



**St Francis of Assisi, Parkview**  
Diocese of Johannesburg  
Anglican Church of Southern Africa



**25 DECEMBER 2020**

## **THE CHRIST MASS**

Oh Christ, light of the world,  
born into human pain and joy:  
let our celebration of your birth make us  
bold witnesses of your love;  
to the glory of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen



## FRIDAY 25 DECEMBER

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### READINGS FOR TODAY

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalm 98

Hebrews 1:1-4

John 1:1-14

### THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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#### PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH

Pray for **the Peace of Jerusalem** and **the People of Bethlehem**. We pray for **Steve our Bishop** and our Diocese, for **Thabo our Metropolitan** and the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, for **Justin of Canterbury**, the Anglican Communion, and all Christians in the world.

#### PRAYER FOR THE WORLD

Loving God, we remember that Jesus came to us as a helpless child at this season. We pray that our families may be united in love as we rejoice together and our hearts overflow with concern for all who are helpless, lonely and without shelter or food. We pray especially for the children for whom Christmas does not mean happiness and generosity, but just a continuation of hard times.

#### WE PRAY FOR ALL WHO ARE TRAVELLING OVER THE HOLIDAY PERIOD

Over the holiday period our roads of this are far too often places of carnage, death and suffering. Protect all who travel, and may they arrive alive and safely at their destinations. And in this time of Covid we pray that people who travel will be responsible and observe all Covid protocols so that they are not transmitters of the virus.

**The Christmas flowers are in loving memory of Adeline Wigmore and Jocelyn Bell.**

### SOME NOTICES

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#### SERVICE SCHEDULE

**December 27** 8:30 am

**January 3** 8:30 am

**January 10** 8:30 am

All Services in December and January will be at 8:30 am in person and on YouTube.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCt35PbtR\\_ZhmeLxXjQ3EIBg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCt35PbtR_ZhmeLxXjQ3EIBg)

#### MOVEMENTS

Paul will be on leave December 29 to January 7

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL CLOSE ON DECEMBER 23 AND OPEN ON JANUARY 6**

#### THE CLERGY

<b>Rev'd Paul Germond, Rector</b>	072 397 2284	paulgermond@gmail.com
<b>Rev'd Canon Cynthia Botha</b>	083 425 4833	cynthialbotha@gmail.com
<b>Rev'd Diana Lawrenson</b>	072 258 5537	diana.lawrenson@gmail.com
<b>Fabian Oliver- Youth Pastor</b>	079 760 8443	fabszashwin@gmail.com

#### PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

<b>Laurel Wozhele Muparadzi</b>	071 195 4150	stfrancis@stfrancisparkview.co.za
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#### BANK DETAILS:

Bank:	Standard Bank	Account number:	000496502
Account name:	Parkview St Francis	Branch:	000205

## HYMNS

### Introit

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.*

God of God,  
Light of light  
Lo! He abhors not the virgin's womb  
Very God, begotten, not created  
*Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born this happy morning  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n.  
Son of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing;  
*Refrain*

### At the Peace

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

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

"To you, in David's town this day,  
Is born of David's line  
The Saviour who is Christ the Lord,  
And this shall be the sign

"All glory be to God on high  
And on the earth be peace.  
Goodwill henceforth from heav'n to men  
Begin and never cease."

### Recessional

Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise  
Join the triumph of the skies  
With the angelic host proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!  
*Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King!*

Christ, by highest heaven adored  
Christ, the everlasting Lord  
Late in time behold him come  
Offspring of the Virgin's womb

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see  
Hail the incarnate Deity  
Pleased as man with man to dwell  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
*Refrain*

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
*Refrain*

## Christmas Greetings

On behalf of the Clergy, the Church Wardens, the Parish Council and the whole family of St Francis of Assisi, Parkview, we wish you a very blessed and joyful Christmas and New Year.

We share two poems give us different viewpoints on the birth of Jesus

### **Child of Peace, where will we find you?**

proclaimed in hopeful visions  
promised in unlikely friendships  
hidden in forgotten spaces  
discovered in mysterious encounters  
born in humble places  
treasured by eager hearts  
revealed to wisdom seekers  
amen

### **sometimes I wonder**

Kaitlin Hardy Shetler

sometimes I wonder  
if Mary breastfed Jesus.  
if she cried out when he bit her  
or if she sobbed when he would not latch.  
but then I think of feeding Jesus,  
birthing Jesus,  
the expulsion of blood  
and smell of sweat,  
the salt of a mother's tears  
onto the soft head of the Salt of the Earth,  
feeling lonely  
and tired  
hungry  
annoyed  
overwhelmed  
loving  
because the real scandal of the Birth of God  
lies in the cracked nipples of a  
14 year old