

## Blessing

*Priest* God sent his angels  
to bring to shepherds  
good news of the Saviour's birth.

*All* **Amen!**

You have seen his glory  
the glory of the Father's only Son.

*All* **Amen!**

There was a star to bring hope  
to the wise men.  
May this hope fill you with joy  
and send you out  
to bring this good news to others.

*All* **Amen!**

The blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be with you and remain with you  
this Christmas and for ever,

*All* **Amen.**

## Organ Voluntary

Duet on 'Ding-dong merrily on high'.

*played by Matthew Haynes and Mike Rule*

Mack Wilberg

*A service of Holy Communion follows at 11.45 am  
in the Lady Chapel*

*Please take this service sheet home  
and use the prayer below as a grace before Christmas dinner:*

**Lord Jesus Christ, light of the world,  
May your radiance shine in our hearts,  
in our homes,  
and upon all in need this Christmas.**



Welcome to  
Church of Saint James the Greater  
Leicester



# Christmas Morning 2016

*Stand as the choir enters, and turn to face the back of the church*

**Welcome** by Revd David H Clark, Assistant Priest

*Priest* I bring you good news of great joy:  
a Saviour has been born to you. Alleluia!

*All* **Unto us a child is born, a son is given. Alleluia!**

Carol 35 **Hark! the herald angels sing ...**

*during which children gather around the wreath and the congregation sits*

*Sing* **The holly and the ivy  
are dancing in a ring,  
round the berry-bright red candles,  
and the bright and shining king.**

*A child lights the white central candle*

*Sing* **And Christ is in the centre,  
for this is his birthday,  
with the shining lights of Christmas,  
singing: 'He has come today'.**

*Priest* Joy to the world  
*All* **the Lord has come!**

*children return to their seats, and all sit*



Choir **On this day**

Hylton-Stewart

**Angels announce the birth - Luke 2. 8 - 15**  
read by Lizzie Stapleton

On this day earth shall ring with the song children sing  
To the Son, Christ the King.  
Born on earth to save us, him the Father gave us,  
*Ideo, Ideo, Ideo. Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

His the doom, ours the mirth, when he comes down to earth.  
Bethlehem saw His birth,  
Ox and ass beside Him, from the cold wind hide Him. *Ideo, Ideo ...*

God's bright star, o'er his head, wise men three to Him led,  
Kneel they low by his bed,  
Lay their gifts beside Him, praise Him and adore Him. *Ideo, Ideo ...*

On this day Angels sing, with their song earth shall ring,  
Praising Christ, heaven's King.  
Born on earth to save us, peace and love He gave us. *Ideo, Ideo ...*

## The First Christmas

**The Birth of Jesus - Luke 2. 1 - 7**  
read by Jo Stapleton, St James Sunday Club

*Remain sitting*

*All* Away in a manger, no crib for a bed  
The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head,  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep in on the hay.

*Children* The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes  
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes,  
I love thee Lord Jesus, look down from the sky  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

*All* Be near me Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay  
Close by me for ever and love me, I pray,  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care  
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

*Stand* Carol 37 **While shepherds watched ...**

## The story of Baboushka

*Stand* Carol 51 **As with gladness men of old ...** omitting verse 4

*Kneel or sit for*

Prayers led by Vicky Roe, Pastoral Assistant

*Each petition ends with*

*Lord Jesus,*  
***be with us all.***

*Priest* Rejoicing in God's presence  
here among us,  
in faith and trust we pray:

*All* **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.**

*Stand* Carol 34 **O come, all ye Faithful ...**

*During which a collection is taken – please give generously*