



# All Saints Oakham

# The Blessing of the Crib



**Christmas Eve 2017**  
**4:00pm**

## Oakham Team Clergy



**Revd Canon Lee Francis-Dehqani**

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## Lay Ministers

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## Director of Music

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## Oakham Team Office

**Mrs Janine Weaver** *Team Administrator* - 01572 724007 office@oakhamteam.org.uk

The Team Office is staffed on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9am- 1pm, Thursdays 11am-3pm and Fridays by email. **Notices or reports for inclusion in the pew sheet and website should be sent to notices@oakhamteam.org.uk or delivered to the office by Wednesday at 11 am.**



[www.oakhamteam.org.uk](http://www.oakhamteam.org.uk)



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## Welcome and Introduction

The glory of the Lord has been revealed  
**and all flesh shall see it together.**

*The four advent candles are lit*

Jesus Christ is the light of the world:  
**a light no darkness can quench.**

The shepherds kept watch by night,  
**and your glory shone round about them.**

The darkness is not dark to you,  
**the night is as bright as the day.**

Let your light scatter the darkness  
**and fill your Church with your glory.**

Christ has brought us out of darkness:  
**to live in his marvellous light.**

### Carol

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.

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 mean and lowly  
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

3. For he is our childhood's pattern,  
day by day like us he grew,  
he was little, weak, and helpless,  
tears and smiles like us he knew;  
and he feeleth for our sadness,  
and he shareth in our gladness.

4. 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.

5. 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;  
where like stars his children crowned  
all in white shall wait around.

*Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)*  
*Music: Melody by Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876), harm Arthur Henry Mann (1850-1929)*  
*(Ancient & Modern – 81)*

## The First Christmas

*A reading of the Christmas story during which Mary and Joseph are placed in the crib.*

### Carol

1. Silent night! Holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
round the virgin and her child:  
holy infant so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace;  
sleep in heavenly peace!

*The shepherds are placed*  
2. Silent night! Holy night!  
Shepherds quail at the sight,  
glory streams from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia,  
Christ the Saviour is born,  
Christ the Saviour is born!'

3. Silent night! Holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light:  
radiant beams your holy face  
with the dawn of saving grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

*Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848)*

*Music: Stille Nacht, Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863)  
(Ancient & Modern – 84)*

### Prayers

#### 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.  
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.**

## Carol

### *The angels are placed*

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 the 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, the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

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.
4. 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 the angelic host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'

*Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) and others  
Music: Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)  
(Ancient & Modern – 66)*

## Carol

1. *(Children)* Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

### *Some animals are placed*

2. *(All)* 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.
3. 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

### *The baby Jesus is placed*

4. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

*Words: Author unknown, Little children's book, Philadelphia 1885  
Music: Cradle Song, William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921), harm Eric Harding Thiman (1900-1975) (A&M – 60)*

## The Blessing of the Crib

Let us pray that God our Father will bless this crib,  
and that all who worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary,  
may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father,  
on this night your Son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary  
for us and for our salvation:  
bless this crib, which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth;  
may all who see it be strengthened in faith  
and receive the fullness of life he came to bring,  
who is alive and reigns for ever. **Amen.**

## Carol

1. 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, (x3)*  
*Christ the Lord!*
2. God of God,  
Light of Light,  
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
very God,  
begotten, not created:
3. See how the shepherds,  
summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
we too will thither  
bend our joyful footsteps:
4. Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God  
in the highest:

*Words: Adeste, fideles, Latin 18th century trans Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others*  
*Music: Adeste Fideles, John Francis Wade (c1711-1786) harm Compilers of The English Hymnal 1906*  
*(Ancient & Modern – 78)*

## Blessing

*Everyone is invited to come to visit and pray at the crib.*

All Saints Church Oakham

## Christmas Eve

4:00pm **Crib Service**

*The creation and blessing of our Crib*

11:30pm **Midnight Mass**

*Candlelit choral celebration of the first communion of Christmas*

## Christmas Day

8:00am **Holy Communion**

*Traditional said service with sermon*

10:00am **Holy Communion**

*Sung service with carols and sermon*



# Regular Groups & Activities

## CHILDREN'S GROUPS

**Tiny Tots** (age 0-4). Thursdays 9:45am during term-time. **Oakham Church**

**Little Angels** (age 0-4) Thursdays 10:30 (term-time) **Market Overton Church**

**Sunday School** (age 5-11)  
Sundays 10:30am (except 3rd)  
**Oakham Church Hall**

**Fishes Club** (up to age 10)  
Sundays 11:00am (except 2nd)  
**Whissendine Church**

**ASH&ASK** (All Saints Hub/Kids – aged 11-16) Second/Fourth Sundays 10:30am in term time  
**Oakham School Bowes Room**

## HOME GROUPS

**Leader: Catriona Drye** (770429)  
2nd & 4th Tuesdays 10:00am  
**25 Willow Crescent, Oakham**

**Leader: Stan Bruce** (756656)  
2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7:30pm  
**19 Ashwell Road, Oakham**

**Leader: Patrick Wilson** (723288)  
2nd & 4th Thursdays 2:30pm  
**6 Peterborough Avenue, Oakham**

**Leader: Michael Hinman** (722061) & **Monica Compton** (755734)  
2nd & 4th Mondays 7:30pm **Oakham**

**Leader: Alan & Gail Rudge** (755570)  
Mondays fortnightly 7:30pm  
**34 Church Street, Braunston**

**St Andrew's House Group** – Leaders:  
**Revd Chris Bamber** (01664 474360),  
**Jane Beynon** (474882) & **Catherine Wilson** (474556). Tuesdays fortnightly 11:00am  
**Whissendine** (phone for venue)

## CHOIR

**Laudamus Joint Choir Practice**  
Tuesdays 7:00-8:30pm  
**Whissendine Church**

**Langham Choir Practice**  
Tuesdays before 1st, 2nd & 4th Sundays  
11:00am-12:00pm **Langham Church**

## BELL RINGING

**Oakham Bells** Tuesdays 7:30-9:00pm  
**Langham/Braunston/Brooke Bells**  
Wed 7:30pm 10 Jan/27 Dec/3 Jan  
**Whissendine Bells** as announced

## MOTHERS' UNION

**Oakham & Braunston** 2nd Thursday  
2:15pm **Oakham Church Hall**;  
Corporate Communion 3rd Wednesday  
10:00am **Chapel of St John & St Anne**

## OTHER GROUPS

**Drop-In Centre** Tea, coffee, chat & lunch Wednesdays 10:00am-4:00pm  
**Oakham Congregational Church**

**Oasis** Tea, coffee, biscuits and & chat  
Fridays 10:30-11:30am  
**Oakham Church Mayhew Room**

**Open House** Monthly coffee morning in someone's home – see Diary for details..

**Prayer Chain** Prayer requests can be made in strictest confidence to **Mary Willows** (01572 756264) who will then inform the chain