



**ST. CYPRIAN'S CHURCH, LENZIE**

**LINK**

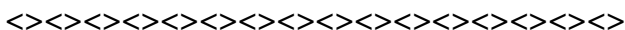
**22<sup>ND</sup> - 29<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2013**

Welcome to our Link for the Christmas period, 2013. We also hope you have a great Christmas, and look forward to the coming year with joy, hope and excitement.

## Christmas Services:

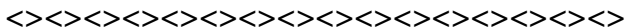
**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December: 6.30pm**

**Carol Service**



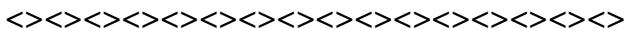
**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December: 11.30pm**

**Midnight Communion**



**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December: 10.30am**

**Holy Communion**



You could also call into our church between 1.30 – 3.00pm on Christmas Eve to share some refreshments, to join in some children's activities and see the *wackiest* crib scene in Lenzie or Kirkintilloch this year – and any year!!!! Everyone is welcome!!

Please note – during the Christmas period we will continue to worship through the week, so will still have Holy Communion on Thursdays 26<sup>th</sup> December and 2<sup>nd</sup> January.



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## **Prayer over the Christmas Period:**

### **22<sup>nd</sup> December:**

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the diocese of Yokohama (Japan) and their Bishop: the Rt Revd Laurence Yutaka Minabe.

In our own Diocese, please pray for the church of Holy Trinity, Motherwell and St. Andrew's, Wishaw (their clergy: Alan Wylie, Charles Sargent).

### **DAILY PRAYERS**

- 23<sup>rd</sup> Those struggling with doubts.
- 24<sup>th</sup> Peace throughout the world.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Worship and thanksgiving for the birth of our Lord.
- 26<sup>th</sup> Love for God and our neighbours.
- 27<sup>th</sup> Effective Mission and expansion of congregations.
- 28<sup>st</sup> Holy Innocents: children, especially those who suffer.

### **29<sup>th</sup> December:**

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the diocese of Zanzibar (Tanzania) and their Bishop: the Rt Revd Michael Hafidh.

In our own Diocese, please pray for the church of St Fillan's, Kilmacolm, Motherwell and St. Mary's Bridge of Weir (Vacancy).

### **DAILY PRAYERS**

- 30<sup>th</sup> Our Diocesan Registrar - David Ballantine.
- 31<sup>st</sup> Thanksgiving for the year about to end.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Thanksgiving for every new beginning.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> All the peoples of the world.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> The work of Deaf-Blind Scotland.
- 4<sup>th</sup> The National Health Service.

### **Please also remember in your prayers:**

Margaret Conway; Jennie Downes; Daphne Fraser; Susan Frost; Marilyn Hazlette; Kirsty Kilday; Eric and Sheila Oakes; Alan Paterson; Doreen Rendell; Karen Rose; Geoff Scobie; Jack Smith; and for all those in the "Prayer Book" at the back of the church.

**May God keep them in His care**

Please also pray for the family and friends of Reginald Mountford who has just died.

**Christmas Quiz:** Why not have a go at our Christmas Quiz - anyone who wants to enter can give the completed sheet (with their name on it) to the Rector by January 4<sup>th</sup> and the best will win a prize (dunno what it is yet!!!). The Rector can also give you the answers for you to check!:



- 1) How many wise men went to the stable? .....
- 2) James Lord Pierpont wrote which Christmas Song? .....
- 3) In the song The 12 days of Christmas, how many gold rings did I get? .....
- 4) Which company made the first artificial Christmas Tree?.....
- 5) Which band sang "Lonely This Christmas"? .....
- 6) "Sung tan chuk ha" means Merry Christmas in which language?.....
- 7) In which City was Kevin left home alone at Christmas? .....
- 8) Which record was no 1 in both 1975 AND 1991? .....
- 9) Which is the only eponymous Christmas No.1 single? .....
- 10) The Pogues sang a Christmas fairytale of where? .....
- 11) In which year was the Queen's Speech first televised? .....
- 12) What was first invented by bored woodcarvers in the Ore Mountains in Germany in winter?  
.....
- 13) On Average, how many mince pies do each of us eat at Christmas?.....
- 14) How many turkeys (roughly) are eaten in the UK each Christmas?  
.....
- 15) What is also called Olibanum? .....

# Special Prayers for the Christmas Season

## 22<sup>nd</sup> December:

**Collect:** Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour: now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Post Communion Prayer:** Faithful God, in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation. May we, like the Virgin Mary, be obedient to your will. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

## 24<sup>th</sup> December – Midnight

**Collect:** Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, so bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Prayer after Communion:** Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things

share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

## 25<sup>th</sup> December – Morning

**Collect:** Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored our human nature. May we share the divine life of your Son Jesus Christ, who humbled himself to share our humanity, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Prayer after Communion:** Father of all, the child born for us is the Saviour of the world. May he who made us your children welcome us into your kingdom, where he is alive and reigns with you now and for ever.

## 29<sup>th</sup> December

**Collect:** Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Prayer after Communion:** Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

# 22<sup>nd</sup> December:

**Carol: 14** (It Came upon...)

## Isaiah 7.10-16

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as

heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.



## Psalm 80.1-7,16-18

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!

**You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth  
before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.**

Stir up your might, and come to save us!

**Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

**You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to  
drink in full measure.**

You make us the scorn of our neighbours; our enemies laugh among themselves.

**Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be  
saved.**

They have burned it with fire, they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your countenance.

**But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,  
the one whom you made strong for yourself.**

Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

## **Romans 1.1-7**

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Carol: 8** (See Amid...)

## **Matthew 1.18-25**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

**Carol: 2** (In a Bleak...)

**At Comm: 13** (Silent Night)

**Carol: 10** (Hark the Herald...)

## Readings for Christmas Day, for both midnight and morning services.



### Isaiah 9.2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy, they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

### Psalm 96

O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

**Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.**

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples.

**For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.**

For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

**Honour and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.**

Worship the LORD in holy splendour; tremble before him, all the earth.

**Say among the nations, 'The LORD is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.**



He will judge the peoples with equity.' Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;

**let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it.**

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth.

**He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.**

## **Titus 2.11-14**

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

## **Luke 2.1-7**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

**Carols at Midnight:**

**Carol Booklet: 11, 1, 20, 12.**

**At Communion: 13**

**Carols on Christmas Morning:**

**Carol Booklet: 1, 10, 11.**



## 29<sup>th</sup> December

**Carol: 5** (The First Nowell)

### **Isaiah 63.7-9**

I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, 'Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely'; and he became their saviour in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

### **Psalm 148**

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

**Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!**

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

**Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**

Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.

**He established them for ever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

Praise the LORD from the earth; you sea monsters and all deeps,

**fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!**

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

**Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!**

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

**Young men and women alike, old and young together!**

Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

**He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!**

### **Hebrews 2.10-18**

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters saying, 'I will proclaim your name to my brothers

and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.’ And again, ‘I will put my trust in him.’ And again, ‘Here am I and the children whom God has given me.’ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

**Carol: 4** (As With Gladness...)

### **Matthew 2.13-23**

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.’ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, ‘Out of Egypt I have called my son.’

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ‘A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.’

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.’ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, ‘He will be called a Nazorean.’

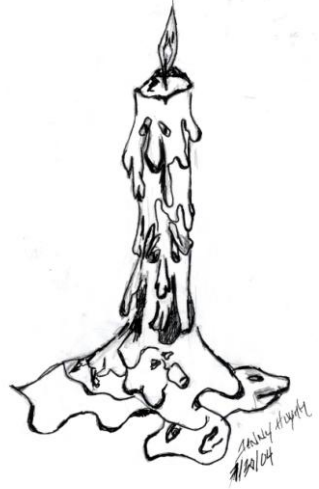
**Carol: 18**  
(Angels from the realms...)

**Carol At Comm: 7**  
(While Shepherds...)

**Final Carol: 21**  
(We Three...)

# BC-AD by Ursula Fanthorpe

This was the moment when Before  
Turned into After, and the future's  
Uninvented timekeepers presented arms.  
This was the moment when nothing  
Happened. Only dull peace  
Sprawled boringly over the earth.  
This was the moment when even  
energetic Romans  
Could find nothing better to do  
Than counting heads in remote provinces.  
And this was the moment  
When a few farm workers and three  
Members of an obscure Persian sect  
Walked haphazard by starlight straight  
Into the kingdom of heaven.



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"You should see someone about that."