**Outdoor Carols at St Peter’s**

**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.

And through all his wondrous childhood

he would honour and obey,

love and watch the lowly Maiden,

in whose gentle arms he lay:

Christian children all must be

mild, obedient, good as he.

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.

**Ding dong merrily on high**

In heav'n the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky
Is riv'n with angel singing
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And "Io, io, io!"
By priest and people sungen
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers,
May you beautifully rhyme
Your eve'time song, ye singers
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!

**God rest you merry, gentlemen**

let nothing you dismay

remember, Christ, our Saviour

was born on Christmas day

to save us all from Satan's power

when we were gone astray

*O tidings of comfort and joy,*

*comfort and joy*

*O tidings of comfort and joy.*

From God our heavenly Father,

a blessed angel came;

and unto certain shepherds

brought tidings of the same:

how that in Bethlehem was born

the Son of God by name,

*Refrain*

And when they came to Bethlehem

where our dear Saviour lay,

they found him in a manger

where oxen feed on hay;

his mother Mary kneeling,

unto the Lord did pray:

 *Refrain*

Now to the Lord sing praises,

all you within this place,

and with true love and charity

each other now embrace;

this holy tide of Christmas

all others doth deface:

 *Refrain*

**In the bleak mid-winter**

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 mid-winter,
Long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him

Nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign:
In the bleak mid-winter
A stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty
Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels

May have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim
Thronged the air –
But only his mother
In her maiden bliss
Worshipped the beloved
With a kiss.

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.

**O little town of Bethlehem,**

how still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep

the silent stars go by.

Yet in thy dark streets shineth

the everlasting light;

the hopes and fears of all the years

are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars, together

proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary;
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently,

the wondrous gift is given!

So God imparts to human hearts

the blessings of his heaven.

No ear may hear his coming;

but in this world of sin,

where meek souls will receive him, still

the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem

descend to us, we pray;

cast out our sin and enter in,

be born to us today.

We hear the Christmas angels

the great glad tidings tell:

O come to us, abide with us,

our Lord Emmanuel.

**The first Noel** the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

They lookèd up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.
This star drew nigh to the north-west:
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there, in his presence,
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord
who hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood mankind hath bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

**While shepherds watched their flocks by night**
All seated on the ground
The angel of the Lord came down
And glory shone around

"Fear not", said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and humankind"

"To you, in David's town this day
Is born of David's line
The Saviour who is Christ the Lord
And this shall be the sign"

"The heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands
And in a manger laid"

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song

"All glory be to God on high
And on the earth be peace
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease"

**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

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar;
Heavenly hosts sing Al-le-lu-ia!
Christ the Saviour is born!
Christ the Saviour is born!

Silent night, holy night
Son of God, oh, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth

**Joy to the world!** The Lord is 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 world! The Saviour reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks, 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

glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love

**We wish you a merry Christmas**We wish you a merry Christmas
We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year

We wish you a merry ChristmasWe wish you a merry Christmas
We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year

Now, bring us some figgy pudding
Now, bring us some figgy pudding
Now, bring us some figgy pudding
And bring some out here

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year

We all like our figgy pudding
We all like our figgy pudding
We all like our figgy pudding
So bring some out here

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year

We won't go until we get some
We won't go until we get some
We won't go until we get some
So bring it out here

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year…

We wish you a merry Christmas
We wish you a merry Christmas

We wish you a merry Christmas
We wish you a merry Christmas

and a happy new year

a happy new year

a happy new year

a happy new year

a happy new year

a happy new year

a happy new year

a happy new year

a

happy

new

year.

**Thank you for joining us this evening.** Please join us again on:

**12th December:** 10.30am Christingle

**19th December:** 4pm Nine Lessons and Carols (book your place by emailing officestpetersmaney@yahoo.co.uk)

**Christmas Eve:**

10am Crib Servicefor babies and toddlers

4.30pmoutdoor Nativity performance and Carols

11.30pm Midnight Communion

**Christmas Day:**

10.30am Christmas Communion