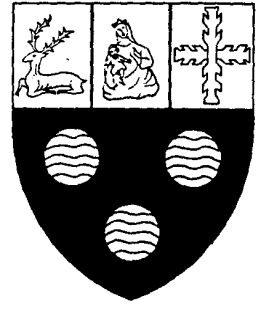


**Southwell  
Minster**

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF  
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



# CHRISTMAS CRIB SERVICE

*A Very Noisy Nativity*

**Christmas Eve**

Tuesday 24 December 2024

11.00am & 2.00pm

## Welcome to Southwell Minster



As you prepare for worship, please be sensitive to the needs of those around you who may wish to pray in silence. Please switch off mobile telephones and do not use photographic, video or recording equipment at any time.



A loop system is in operation throughout the Minster. Hearing aids that are equipped to do so should be switched to the 'T' position or the loop setting appropriate to your equipment.



**Large print** orders of service are available. Please ask a Churchwarden, Sidesperson or Verger for a copy.



Toilet facilities (including disabled access) are situated in the Archbishop's Palace, opposite the South Door of the Minster.



We are a Fairtrade cathedral, committed to continuing and increasing our use of fairly traded goods wherever possible.



This Order of Service is printed on sustainably produced paper.

The congregation is invited to join in all texts printed in **bold**.

This service is led by the Revd Prof. Alison Milbank, *Canon Theologian*, and the Revd Dr Richard Frith, *Canon Precentor*.

**Support the Mission and Ministry of the Cathedral.** As you leave this service a **retiring collection** in support of the mission and ministry of the Cathedral will be taken.



If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider using the Gift Aid envelopes provided – this allows us to increase your donation by 25p for every £1 you give at no extra cost to you. Card donations can be made at the contactless stations located near the main exits. Alternatively, you can donate online by scanning the QR code or visiting [www.southwellminster.org/donate](http://www.southwellminster.org/donate). Thank you for your generous support of the Cathedral and its ongoing work.

## Welcome!

Welcome to Southwell Minster Cathedral this Christmas! We are delighted that you have come to share the joy and excitement of this wonderful season with us. At the heart of the Christmas story, we hear anew of the incredible love of our God who sends his Son to be one with us as the babe of Bethlehem.

We live in a world broken and torn apart in so many ways, yet we are reminded in the Christmas story of the hope we are offered by God reaching out to each one of us in love.

Our Christian faith is built around relationships; God's relationship with us and our relationships, one with another. There are many ways in which our Minster community shares in those relationships. If you would like to know more, please do contact us at [office@southwellminster.org.uk](mailto:office@southwellminster.org.uk) or for more information please see our website [www.southwellminster.org](http://www.southwellminster.org).

Amongst the many events and services coming in the New Year, you may like to join us as we mark the next part of the Christmas story, remembering the visit of the Wise Men on **Sunday 12 January at 3.30pm** with our **Epiphany Procession**.

Finally, if this event has touched you, and you would like to know more about the Christian faith, seeking to follow Jesus, you will see below details of an introduction course to Christian Faith led by the Bishop of Southwell & Nottingham and members of the Minster Team.

With all good wishes for a very happy Christmas and Blessed New Year.

**The Revd Canon Dr Neil Evans**

*Interim Dean of Southwell*

### Exploring Faith

**Hosted by Bishop Paul and Sarah Williams with Southwell Minster**

*These evenings offer the opportunity to explore how faith in Jesus can bring new peace and hope in our lives and the world today.*

Exploring Faith begins on Wednesday 26 February for an introductory evening for those curious to know more. Then every Wednesday from 12 March until 9 April.

Starts at 6.30pm with a simple supper at Bishop's Manor, Southwell followed by a short talk, conversation and finish by 9pm.

All are welcome – to find out more or book your place please contact [bishopsmanor@southwell.anglican.org](mailto:bishopsmanor@southwell.anglican.org) or phone 01636 817990.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

CAROL

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.

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.

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)*

*Tune: IRBY CC2 31  
Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876)*

THE ADVENT WREATH

A VERY NOISY NATIVITY (part 1)

## CAROL

Little donkey, little donkey  
On the dusty road,  
Got to keep on plodding onwards  
With your precious load.

Been a long time, little donkey,  
Through the winter's night;  
Don't give up now, little donkey:  
Bethlehem's in sight.

*Ring out those bells tonight,  
Bethlehem, Bethlehem;  
Follow that star tonight,  
Bethlehem, Bethlehem.*

Little donkey, little donkey  
Had a heavy day;  
Little donkey, carry Mary  
Safely on her way.

Do not falter, little donkey:  
There's a star ahead.  
It will guide you, little donkey,  
To a cattle shed.

*Ring out those bells tonight,  
Bethlehem, Bethlehem;  
Follow that star tonight,  
Bethlehem, Bethlehem.*

Little donkey, little donkey  
Had a heavy day;  
Little donkey, carry Mary  
Safely on her way.  
Little donkey, carry Mary  
Safely on her way.

*Words and music: Eric Boswell (1921-2009)  
Copyright © 1959 Warner/Chappell Music Ltd*

CAROL *with verse 3 sung by Joseph and Mary*

**1. In the bleak midwinter  
Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
Water like a stone:  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
Snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter,  
Long ago.**

**2. Our God, heaven cannot hold him  
Nor earth sustain;  
Heaven and earth shall flee away  
When he comes to reign:  
In the bleak midwinter  
A stable-place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty,  
Jesus Christ.**

**3. What can I give him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd  
I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man  
I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give him  
Give my heart.**

*Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-94)*

*Tune: CRANHAM NEH 28  
Gustav Holst (1874-1934)*

A VERY NOISY NATIVITY (part 3)

CAROL

**1. Silent night! holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
'Round yon Virgin Mother and child;  
Holy infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**2. Silent night! Holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glory streams from heaven afar,  
Heav'nly 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 thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

*Words: German, Joseph Mohr (1792-1848)  
Translation by John Freeman Young (1820-85)*

*Tune: STILLE NACHT REH 48  
Franz Grüber (1787-1863)*

## A VERY NOISY NATIVITY (part 4)

### PRAYERS AT THE CRIB

*including* THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

### CAROL

**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 on the hay.  
  
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.  
  
Be near me, Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven, to live with Thee there.**

*Words: American, anonymous*

*Music: William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921) NEH 22*

### BLESSING

*We wish you, and all whom you love, a very happy Christmas!*

## Minster Kids

Minster Kids is the Cathedral's Sunday morning children's programme, taking place during the Cathedral Eucharist on Sundays during term time. We leave the main congregation during the first hymn, and through crafts, activities, and storytelling we explore the day's gospel reading and what it means for us, re-joining the service in time for communion. There are separate activities for younger children (pre-school) and older children. During term time we are usually joined by the younger choristers from the Cathedral Choir. Visiting children and new faces are always welcome!

### LATER TODAY

7.00pm	Cathedral Carol Service		Nave
11.15pm	Eucharist of Christmas Night	CW	Nave (and live-streamed)

### CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00am	Holy Communion with Carols	BCP	Quire
10.00am	Cathedral Eucharist	CW	Nave (and live-streamed)
11.15am	Festal Mattins	BCP	Quire
12.15pm	Holy Communion	BCP	Quire
3.30pm	Evening Prayer with Carols	BCP	Quire



Go to [www.churchofengland.org/christmas](http://www.churchofengland.org/christmas) for details of the Church of England's Advent and Christmas theme:

### Follow The Star: Calm and Bright

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The Minster Centre, Church Street, Southwell, NG25 0HD

Tel.: 01636 812649

office@southwellminster.org.uk

www.southwellminster.org

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Southwell Cathedral Chapter: Registered Charity Number 1207138

Would you like to hear more about news, services, concerts and/or events taking place at the Minster?

Join our mailing list by completing the online form at [www.southwellminster.org/newsletter](http://www.southwellminster.org/newsletter)

#### Acknowledgements

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