**St Joseph’s Carol Service**

Thursday 15th December 2022

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**Once in Royal David’s City**

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| **1st Verse solo, unaccompanied** | Once in royal David’s city,  Stood a lowly cattle shed,  Where a Mother laid her baby,  In a manger for His bed,  Mary was that Mother mild,  Jesus Christ her little child |
| **Please stand and sing if you  are able** | He came down to earth from heaven  Who is God and Lord of all  And his shelter was a stable  And his cradle was a stall  With the poor and meek and lowly,  Lived on earth our Saviour Holy.  And, through all His wondrous childhood,  He would honour and obey,  Love, and watch the lowly Maiden,  In whose gentle arms he lay  Christian children all must be  Mild, obedient, good as He.  And our eyes at last shall see him,  Through His own redeeming love,  For that child so dear and gentle,  Is our lord in heav’n above.  And He leads His children on  To the place where He is gone.  Not in that poor lowly stable,  With the oxen standing by,  We shall see Him, but In heaven,  Set at God’s right hand on high;  When like stars His children crown’d  All in white shall wait around. |

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| **Introduction** | Head Pupils |
| **Opening Prayer** | Father Joseph Columba |
| **First Reading – Isiah 9:2** | A Ransome |

**Away in a Manger**

***Please stand and sing if you are able***

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,

The little lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,

The little lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,

But little lord Jesus no crying he makes.

I love you lord Jesus; look down from the sky,

And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me lord Jesus I ask you to stay

Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.

Bless all the dear children in your tender care,

And fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

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| **Music Piece** | H Smith |
| **Second Reading –  Luke 1:26–38** | I Watson & N Neville |
| **Prayer** | C Gilbertson |

**O Little Town of Bethlehem**

***Please stand and sing if you are able***

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.

For Christ is born of Mary,

And, gathered all above

While mortals sleep, the angels keep

Their watch of wond'ring love.

O morning stars, together

Proclaim the holy birth,

And praises sing to God the King,

And peace to men on earth.

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.

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| **Music Piece** | B James & A Ransome |
| **Third Reading –  Luke 2:8–20** | B James & M Morrisey-Leggett |
| **Prayer** | C Gilbertson |

**Silent Night**

***Please stand and sing if you are able***

Silent night! Holy night!

All is calm, all is bright,

Round yon virgin mother and Child!

Holy infant so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace,

Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!

Shepherds quake at the sight!

Glories stream from Heaven afar,

Heavenly host sing Alleluia;

Christ the Saviour is born,

Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent Night! Holy night!

Son of God, love’s pure light;

Radiance beams from Thy holy face,

With the dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,

Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

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| **Final Advent Poem** | Read by Mr R. Rooney, Assistant Headteacher |
| **Music Piece** | Performed by Mr D. Inglis & Year 8 Pupils |
| **Final Reading – John 1:1-19** | Mr A. Bazen, Deputy Headteacher |

**Oh, Come All Ye Faithful**

***Please stand and sing if you are able***

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:

*Chorus*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!

Glory to God, glory in the highest:

*Chorus*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;

Jesus, to thee be glory given!

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

*Chorus*

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| **Prayer and Blessing** | Father Joseph Columba |

**Goodnight and blessed Advent on behalf of Mrs R Ridley, Headteacher and from Mr Bazen, Deputy Headteacher**

**With special thanks for all those staff and pupils involved**

**Please join us for Mulled Wine and Mince Pies following the Service kindly provided for us by the Friends of St Joseph**

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Artwork designed by B James