

The Haverfordwest Local Ministry Area
Christmas Day: Sunday 25th December 2016

COLLECT

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit: through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING (Isaiah 9. 2-7)

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. 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. 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.

For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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. 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 onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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

PSALM (Psalm 96)

Sing to the Lord a / new / song :
sing to the / Lord / all the / earth.

Sing to the Lord and / bless his / name :
tell out his sal/vation from / day to / day.

Declare his glory a/mong the / nations :
and his / wonders a/mong all / peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly / to be / praised :
he is more to be / feared than / all / gods.

For all the gods of the nations / are but / idols :
it is the / Lord who / made the / heavens.

Honour and majesty / are be/fore him :
power and / splendour are / in his / sanctuary.

Ascribe to the Lord, you families / of the / peoples :
ascribe to the / Lord / honour and / strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour / due to his / name :
bring offerings and / come in/to his / courts.

O worship the Lord in the / beauty of / holiness :
let the / whole earth / tremble be/fore him.

Tell it out among the nations that the / Lord is / king :
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will / judge the / peoples with / equity.

Let the heavens rejoice and let the / earth be / glad :
let the sea / thunder and / all • that is / in it;

Let the fields be joyful and / all • that is / in them :
let all the trees of the wood shout for / joy be/fore the / Lord.

For he comes, he comes to / judge the / earth :
with righteousness he will judge the world
and the / peoples / with his / truth.

SECOND READING (Titus 2. 11-14)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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

GOSPEL (Luke 2. 1-14)

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

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Receiving Communion

Anyone who is baptised in the Name of the Trinity is welcome to receive Communion in this church. When you come to receive, hold out your hands and you will be given bread and wine. If you would like a blessing instead, please indicate by holding your service book in your hands. Children under 5 can receive the bread. Over 5's may receive either bread and wine or the bread alone as parents decide. If you are not yet baptised, please speak to us. We would love to welcome you into the family of the Church.

Notices

Wednesday 28th December

10:00am Mass followed by coffee at St Martins

Friday 30th December

11:00am Holy Eucharist followed by tea and toast at St Marys

Services on Sunday 1st January

The Naming of Jesus

9:30am Sung Parish Mass at St Martin's, Haverfordwest

10:15am Christmas Carol Service at St Ishmael's, Camrose

11:15am Sung Parish Eucharist at St Mary's, Haverfordwest

5.00pm New Year's Day Service at St Martin's, Haverfordwest

Parish Clergy

Vicar: Fr Nick Cale, St Martin's Vicarage, Barn Street, Haverfordwest. Tel. 01437 762303.
Email: nickthevic@parishofhaverfordwest.co.uk (Day of rest: Tuesday)

Assistant Curate: Fr Alun Evans, St Thomas House, Scarrowscant Lane, Haverfordwest.
Tel: 01437 769303. Email: rev.alun@outlook.com (Day of rest: Monday)

Assistant Curate: Rev. Heather Cale, St Martin's Vicarage, Barn Street, Haverfordwest.
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Haverfordwest Local Ministry Area

Children and Youth Project Worker: Mr Jeremy Stone.
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St Davids Centre of Mission, Merlins Bridge

Lead Evangelist: Sister Val Legg CA
Tel: 01437 763976. Email: valdlegg@yahoo.co.uk

Haverfordwest Parish Website: www.parishofhaverfordwest.co.uk

Haverfordwest Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/parishofhaverfordwest

Camrose Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/CamroseParishChurch