearts with holiness. **Amen.**

God sent his angels to shepherds
to herald the great joy of our Saviour's birth.
May he fill you with joy
and make you heralds of his gospel. **Amen.**

When the Word became man,
earth was joined to heaven.
May he give you his peace and good will,
and fellowship with all the heavenly host. **Amen.**

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Final Hymn: O come all you faithful

The Angelus

Fr Ian and Carol - would like to wish you a very happy and holy Christmas. In place of individual Christmas cards donations have been made to Crisis a homeless charity and. Please see card at the back of church.

Thank You for all your kindness - Fr Ian & Carol sincerely thank you all for the cards, presents and good wishes received from so many this Christmas tide. We cannot begin to express our gratitude for the care you show us we are both humbled and grateful. Thank you and God bless you and those you love.

*Merry
Christmas*

