



Welcome to the Parish Church of St Stephen Christmas Day 2017



10.30am Sung Mass with Sermon and Procession

Hymns: 24 (omit*) and 25: 36: 31: 26 (omit*)

At the beginning of the procession

✠ Let us proceed in peace. ✠ **In the Name of Christ, Amen.**

Prayer at the Crib: Let us pray:

O God the Son, highest and holiest, who humbled yourself to share our birth and our death; bring us with the shepherds to kneel at your holy cradle, that we may come to sing with your angels your glorious praises in heaven; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, God, world without end. **Amen.**

At the end of the procession

✠ The Word was made flesh ✠ **and dwelt among us.**

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your only Son, Jesus Christ; grant that as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come to be our judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

663 Christmas Day

Introit Unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his Name shall be callèd, Angel of mighty Council.

Psalm O sing unto the Lord a new song: for he hath done marvellous things. Glory be to the Father...

Gradual All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God: O be joyful in God, all ye lands. *V.* The Lord hath declared his salvation: In the sight of the heathen hath he openly shewed his righteousness.

Alleluia Alleluia. Alleluia. *V.* A hallow'd day hath dawned upon the earth; come, ye nations, and worship the Lord: for on this day a great light hath descended upon the earth. Alleluia.

Offertory The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine; thou hast laid the foundations of the round world, and all that therein is: righteousness and equity are the habitation of thy seat.

Communion All the ends of the world: have seen the salvation of our God.

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,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Old Testament Reading - Isaiah Ch62 v6-12

⁶ Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,
I have posted sentinels;
all day and all night
they shall never be silent.
You who remind the Lord,
take no rest,
⁷ and give him no rest
until he establishes Jerusalem
and makes it renowned throughout the earth.
⁸ The Lord has sworn by his right hand
and by his mighty arm:
I will not again give your grain
to be food for your enemies,
and foreigners shall not drink the wine
for which you have laboured;
⁹ but those who garner it shall eat it
and praise the Lord,
and those who gather it shall drink it
in my holy courts.

¹⁰ Go through, go through the gates,
prepare the way for the people;
build up, build up the highway,
clear it of stones,
lift up an ensign over the peoples.

¹¹ The Lord has proclaimed
to the end of the earth:
Say to daughter Zion,
'See, your salvation comes;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.'

¹² They shall be called, 'The Holy People,

The Redeemed of the Lord';
and you shall be called, 'Sought Out,
A City Not Forsaken.'

New Testament Reading Titus Ch3 v4-7

⁴But when the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Gospel - Luke Ch2 v8-20

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ 'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Post Communion

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.

Services for this week

Tuesday 26th December 10.30am **The Feast of St Stephen**
Sung Mass with Sermon and Procession
(followed by a reception at the back of Church)

Wednesday 27th December 11.00am **Mass cancelled**

Friday 29th December 7.00pm Said Mass - Thomas Becket,
Archbishop of Canterbury and Martyr, 1170

Sunday 31st December 2017

The First Sunday of Christmas

9.30am Said Mass with Hymns and Sermon

11.00am Sung Mass with Sermon and Procession

THANK YOU

A big Thank You to the small band of people who helped to clean, polish and shine the Church for Christmas!

Please remember in your prayers

Elizabeth Opie, Joyce Craske, Judy Bobbitt, Maureen Pitman,
Alisha De Guerin, Christine Shaw, Tony Renouf, and Brenda Penfold.

Please pray for a family with young children
that is going through a difficult time; for Pam;
for Michele, Jaiké and Glyn, all suffering from cancer;
for Melvyn Boxall, Bill Brend and Chris Bellinger;
and for Samuel, a 12 year-old boy diagnosed with leukaemia.

Stay in touch with St Stephen's: visit our website at
<http://st-stephens-guernsey.org>