

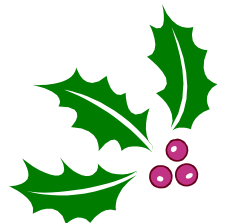
# Nativity Live!

A Christmas Eve procession  
with animals, drama and music



on Christmas Eve  
at 3.30pm  
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 follow the holy family and the donkeys across Gosbrook 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.

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.

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.

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 follow the holy family, donkeys, angels and shepherds through the alleyway to South View Avenue and past the Church of Our Lady and St Anne.

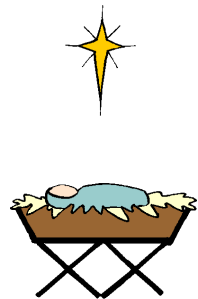
## It was on a starry night

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 right hand side of South View Avenue,  
before turning right into Ardler 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!



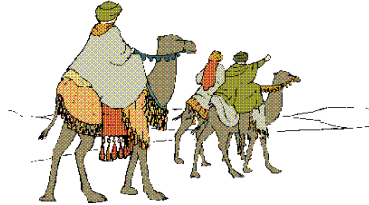
At Gosbrook Road Methodist Church we meet the wise men, who have been studying the stars for years. They have seen the star that points to the birth of a new King

## 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*

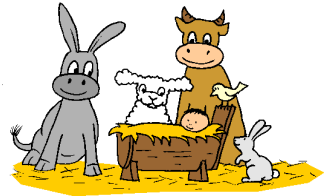
We follow the company onwards, turning left into Gosbrook Road  
(please keep on the pavement), and on to St John's Church, where  
we assemble and celebrate the birth of Jesus.

## 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 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