



**MERCHANT  
TAYLORS'  
SCHOOLS**

The retiring collection will be given to

***Alder Hey  
Children's Hospital***

**MERCHANT TAYLORS' GIRLS' SCHOOL**

**CAROL SERVICE**

in

**St. Nicholas' Church  
Blundellsands**

*By kind permission of the Rev. C. Thornborough*



**MERCHANT  
TAYLORS'  
SCHOOLS**

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009  
2.30pm

*There are no announcements. Please stand for the school hymns and carols,  
and sit for the choir items.*

*ALL STAND AS THE ORGAN PLAYS THE OPENING CAROL-*

**SCHOOL CAROL - O Little Town of Bethlehem**

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 to-night

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.

O holy child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
Be born in us to-day.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell:  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel.

*REMAIN STANDING FOR:*

**VICAR: THE BIDDING PRAYER**

**ALL SAY: THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,

*ALL STAND FOR:*

**SCHOOL CAROL - 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:

See how the shepherds,  
Summoned to His cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
We too will thither  
Bend our joyful footsteps

Lo, star-led chieftains,  
Magi, Christ adoring,  
Offer Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
We to the Christ-child  
Bring our hearts' oblations;

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God  
In the highest;

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

*All remain standing until clergy depart, then sit in silence  
until directed out in forms*

Still through the cloven skies they come,  
With peaceful wings unfurled;  
And still their heavenly music floats  
O'er all the weary world;  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hov'ring wing;  
And ever o'er its Babel sounds  
The blessed 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 man, at war with man, hears not  
The love-song which they bring:  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,  
And hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are has-t'ning 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 the whole world give back the song  
Which now the angels sing.

*ALL REMAIN STANDING FOR*

**THE SEVENTH READING - John 1 vv 1-14**  
**The Christmas Gospel      The Headmistress - Mrs L Robinson**

**Soprano soloists in the choir items      Katharine Foster, Alexandra Schofield**

*ALL SIT*

**VICAR 'Let us pray.....'**

**PRAYERS**  
**THE BLESSING**

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.

*ALL SIT*

**THE FIRST READING - Luke 1 vv 26 - 33**  
**The birth of Jesus is announced      The Head Girl - Alexandra Schofield**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL CHAMBER CHOIR**  
**The First Noel/Pachelbel's Canon      arr Clawson**

**THE SECOND READING - Luke 2 vv 1 - 7**  
**The birth of Jesus      Lauren Jackson - Year 10**

**SENIOR CHAMBER CHOIR**  
**How Far is it to Bethlehem?      arr. Willcocks**

**SCHOOL CAROL - Once in Royal David City**  
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.

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 mean, 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.

continued.....

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.

#### THE THIRD READING

**Holidays in the Forest by Carol Ann Garretson**

**Georgina Daniels, Emily Hulme,  
Johanna Lam, Lydia Seed - Year 7**

#### SENIOR CHAMBER CHOIR

**Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day**

**arr. Rutter**

#### THE FOURTH READING

**“Gifts Galore”**

**Clare Routledge - Year 8  
Jennifer O’Donovan - Year 9**

#### SCHOOL CAROL - Shepherd’s Pipe Carol

Verse (Choir) Going through the hills on a night all starry  
On the way to Bethlehem  
Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping  
On the way to Bethlehem.

Chorus (School) *Angels in the sky brought this message nigh;  
‘Dance and sing for joy that Christ the new born King is  
Come to bring us peace on earth, and he’s lying  
Cradled there at Bethlehem.’*

Verse (Choir) ‘Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily,  
On the way to Bethlehem,  
Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely  
On the way to Bethlehem?’

Chorus (School) *Angels in the sky brought this message nigh;*

Verse and chorus – Choir

‘None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely  
On the way to Bethlehem;  
But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies  
When I get to Bethlehem.’  
Angels in the sky came down from on high,  
Hovered o’er the manger where the babe was lying  
Cradled in the arms of his mother Mary  
Sleeping now at Bethlehem.

Verse and chorus – Choir and School

‘Where is this new King, shepherd boy piping merrily,  
Is he there at Bethlehem?’  
‘I will find him soon by the star shining brightly  
In the sky o’er Bethlehem.’  
*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh;  
‘Dance and sing for joy that Christ the new born King is  
Come to bring us peace on earth, and he’s lying  
Cradled there at Bethlehem.’*

Verse (Choir) ‘May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily,  
Come with you to Bethlehem?  
Pay my homage too at the new King’s cradle,  
Is it far to Bethlehem?’

Chorus (School) *Angels in the sky brought this message nigh;  
‘Dance and sing for joy that Christ the infant King is  
Born this night in lowly stable yonder,  
Born for you at Beth-le-hem.’*

#### THE FIFTH READING

**The Little Match Girl**

**Georgia McLachlan - Year 11**

#### SENIOR CHAMBER CHOIR

**Gloria in Excelsis Deo**

**Vivaldi**

#### THE SIXTH READING

**Christmas by John Betjamen**

**Mr Leo Coligan - Chair of Governors**

#### SCHOOL CAROL - It came upon a Midnight Clear

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, goodwill to men,  
From heaven’s all-gracious King!’  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

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