

Please join us at St. Nicholas
for any of our Christmas events

SUNDAY, 18th DECEMBER

9:15 & 11am Children's Carol Service
6:30pm Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
Followed by warm fruit punch and mince pies

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00pm Family Carols by Candlelight
11:15pm Midnight Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00am Holy Communion Service
10:00am Christmas Family Celebration
(followed by Communion)

If you would like information about activities at St. Nicholas
(including details about giving to St. Nicholas)
please talk to the Welcome Team at the Welcome Desk.



**Please think! Are you parked in the Church or Rectory Car Park?
Please leave PROMPTLY after the service if you are blocking anyone in.**

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St. Nicholas SEVENOAKS

A warm welcome to St Nicholas Church!

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION with Eynsford Concert Band

Conductor: John Hutchins

&

Solefields School Choir

Director: Gary Savage



**7:00pm,
Sunday 11th December 2005**

Congregational Carol: arr. Rickard

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,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord*
2. God of God,
Light of Light,
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
very God,
begotten not created:
O come...
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:
O come...
4. Lo, star-led chieftains,
Magi, Christ adoring,
offer him incense, gold and myrrh;
we to the Christ-child
bring our hearts' oblations:
O come...
5. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
glory to God
in the highest:
O come...

Words and Music: John Francis Wade, trans. Fredo Id. Gakler & Others

Worshiper: Angus MacLeay

Band: *Finlandia* – Sibelius

School Choir: *Love come down at Christmas* – Malcolm Archer (words by Christina Rossetti)
Soloist: Fraser Forward
Brightest and best – Malcolm Archer (words by Reginald Herbert)

Congregational Carol:

1. **O come, O come, Emmanuel**
And ransom captive Israel
Who mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God draws near:
*Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you O Israel.*
2. O come, true Branch of Jesse, free
Your children from this tyranny;
From depths of hell your people save,
To rise victorious from the grave:
*Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you O Israel.*

SOLEFIELD SCHOOL BOYS' CHOIR

GARY SAVAGE (DIRECTOR), graduated BMus (Hons) at University College, Cardiff, where he specialised in composition under Alun Hoddinott. He took over the choir at Solefield School four years ago, working with Solefield's Head of Music, NICK QUINEY. Together they have built a boys' choir which can readily embrace a repertoire ranging from pop cantatas and oratorios to standard Anglican cathedral repertoire.

PETER deCROOS (ACCOMPANIST), studied at Trinity College, London (pianoforte under Valda Aveling and organ with Frank Martin and Richard Stangroom). He graduated BMus (Hons) at London University and MA at City University. In a teaching career spanning more than thirty years he has accompanied numerous choirs and is in demand as an organ recitalist.

THE SOLOISTS:

FRASER FORWARD: Fraser is our current Head Chorister and will be moving to The King's School, Rochester next year. His most memorable performance at Solefield to date has been the role of Fizzy in "Bugsy Malone", in which he treated the audience in every performance to stunning top Cs!

THOMAS WATTS: Tom is Fraser's predecessor as Head Chorister. An uncommonly intelligent musician for his age, he sang the lead recently in "Oliver!", gave a truly memorable concert performance of Mendelssohn's "Hear my prayer" and has recently recorded Schubert's soprano concert showpiece "The Shepherd on the Rock". Tom has secured a scholarship to Tonbridge School.





EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND

Eynsford Concert Band was founded in 1972. Though it has a relatively short history, the band has rapidly developed into a successful group of talented musicians. Since it began, the band has performed many hundreds of times in theatres, parks and gardens, at fetes, musical contests and festivals, locally, countrywide and while abroad on tour.

In recent years they have done a Master Class with Dennis Wick, world famous trombone player, toured Malta and have played at Waterford Cathedral, Northern Ireland.

The band has also played with the London Philharmonic Orchestra in the Royal Albert Hall and performed several times at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on London's South Bank. They have just released a new CD called "Beyond the Ford". It includes both classical and contemporary music and is available from the back of the Church this evening, priced £10.

The band tours extensively, regular tours in the UK and abroad. Past destinations have included Prague, Cyprus, Austria, Canada, Spain, Germany, Southern Ireland, and the Netherlands. The band has always been warmly welcomed and has performed to large audiences in each country.

The village of Eynsford in Kent serves as base for the band's ventures. Eynsford may seem little known, but should be thought of as a well kept secret as it is one of Kent's most beautiful and historic villages.



CONDUCTOR – JOHN HUTCHINS

John Hutchins has enjoyed connections with ECB for some time and was appointed conductor in 2003.

Graduating from the Royal Academy of Music with a first class honours degree John is enjoying a career as a freelance trumpeter. He has performed worldwide with orchestras such as the Royal Opera House Orchestra, the Ulster Orchestra and the Philharmonia. John is also a keen exponent of Baroque music specialising on the natural trumpet (without valves). He performs and records with some of the world's finest Baroque ensembles including The Kings Consort, The Sixteen, the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Florilegium, the Hanover Band, the New York Collegium and the Stuttgart Baroque Orchestra.

Brass coaching features highly in John's career, encompassing work as far afield as the Vietnamese Symphony Orchestra and Wells International School of Music. He has also contributed to various brass publications and co-written a study book for trumpet. He currently teaches at Junior Trinity College and is Professor of Baroque Trumpet at the Royal Academy of Music.

- 3. O come, bright Daybreak, come and cheer
Our spirits by your advent here;
Dispel the long night's lingering gloom
And pierce the shadows of the tomb:
- 4. O come, strong Key of David, come
And open wide our heavenly home:
Make safe the way that leads on high
And close the path to misery:

Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you O Israel.

Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you O Israel.

- 5. O come, O come, great Lord of might
Who long ago on Sinai's height
Gave all your tribes the ancient law
In cloud and majesty and awe:

Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you O Israel.

J.M. Neale (1818-1866) and others
© in the version John Utter Wymen

Church Music Group: Thorns in the straw – Graham Kendrick © 1994 Make Way Music

Since the day the angel came
It seemed that everything had changed.
The only certain thing
Was the child that moved within
On the road that would not end,
Winding down to Bethlehem,
So far away from home.

Just a blanket on the floor
Of a vacant cattle stall,
But there the child was born.
She held him in her arms
And as she laid him down to sleep
She wondered, "Will it always be
So bitter and so sweet?"

*And did she see there
In the straw by his head a thorn?
And did she smell myrrh
In the air on that starry night?
And did she hear
angels sing not so far away,
till at last the sun rose
blood-red in the morning sky.*

Then the words of ancient seers
Tumbled down the centuries:
'A virgin shall conceive,
God with us, Prince of Peace,
Man of Sorrows, strangest name.'
O Joseph there it comes again,
So bitter, yet so sweet.

And as she watched him through the years
Her joy was mingled with her tears,
And she'd feel it all again,
The glory and the shame,
And when the miracles began,
She wondered, "Who is this man,
And where will this all end?"

*And did she see there
In the straw by his head a thorn?
And did she smell myrrh
In the air on that starry night?
And did she hear
angels sing not so far away,
till at last the sun rose
blood-red in the morning sky.*

'Til, against a darkening sky,
the Son she loved was lifted high,
and with his dying breath
she heard him say, "Father, forgive!"
and to the criminal beside,
"Today – with me, in Paradise."
So bitter, yet so sweet.

*And did she see there
In the straw by his head a thorn?
And did she smell myrrh
In the air on that starry night?
And did she hear
angels sing not so far away,
till at last the sun rose
blood-red in the morning sky.*

Band: *Troika* – Prokofiev

Church Choir: *Hush, Little Child* – Simon Mold

Band: *Os Justi* - Bruckner

School Choir: *The Holy Boy* – John Ireland (words by Herbert S Brown)

Congregational Carol:

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| <p>1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night all seated on the ground, the angel of the Lord came down and glory shone around.</p> <p>2. "Fear not," said he – for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind - "Good news of greatest joy I bring to you and all mankind.</p> <p>3. "To you in Bethlehem this day is born of David's line a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. And this shall be the sign:</p> | <p>4. "The heavenly babe you there shall find to human view displayed, in simple clothing tightly wrapped and in a manger laid."</p> <p>5. Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith appeared a shining throng of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:</p> <p>6. "All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace! To those on whom his favour rests goodwill shall never cease."</p> |
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N Tate (1652-1715)

Band: *Podstow Lifeboat* – Malcolm Arnold

Church Choir & Band: *Masters in this Hall* - arr. Willcocks



Bible Reading: Claire Whittaker

Luke 2:8-14

⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a **Saviour** has been born to you; he is **Christ the Lord**. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests."

Christmas Message: Andrew McClellan

School Choir: *Laudate Dominum* – W. A. Mozart (words Psalm 117)
Soloist: Thomas Watts

Band: *Christmas Festive Overture* – Chattaway

Congregational Carol: arr. Rickard

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| <p>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.' <i>Hark, the herald angels sing glory to the new-born King.</i></p> | <p>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 us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. <i>Hark, the herald...</i></p> |
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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 we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give them second birth.
Hark, the herald...

C Wesley (1707-1794) and others

The Blessing: Angus MacLeay