

Denham Church Christmas Appeal



There will be a retiring collection which will be divided equally between **Trinity/SHOC** and **TEARFUND**. More information can be found on our notice board at the back of church. You can also give ONLINE by scanning the QR code. All gifts given between 18 and 25 December will be for the Christmas Appeal.



Trinity and SHOC

Trinity provides housing for homeless people in and around Uxbridge and helps homeless people in Slough through its partner SHOC (Slough Homeless Our Concern)



Tearfund

Tearfund and its local church partners are on the ground now in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda to tackle the East Africa hunger crisis. More than 36 million people have been affected by the worst droughts East Africa has seen in forty years. Local conflict, combined with skyrocketing food prices, is making the situation even worse and children are especially vulnerable.

Christmas Services at St Mary's Church

Christmas Day 9.00 am Christmas Day Holy Communion. ST MARY'S
10.30 am Family Service. ST MARY'S & YOUTUBE
A short service for all ages, celebrating Jesus' birth
Find all our online services at www.youtube.com/DenhamParishChurch

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FROM REFUGEE TO REVEREND

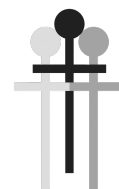
Azita's Story



Mon 16 Jan 2023, 7.30pm
St Mary's Church, Denham
UB9 5BH
FREE ENTRY

Find out more and sign up:
www.denhamparish.church/azita

Christmas Eve Holy Communion



St Mary's Church Denham
24th December 2022, 11 pm

Welcome
Christoph Lindner

Carol

1

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.

2

O morning stars together,
proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
and peace upon the earth!
For Christ is born of Mary,
and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

3

How 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.

4

O 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!

Welcome all wonders in one sight! Eternity shut in a span. Summer in winter, day in night, heaven in earth and God in man. Great little one whose all-embracing birth brings earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.

Prayer of Preparation
Ian Jennings

All **Almighty God,**
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

2



**Explore life • faith • meaning
in Denham this year**

Starts in January. Find out more:
www.denhamparish.church/alpha



**All 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.**

Carol

1	2
Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King; let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.	Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns; let us our songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3
He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, and wonders of his love.

The Blessing

May the Father, who has loved the eternal Son from before the foundation of the world, shed that love upon you his children. May Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with joy and peace. May the Holy Spirit, by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer, give you grace to carry the good news of Christ. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.

All Glory, thanks and praise to God.

Prayers of Penitence

Christ the light of the world has come
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

God our Father,
you sent your Son full of grace and truth:
forgive our failure to receive him.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Jesus our Saviour,
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Spirit of love,
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:
forgive the hardness of our hearts.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself,
that you may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh,
and be cleansed from all your sins, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

**All Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.Amen.**

The Collect

Eternal God, who made this most holy night
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:
bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth,
to see the radiance of your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 9.2-7 (NRSV)

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Carol

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold
Peace on the earth good will to all from heaven's all gracious King
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing

Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long
Beneath the angel strain have rolled two thousand years of wrong
And warring humankind hears not the love song which they bring
O hush the noise of mortal strife and hear the angels sing

And ye beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow
Look now for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing
O rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

All **God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Giving of Communion

Please follow the directions of our sidesteam and return to your seat through the middle aisle.

We take communion in both bread and wine. Please feel under no compulsion to receive the wine, though.

If you'd like to receive a blessing, please keep your hands at your sides as you come forward.

If you'd like to receive Holy Communion seated in the pew, please let a member of our sidesteam know.

Prayer after Communion

God our Father,
in this night you have made known to us again the coming of our Lord
Jesus Christ: confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.
To him be glory both now and for ever..

All **Amen.**

Therefore, with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name for every praising you and saying:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Kneel or sit.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **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 the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this 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 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.

All **Amen.**

For lo the days are hastening on by prophet bards foretold
When with the ever circling years comes round the age of gold
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendours fling
And all the world give back the song which now the angels sing

Gospel Reading: John 1.1-14 (NRSV)

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ 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.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Azita Jabbari

The Creed

All **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; >>>**

through him all things were made.
 For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
 and was made man.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.
 On the third day he rose again
 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 worshipped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come.
 Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Merciful Father,
All accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

This holy night the angels sang,
 'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
 and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.'

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All and also with you.

On Christmas night all Christians sing,
 to hear the news the angels bring,
 on Christmas night all Christians sing,
 to hear the news the angels bring,
 news of great joy, news of great mirth,
 news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should we on earth be so sad,
 since our Redeemer made us glad,
 then why should we on earth be so sad,
 since our Redeemer made us glad,
 when from our sin he set us free,
 all for to gain our liberty?

All out of darkness we have light,
 which made the angels sing this night:
 all out of darkness we have light,
 which made the angels sing this night:
 'Glory to God and peace to men,
 now and for evermore. Amen.'

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.
All His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All It is right to give thanks and praise.
 All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living
 God. We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who
 for love of our fallen race humbled himself, and was born of the Virgin Mary by
 the power of your Spirit, and lived as one of us. In this mystery of the Word
 made flesh you have caused his light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of
 your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In him we see our God made visible and
 so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.