



THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTERBURY

St Nicholas Family Service



4th December 2022

5.30pm

Nave

Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service

St Nicholas

In the fourth century, Nicholas was Bishop of Myra in modern-day Turkey. He was a very kind man and had a reputation for helping the poor and giving secret gifts to people in need.

There are many legends about Nicholas, the most famous one you will hear in this service. Because of his kindness and goodness Nicholas was eventually made a saint.

The music before and after the service is played by
The Training Band of the 1st Whitstable Scout Group

The Childrens' Choir is made up of singers from the following schools:

Wickhambreaux Primary School
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy
St Nicholas-at-Wade CE Primary School
Kent College
Chilham, St Mary's CE Primary School
St Peter's Methodist Primary School
Herne Junior School
Ashford St Mary's
Ramsgate Holy Trinity CE Primary School
FESI Choir
St Edmund's School, Canterbury
Bridge and Patricbourne Primary School



Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off. No form of visual or sound recording, or any form of photography, is permitted during Services. Thank you for your co-operation.



An induction loop system for the hard of hearing is installed in the Cathedral. Hearing aid users should adjust their aid to T.



Large print orders of service are available from the stewards and virgers. Please ask.

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Produced by the Music & Liturgy Department:
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ORDER OF SERVICE

The Wickhambreaux Brass Ensemble greet the procession with a fanfare, please stand

Welcome The Vice Dean

Almighty Father, who chose your servant Nicholas to be a bishop in the Church, that he might give freely out of the treasures of your grace: make us mindful of the needs of others and, as we have received, so teach us also to give; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please sit while the Children's Choir sings

Song

Sing we all upon this day, for St Nicholas will come we pray.

Lustig, lustig, tralavalera, bald is Niklaus abend a!

He will come just wait and see, bringing gifts for you and me.

Lustig, lustig, tralavalera, bald is Niklaus abend a!

Gifts he brings for everyone, girls and boys will have such fun.

Lustig, lustig, tralavalera, bald is Niklaus abend a!

So we sing our song today, for St Nicholas is on his way.

Lustig, lustig, tralavalera, bald is Niklaus abend a!

Words and music: German Folk Carol

Please remain seated

Reading *Deuteronomy 15.7-11*

If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted towards your needy neighbour. You should rather be kind, willingly giving enough to meet the need, whatever it may be.

Do not have a mean thought and give nothing. Give generously and be ungrudging when you do so, so the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you do. Since there will never stop being some people in need on the earth, I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbour in your land.'

This is the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

We stand to sing

Carol

During this Carol the Vice Dean moves to the Great West Door to welcome St Nicholas, please turn West to face the Vice Dean as he passes.

The holly and the ivy,
When they are both full grown,
Of all the trees that are in the wood,
The holly bears the crown:

³The holly bears a prickle
As sharp as any thorn;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
On Christmas Day in the morn.

*O the rising of the sun
And the running of the deer;
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing of the choir.*

⁴The holly and the ivy,
When they are both full grown,
Of all the trees that are in the wood,
The holly bears the crown:

²The holly bears a blossom
As white as lily flower;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To be our sweet Saviour:

Words and music: traditional English carol

When St Nicholas enters, Wickhambreaux Brass greet him with a fanfare

A Song for St Nicholas

During this song St Nicholas is led up to the altar, greeting people as he passes

*Sung by the Children's
Choir only*

*Let us sing the song of Nicholas,
The saint we celebrate;
We are happy to remember him,
His legends they are great;
He delivers joy and happiness
To girls and boys who wait:
St Nicholas we cheer!
Glory, glory, hallelujah (repeat x3)
St Nicholas we cheer!*

All join in!

²As he saved the girls from poverty,
The sailors sailed free;
And the soldiers all were innocent –
His miracles we see;
Those three bags of gold he carries
Show his generosity:
St Nicholas we cheer! (*Chorus*)

³Let us follow his example
As for Christmas we prepare;
Soon in Bethlehem we'll see the baby
In his Mother's care;
Soon the greatest gift of all will come
To children everywhere:
St Nicholas we cheer! (*Chorus*)

Words: Jim Rosenthal and others

Please be seated

The Story of St Nicholas The Vice Dean

Carol The Girls of the Cathedral Choir

Have you heard the sound
of the angel voices,
ringing out so sweetly,
ringing out so clear?
Have you seen the star
shining out so brightly,
as a sign from God
that Christ the Lord is here?
Have you heard the news
that they bring from heaven
to the humble shepherds
who have waited long?
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the angels sing
their joyful song.

He is come in peace
in the winter's stillness,
like a gentle snowfall
in the gentle night.
He is come in joy,
like the sun at morning,
filling all the world
with radiance and with light.
He is come in love
as the child of Mary.
In a simple stable
we have seen his birth.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the angels singing:
'Peace on earth'.

He will bring new light
to a world in darkness,
like a bright star shining
in the skies above.
He will bring new hope
to the waiting nations,
When he comes to reign
in purity and love.
Let the earth rejoice
at the Saviour's coming.
Let the heavens answer
with the joyful morn:
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the angels singing
Christ is born.

Words and Music: John Rutter (b 1945)

Prayers

Led by children from the Cathedral's Sunday Club, using this response

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The prayers end with all saying

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Please remain seated as the Children's Choir sings

Song

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:

*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis gloria,
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis gloria.*

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant light:

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:

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854)

Music: Rod Spencer

Please stand to sing

Carol

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

²O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary;
And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-93)

³How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

⁴O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray:
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

Tune: FOREST GREEN

Blessing

*There is a retiring collection for **The Children's Society**, a national charity which works to support the country's most vulnerable children and young people. Please give generously.*

Children at Canterbury Cathedral

Family Crib Service

*A short service for children and all the family telling the Christmas story
with carols and a journey to the Christmas Crib*

Saturday 24th December 11.00am

Sunday Club

In the Cathedral every Sunday in term time at 11.00am for children from birth to
12 years
with a host of fun activities

Join our Cathedral Choir

If you know a child who enjoys singing, please email

music@canterbury-cathedral.org

to learn more about becoming a chorister here. Enquiries are warmly welcomed
at any time, and it is possible to meet children and their parents for a
conversation, and for informal pre-auditions. More information about the
Cathedral's musicians can be found at

<https://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/worship/music/>

David Newsholme
Director of Music