

**“Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Holy One”**



Choral Holy Eucharist

Saint Stephen's Day

26 December 2021 at 11am

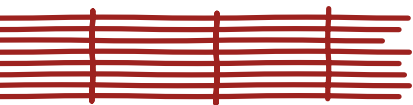


Cadeirlan
Deiniol Sant
ym Mangor

Saint Deiniol's
Cathedral
in Bangor



Welcome to Saint Deiniol's Cathedral in Bangor.



You stand now where
Deiniol stood almost a
millennium and a half ago.

Here, in the year 525, he
gathered around him a
community of faith, hope
and love, and raised
around it a hazel fence –
the original **bangor** – for
shelter and sanctuary.

Our prayer is that you,
too, will be embraced
here by the same faith,
hope and love that we
proclaim and live by
today.

Today...

At this Christmas Eucharist we will meet Christ, born at Bethlehem, in bread and wine, which become for us his Body and his Blood: God with us.

1 As we gather, we will prepare ourselves to meet Christ by confessing our sins – the ways in which we have grieved God in our lives – and receive absolution, the knowledge of God's forgiveness.

2 We then listen to readings from the Bible, where we find guidance, challenge, comfort and good news from God: words of hope and promise this Christmas. We respond by proclaiming our faith in the Holy Trinity and offering to God our prayer for all in need.

3 At the heart of our worship today, we will take bread and wine, we will ask for God's transfiguring blessing upon them, we break the bread, and – as the broken, mended Body of Christ that we ourselves are – we will make our Communion.

4 Our worship ends with the assurance of God's blessing, sustaining us as we depart.

No matter how long ago you last did so, you are welcome to make your Communion with us here today.

Worshipping with us today

This booklet contains everything said and sung during our worship today. You are invited to take the booklet away with you, to reflect in your own time on the holy words it contains. However, worship is not primarily something that we read or observe – it is an activity, in which we all participate, alongside those who are gathered with us and, we believe, alongside the whole company of heaven. Be sure, therefore, to look up; to notice colour, light, sound, movement and beauty; to raise up your voice; to take your full part; to be formed and transformed.

During our worship, we say and sing together the text **in bold type**. Translations into English are provided from Welsh and other languages. We may make a sign of the Cross at times when the words are marked with ✠. Other directions (rubrics) are offered **in green type**; if you find it more comfortable to sit rather than stand or kneel, please do so.

Children and young families

Activity, craft and reading packs for children and young families are available from the Stewards. Families are also welcome to make use of the Lady Chapel.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding children and adults at risk is vital, and we are committed to fostering an environment where everyone is able to worship and participate in the life of Saint Deiniol's Cathedral in safety. If you have any concerns, please raise them immediately with a member of the Cathedral team.

Accessibility

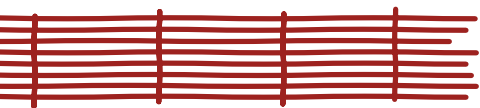
A hearing loop is in use – please set hearing aids to the T setting.

Large print copies of this booklet are available from the stewards.

Lavatories are located at the east end of the Cathedral, through the door to the left of the Quire screen.

If we need to evacuate the Cathedral in an emergency, please remain seated and follow the directions of the stewards.

Order of service



After the notices, we stand as the bell is rung



Gathering

Hymn



It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good-will to men,
from heaven's all-gracious King!"
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.



Still through the cloven skies they come,
with peaceful wings unfurled;
and still their heav'nly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hovering wing;
and ever o'er it Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the angel-strain have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and man, at war with man, hears not
the love-song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
and hear the angels sing!

For, lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophet bards foretold,
when, with the ever-circling years,
comes round the age of gold;
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendours fling,
and the whole world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

Words

Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876)

Music | "Noel"

Traditional English tune

We remain standing until the beginning of the Gloria in excelsis Deo

Greeting

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Grace and peace be with you.

And keep you in the love of Christ.

“I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Holy One.’”

Confession

As we gather to celebrate this Holy Eucharist to the glory of God, we prepare ourselves by confessing our sins,

we who are embraced by you, God with us,
but who struggle to accept one another;
we who praise your boundless love, God with us,
but stare coldly at hurt and injustice;
we who long for you to be born in our hearts, God with us,
but whose desire falls short of the gift.

Let us pray together.

**Heavenly Father,
we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and have failed to do what we ought to have done.
We are sorry and truly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and lead us in his way
to walk as children of light.
Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you,
✠ forgive you and set you free from sin,
and keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Glory be to God on high.

We sit

And on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Music

John Marbeck (c.1510-c.1585)

We stand

Collect

Let us pray.

Grant, O Christ, that in all our sufferings here upon earth for the testimony of your truth, we may learn to love our enemies, by the example of your first martyr, Stephen, who prayed for his persecutors to you, blessed Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

We sit



Word

Psalmody

Rulers have persecuted me without a cause, but my heart stands in awe of your word.

I am as glad because of your promise as one who finds great spoils.



As for lies, I hate and abhor them, but your law is my love.

Seven times a day do I praise you, because of your righteous judgments.

Great peace have they who love your law; for them there is no stumbling block.

I have hoped for your salvation, O God, and I have fulfilled your commandments.

I have kept your decrees and I have loved them deeply.

I have kept your commandments and decrees, for all my ways are before you.

Psalm 119:161-168

Music

Gerald Finzi (1901-1956)

Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now: Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Holy One, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

Hear the word of life to the world.

Thanks be to God.

Acts 7:55-60

We stand, turning to face the Gospeller in the Nave

Gospel



∇ Alleluia.

R Alleluia.

How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings.

R Alleluia.

Grace and peace be with you.

And keep you in the love of Christ.

Listen to the Holy Gospel according to ✠ Saint Matthew.

Glory to you, O Christ.

At that time: Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, "I send you prophets, sages, and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town, so that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly I tell you, all this will come upon this generation. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you, desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Holy One.'"

This is the Gospel of our Saviour.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Matthew 23.34-39

We sit at the start of the sermon

Sermon

The Canon for Congregational Life

At the end of the sermon, we stand

Creed

Together, let us affirm our faith.

**I believe and trust in God the Father,
who created all that is.**

**I believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ,
who redeemed humankind.**

**I believe and trust in his Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God.**

**I believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Intercessions

With all our heart and with all our mind let us pray to God.

We sit or kneel

We use the responses

✠ God in your mercy,

✠ **Hear our prayer.**

✠ Rest eternal grant unto them, O God.

✠ **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

✠ ✠ May they rest in peace.

✠ **And rise in glory.**

✠ Merciful Father,

✠ **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

We stand

Sacrament

Hymn



Stephen, first of Christian martyrs,
let the Church in hymns proclaim,
following close the Saviour's passion,
thus he won immortal fame;
for his foes he prayed forgiveness
while they stoned him unto death,
to the Lord his soul commending
as he yielded up his breath.

**Holy Spirit, gift of Jesus,
shed thy light upon our eyes,
that we may behold with Stephen
that fair realm beyond the skies,
where the Son of Man in glory
waits for us at God's right hand,
King of saints and hope of martyrs,
Lord of all the pilgrim band.**

**See him who went on before us
heavenly mansions to prepare,
who for us is ever pleading
by his wounds of glory there;
in that blessed home of splendour
Christ our Saviour reigns above,
calling us to share his rapture
in the Father's boundless love.**

Words

The editors of the New English Hymnal (1986)
based on verses by Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885)

Music | "Abbot's Leigh"

Cyril Taylor (1907-1991)

We remain standing until we share the Peace

Offertory

We bring to this place the bread that sustains us.

It will become for us the bread of life.

We bring to this place the wine that mellows us.

It will become for us the lifeblood of the world.

Eucharistic Prayer

Grace and peace be with you.

And keep you in the love of Christ.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy at all times and in all places to give you thanks, holy Father, all-powerful and everliving God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Strengthened by your grace, your martyr Stephen triumphed over suffering, laying down his in faithful witness to Christ.

And so with the hosts of angels and all the company of heaven we proclaim the glory of your name and join in their unending hymn of praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. ✠ Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Music

John Marbeck (c.1510-c.1585)

We remain standing

All praise and thanks to you, true and living God, Creator of all things, Giver of life. You formed us in your own image; but we have marred that image and fall short of your glory. We give you thanks that you sent your Son to share our life; you gave him up to death that the world might be saved, and you raised him from the dead that we might live in him and he in us.

Sanctify with your Spirit this bread and wine, your gifts to us, that they may be for us the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: do this in remembrance of me. ✠

In the same way after supper he took the cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, Drink from this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins: do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me. ✠

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come in glory.

As he has commanded us, Father, we remember Jesus Christ, your Son. Proclaiming his victorious death, rejoicing in his resurrection and waiting for him to come in glory we bring to you this bread, this cup. Accept our sacrifice of thanks and praise.

Restore and revive your people, renew us and all for whom we pray with your grace and heavenly ✠ blessing, and at the last receive us with all your saints into that unending joy promised by your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

✠ **Amen.**

We remain standing

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, we boldly pray:

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.

Peace

In your birth, O God, the world is reborn; your broken body made whole in your renewal of all creation.

The Peace of the Living God be always with you.

And keep you in the love of Christ.

We share a sign of Peace.

We share a sign of Peace; then we sit or kneel

Breaking

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: grant us thy peace.

Music

John Marbeck (c.1510-c.1585)

Communion

✠ Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Saviour, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

We make our Communion, following the directions of the Stewards, and receiving the Sacramental Host only for the time being

Motet

Torches, torches, run with torches
all the way to Bethlehem.
Christ is born and now lies sleeping;
come and sing your song to him!

Ah, ro-ro, ro-ro my baby,
ah, ro-ro, my love, ro-ro;
sleep you well, my heart's own darling,
while we sing you our ro-ro.

Sing, my friends, and make you merry,
joy and mirth and joy again;
lo, he lives, the King of heaven,
now and evermore. Amen.

Words & music

Traditional Galician carol

Translation

John Brande Trend (1887–1958)

After all have made their Communion, we stand to sing the hymn

Hymn



Where is this stupendous stranger?
Prophets, shepherds, kings, advise:
lead me to my Master's manger,
show me where my Saviour lies.

O most mighty, O most holy,
far beyond the seraph's thought!
Art thou then so weak and lowly
as unheeded prophets taught?

O the magnitude of meekness,
worth from worth immortal sprung!
O the strength of infant weakness,
if eternal is so young.

God all-bounteous, all-creative,
whom no ills from good dissuade,
is incarnate – and a native
of the very world he made.

Words

Christopher Smart (1722-1771)

Music | "All for Jesus"

John Stainer (1840-1901)

We remain standing

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

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 Saviour.

Amen.



Departing

Grace and peace be with you.

And keep you in the love of Christ.

Christ, who by taking our flesh,
gathered into one all things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with his joy and peace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Let us go forth in peace.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

We remain standing until the ministers have departed; we then sit or depart

Organ voluntary

Rhapsodie sur des Noëls, Eugène Gigout (1844-1925)

Notices

Thanks

We owe a huge debt of thanks to all who have contributed to our celebrations over recent days, and to our keeping of a holy and watchful Advent during December. The contribution of the Choir has been notable, sitting alongside the work of flower arrangers, altar-table servers, stewards, welcomers, assisting clergy and members of the ministry team. Our heartfelt thanks to all.

Car park

Cathedral weekday car parking permits for 2022 will be available from the Cathedral team at Sunday services from 9 January 2021. A donation is requested. In the meantime, no permits are required for parking in the Cathedral car park at any time; and no permits will be required to park on Sundays until further notice.

In our prayers

The sick Robert; Alun Hawkins, priest; Lis Perkins; Glenys Dore; Judith Helen; Caitriona Carroll; Alan Horrex; Davinder Coumaraswary; Sacha Cook

The recently departed Jacqueline Parry; Joan Megson

Year's mind Sam McNaughton, Frederick Harrocks (31)

Carols

A Ceremony of Holiness

Epiphany Lessons and Carols
by Candlelight

Sunday 9 January
5.30pm

The last of our three traditional, atmospheric and musically-rich ceremonies on a Sunday evening during the Christmas period. This bilingual, candle-lit ceremony will invite us to attend to the holiness that we see in Christ, and that we are called to nurture in our hearts. The ceremony is free to attend, with donations invited towards our Christmas Appeal.

Ceremony of Carols

Benjamin Britten

The Cathedral Choir

Saturday 29 January
7.30pm

Come to hear the upper voices of the Cathedral Choir in an atmospheric, candle-lit performance of Benjamin Britten's wonderful cycle of carols and other works – the perfect way to bring Christmastide to a close. The performance will feature Alys Bailey-Wood on the harp. Tickets, on the door, are £10 adults / £5 concessions / children free.

Support

This holy place of faith, hope and love, and all that takes place here, is sustained by your generosity. This Christmas, at our main services, we will also be making a donation from our collections to our Christmas Charity, which this year is Mothers' Union's valuable work with the survivors of domestic violence.

1 To make an online donation on your phone today, scan the QR code below.

2 Use our contactless donation machine at the back of the Nave to tap your card or phone.

3 Cash donations can be placed in one of the baskets set out at the back of the Nave.

4 To set up a monthly Direct Debit donation, with the option to add Gift Aid, search online for "Church in Wales Gift Direct" and select "Bro Deiniol" under "Beneficiary".

By making a donation, you'll be helping us to continue our essential work.



To come

From 27 December to 1 January (inclusive), the Cathedral will be open for celebrations of the Holy Eucharist only.

27 December | St John the Evangelist's Day

12.30pm

Cymun Bendigaid | Holy Eucharist

28 December | Holy Innocents' Day

12.30pm

Cymun Bendigaid | Holy Eucharist

From 29 December to 1 January (inclusive), public worship is not celebrated or offered at the Cathedral.

2 January | The Festival of the Epiphany

8.15am

Holy Eucharist

9.15am

Cymun Bendigaid ar Gân

"Offrymasant iddo anrhegion, aur a thus a myrr"

Yr Is-Ddeon yn pregethu
Loywaf o'r sêr, "Epiphany"
Offeren Deiniol, Rees
Peraidd ganodd sêr y bore, "Caersalem"
Doethion tri o'r dwyrain daw, Lang
Daeth llywydd nef a llawr, "Rhosymedre"
Preliwd Gorawl ar "Wie schön leuchtet der
Morgenstern", Flor Peeters

11.00am

Choral Holy Eucharist

"They offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh"

The Sub-Dean preaching
Brightest and best, "Epiphany"
Unison Communion Service, Sumsion
O worship the Lord, Was Lebet
Bethlehem Down, Warlock
As with gladness men of old, "Dix"
Fantasia on "Wie schön leuchtet der
Morgenstern", Buxtehude

3.15pm

Gosber ar Gân | Choral Evensong

Ymatebion | Responses, Stark
Magnificat quartii toni, Feroci
Nunc Dimittis iv
The Three Kings, Cornelius
Marche des Rois Mages, Dubois

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Cathedral Architect

Simon Malam

Charity number 1158340

Sustainability and permissions

We use 100% recycled, low carbon dioxide paper.

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Acknowledgements

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The cover image is a manuscript illumination with Saint Stephen in an Initial S, from an Antiphony by the Master of the Brussels Initials (c.1390-c.1420) at the Met Museum.