

This week  
Christmas Eve Crib Service at 3.00pm  
Christmas Eve Midnight Mass at 11.30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY:  
Family Sung Eucharist at 9.45am



Baby Jesus has been on tour again this year - come and see him back at St John's at the Crib Service

**THIS EVENING:**  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 6.30pm  
Candlelit Carols

### CHRISTMAS DAY EVENT

There will be a retiring collection for the Christmas Day Event at all services today. Please also see leaflet regarding drivers, gifts, and setting up the Hall on Christmas Eve.



We are launching our Angel Project appeal again this year. Over a hundred children received a gift last

year thanks to your generosity. In partnership with the Malden Manor Children's Centre and local primary schools, we will be purchasing an Argos Gift Card for local children in need again this Christmas so that their parents can ensure that every child receives something they really want or need. See website for details or speak to Ministry Team.

[www.stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk/angel-project/](http://www.stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk/angel-project/)



*Christmas Table decorations  
Ready for collection on 22<sup>nd</sup>  
December.*

Jane Milton's funeral will take place on December 23rd at 3.30 Randall's Park.

Registered charity no, 1145155  
CCL Licence No. 88083  
[www.stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk)



## St John the Baptist, Malden ADVENT IV

December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024

COLLECT Eternal God,  
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,  
so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### IN OUR PRAYERS TODAY

**We pray for those in particular need:**  
Charlie, Derek, June Rose, Bob, Elsie, Janet, Jackie, Caroline, Neville, Lizzie, Alison, Alice, Anne.

**We pray for those who have died recently and for those who mourn:**  
Lesley Brotherston, Nathaniel Addy, Jane Milton.

**We pray for those whose Year's Mind occurs this week:** May Holland, Evelyn Burley, Laura Knight, Ida Presland, William Preedy, David Coleshill, William Bennett, Carlyne Nevison, Hilda Mathie, Peggy Collins, Jane Flemming.

### TODAY

8:00 Said Eucharist  
9:45 Sung Eucharist  
18:30 Candlelit Carol Service  
followed by refreshments

### Today's hymns

NEH 11 O come! O come Emmanuel  
NEH 3 Come, thou long-expected Jesus  
(words overleaf) The Angel Gabriel  
NEH 186 Tell out my soul!

Post-Communion:  
Laudate Dominum

### Organ Voluntary:

Sortie sur L'Hymne: Creator alma  
siderum - Guilmant

The final total for St John's Christmas  
Fair was £2056.75.

FIRST READING                      MICAH 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

SECOND READING                      HEBREWS 10:5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God" (in the scroll of the book it is written of me). When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

POST COMMUNION

Laudate Dominum,  
laudate Dominum,  
Omnes gentes,  
alleluia!

GOSPEL READING                      LUKE 1:39-45

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

OFFERTORY HYMN

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow,  
his eyes as flame;  
'All Hail' said he,  
'thou lowly maiden Mary,  
most highly favoured lady.' *Gloria!*

'For known a blessed Mother  
thou shalt be,  
all generations laud and honour thee,  
thy son shall be Emmanuel,  
by seers foretold;  
most highly favoured lady.' *Gloria!*

Then gentle Mary meekly  
bowed her head,  
'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said,  
'My soul shall laud and magnify  
his holy name':  
most highly favoured lady. *Gloria!*

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born  
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,  
and Christian folk throughout the world  
will ever say

'Most highly favoured lady.' *Gloria!*

words: Baring-Gould 1834-1924