

St Michael and St Mary Magdalene  
Easthampstead  
**READINGS and NOTICES**  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2011  
Midnight Mass

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**PLEASE TAKE THIS PEW SHEET HOME WITH YOU**

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**In the event of fire or other emergency please do not panic. The Churchwardens and sidespeople are trained to direct you safely from the building by the most appropriate exit.**

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**11.45pm Festal Eucharist**

Celebrant: Fr Guy Cole

Preacher: Revd Peter Bestley

*If you are a taxpayer please use a green envelope for your giving. One can be found at the end of the pew. Pens are available from the Churchwardens to complete and sign it so that the tax can be reclaimed.*

*You are invited to receive the sacrament if you are accustomed to doing so here or elsewhere.*

*If you bring a young child with you and they become restless, books and toy bags are available at the back of church.*

*You are invited to stay for coffee after the service in the Annexe.*

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**CS – Carol Sheet**

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**Carols:**

Introit: CS 28 O come, all ye faithful

Gradual: CS 22 In the bleak midwinter

Offertory: CS 32 Once in royal David's city  
(omit verses 3 and 4)

Communion: CS 29 O little town of Bethlehem

Recessional: CS 19 Hark, the herald-angels sing

*The numbers are shown below as they are sung.*

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**Introit Carol: CS 28** O come, all ye faithful

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**Collect**

Eternal God,  
who made this most holy night  
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:  
bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on  
earth,  
to see the radiance of your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

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**Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10**

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'  
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the Lord to Zion.  
Break forth together into singing,

*Next Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> December, Christmas Day*  
*The Parish Office is open Tues 3.30pm-4.30pm*  
*& Wed 6.30pm-8.00pm. Tel: 01344 425205*  
*Notices need to be in the Parish Office by noon on*  
*Wednesday to appear on the following Sunday Pew Sheet.*  
*Email: [office@stmichaelsesthampstead.org.uk](mailto:office@stmichaelsesthampstead.org.uk)*  
*[www.stmichaelsesthampstead.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelsesthampstead.org.uk)*

you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.  
The Lord has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

This is the word of the Lord  
**All: Thanks be to God**

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**New Testament Reading:** Hebrews 1: 1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

This is the word of the Lord  
**All: Thanks be to God**

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**Gradual Carol: CS 22** In the bleak midwinter

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**Gospel:** John 1: 1-14

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth

This is the gospel of the Lord.  
**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

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**Offertory Carol: CS 32**

Once in royal David's city (omit verses 3 and 4)

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**Post Communion Prayer:**

God our Father,  
in this night you have made known to us again  
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:  
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him  
until the day dawns

and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.  
To him be glory both now and for ever.  
**Amen**

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**Recessional Carol: CS 19**

Hark, the herald-angels sing

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## Notices

**Dates for the coming week's services can be found in the church porch. For other information look in The Link or on our website.**

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**Parents:** To comply with our Safe from Harm Policy please ensure that all children are accompanied to the toilet during services. For Health & Safety reasons please keep your children with you in the Annexe after the service as no one is in church to supervise them. Youth Children & Safe from Harm Committee.

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**Exploring Faith:** A new Exploring Faith course is starting on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2012. For more details please see flyer at the back of church.

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**Christmas Collections:** The collections from the Christmas Services on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> December will go to Shelter. Please gift aid your donations if you are a tax payer by filling in the envelopes provided.

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**Parish Office Christmas Closure:** The Parish Office will be closed weeks beginning 19<sup>th</sup> Dec and 26<sup>th</sup> Dec. It will re-open on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January at the usual time 3.30-4.30pm.

## Christmas Services 2011

### Saturday 24th December

4.00pm Children's Eucharist with Nativity Play

10.00pm First Mass of Christmas

11.45pm Midnight Mass

### Sunday 25th December

10.00am Said Eucharist with Carols



## Wishing you all a Merry Christmas

From Fr Guy, Revd Peter and Revd La. Thank you to everyone for your best wishes cards and presents.