

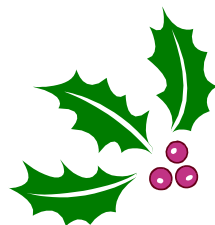
Nativity Live!

A Christmas Eve procession
with animals, drama and music



on Christmas Eve
at 4.00pm
starting from the Fox and Hounds

For your own and others' safety, please follow the
instructions of the marshals at all times



Welcome - Rev. David Jenkins

We begin our journey with Mary and Joseph at
the Fox and Hounds on Gosbrook Road

O come all ye faithful

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;
O come let us adore him.....

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, In the highest;
O come let us adore him.....



We meet Mary and Joseph, looking for somewhere to stay.
At the Fox and Hounds we are told: "there is no room in the inn."

See him lying on a bed of straw

1. See him lying on a bed of straw:
a draughty stable with an open door;
Mary cradling the babe she bore -
the Prince of glory is his name.

*Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem
to see the Lord of love again:
just as poor as was the stable then,
the Prince of glory when he came.*

2. Star of silver, sweep across the skies,
show where Jesus in the manger lies;
shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise
to see the Saviour of the world!

Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem...

3. Mine are riches, from your poverty,
from your innocence, eternity;
mine, forgiveness by your death for me,
child of sorrow for my joy.

Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem...



We travel along Gosbrook Road and cross the road
to Westfield Road park.
Here we meet shepherds who are watching over their flocks

Once in royal David's city

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.

4. 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 crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Hark! the herald angels sing

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th' angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born King!"*



2. Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail th' incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hark! the herald angels sing.....

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.

Hark! the herald angels sing.....

While shepherds watched their flocks by night

1. While shepherds watched
their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
an angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.
2. "Fear not" said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind
"glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind.
3. "To you, in David's town, this day
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign.
4. "The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swaddling bands
and in a manger laid."
5. "All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
goodwill henceforth from heaven to earth
begin and never cease."

We leave Westfield Road park by the footpath and stop in South View Avenue, by the Church of Our Lady and St Anne

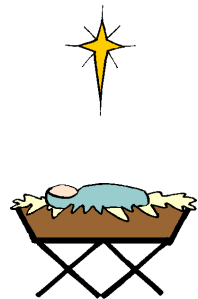
It was on a starry night

It was on a starry night when the hills were bright,
earth lay sleeping, sleeping calm and still;
then in a cattle shed, in a manger bed
a boy was born, King of all the world.

*And all the angels sang for him,
the bells of heaven rang for him;
for a boy was born, King of all the world.*

Soon the shepherds came that way, where the baby lay,
and were kneeling, kneeling by his side.
And their hearts believed once more, for the peace of all;
for a boy was born, King of all the world.

And all the angels sang for him.....



We continue along the left-hand side of South View Avenue,
before turning right into St John's Road

O little town of Bethlehem



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 to all 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 given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
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 Immanuel!



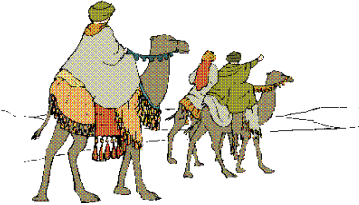
At St John's Church we meet the wise men, who have been studying the stars for years. They have seen the star that points to the birth of a new King

We three kings of Orient are



We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

*O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.*



Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
sounds through the earth and skies.

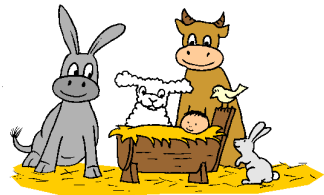
O star of wonder, star of light

The company journeys on, turning right into Gosbrook Road, and arrives at Gosbrook Road Methodist Church, where everyone will assemble to welcome the baby Jesus and celebrate his birth

Away in a manger

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 the hay.

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.



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.

Come and join the celebration

*Come and join the celebration,
it's a very special day;
Come and sing with jubilation,
There's a new King born today!*



See the shepherds hurry down to Bethlehem;
gaze in wonder at the Son of God who lay before them.
Come and join the celebration...

Wise men journey, led to worship by a star;
kneel in homage,
bringing precious gifts from lands afar, so
Come and join the celebration...

“God is with us,” round the world the message bring;
He is with us, ‘Welcome’ all the bells on earth are pealing.
Come and join the celebration...”

Please stay and share refreshments with us
before you go home

*Thank you for your donations
for the work of CCA
(Christian Community Action,
www.ccam.org.uk),
a local Reading charity which provides
practical help and support to people in
need.*

Come and welcome the Christ Child
this Christmas Day

St. John's Church
9.30am - All Age Communion

Caversham Baptist Church
10.30 am - Christmas Day service

Caversham Heights Methodist
Church,
Woodcote Road/Highmoor Road
10.30 am - Christmas Day service



Many thanks to:
Julie, George and Daisy;
Pete from "Basil and Crew" – Mobile Farm,
and everyone who worked so hard to make this event happen