

*Community Carol Service
Northumberland Square, North Shields
6:30 pm, Friday 6th December 2002*

Welcome

Carol:

*Come and join the celebration,
It's a very special day;
Come and share our jubilation,
There's a new King born today!*

Mary smiling
At her son so wondrously,
Joseph kneeling
By the manger bed so lovingly.

Come and join...

Angels singing
High up in the heavens above,
Bring the news of
One who came to earth to show God's love.

Come and join...

See the shepherds
Hurry down to Bethlehem,
Gaze in wonder
At the Son of God who lay before them.

Come and join...

Wise men journey,
Led to worship by a star,
Kneel in homage,
Bringing precious gifts from lands afar, so

Come and join...

'God is with us'
Round the world the message bring,
He is with us,
'Welcome' all the bells on earth are peeling.

Come and join...

Reading about Mary and the Angel

Carol:

Hark! The herald-angels sing
'Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.'
Joyful, all you 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!'*

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 Immanuel.

*Hark! The herald-angels sing
'Glory to the new-born King!'*

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.

*Hark! The herald-angels sing
'Glory to the new-born King!'*

Reading about Jesus being born

Carol:

See Him a-lying on a bed of straw;
A draughty stable with an open door,
Mary cradling the babe the bore;
The Prince of Glory is His name.

*O, now carry me to Bethlehem
To see the Lord appear to men:
Just as poor as was the stable then,
The Prince of Glory when he came.*

Star of silver swep across the skies,
Show where Jesus in the manger lies.
Shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise
To see the Saviour of the world.

O, now carry me...

Angels, sing again the song you sang,
Bring God's glory to the heart of man:
Sing that Bethlehem's little baby can
Be salvation to the soul.

O, now carry me...

Reading about the Shepherds

Carol:

The first nowell the angel did say,
Was to Bethlehem's shepherds in fields where
they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
Born is the king of Israel!*

Then wise men from a country far
Looked up and saw a guiding star;
They travelled on by night and day
To reach the place where Jesus lay:

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
Born is the king of Israel!*

At Bethlehem they entered in,
On bended knee they worshipped Him;
They offered there in His presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense:

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
Born is the king of Israel!*

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
For Christ has our salvation wrought
And with His blood mankind has bought:

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
Born is the king of Israel!*

Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

'A Christmas Tableau' presented by the children of St. Joseph's Primary School

Carol:

Silent night, holy night!
Sleeps the world; hid from sight,
Mary and Joseph in stable bare
Watched o'er the child beloved and fair
Sleeping in heavenly rest
Sleeping in heavenly rest.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds first saw the light,
Heard resounding clear and long,
Far and near, the angel-song:
'Christ the Redeemer is here,
Christ the Redeemer is here.'

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, O how bright
Love is smiling from Your face!
Strikes for us now the hour of grace,
Saviour, since You are born,
Saviour, since You are born.

Reading and the Visitors from the East

Carol:

We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star:

*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to Thy perfect light.*

Born a king on Bethlehem plain,
Gold I bring to crown Him again –
King for ever, ceasing never,
Over all of us to reign.

O star of wonder...

Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh:
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worship Him, God most high:

O star of wonder...

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

O star of wonder...

Glorious now behold Him arise,
King, and God, and sacrifice!
Heaven sings alleluia,
Alleluya the earth replies.

O star of wonder...

Prayer

Carol:

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing!

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!
Your sweetest songs employ
While fields and streams and hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
The wonders of His love,
The wonders of His love,
The wonders, wonders of His love,

Blessing