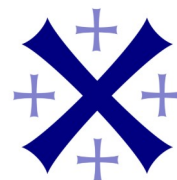


**ANGLICAN CHAPLAINCY OF SAINT ANDREW,
COSTA DEL SOL EAST, SPAIN**



Sunday 22nd December 2024–4th Sunday of Advent

Collect

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Old Testament Reading

Micah 5:2–5a

²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ⁵and he shall be the one of peace.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Canticle

Magnificat (The Song of Mary, Luke 1:46–55)

¹My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

²From this day all generations will call me blessed; the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.

³He has mercy on those who fear him, from generation to generation.

⁴He has shown strength with his arm and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

⁵Casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly.

⁶He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.

⁷He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, to remember his promise of mercy,

⁸The promise made to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children for ever.

New Testament Reading

Hebrews 10:5–10

⁵Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; ⁶in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. ⁷Then I said, “See, God, I have come to do your will, O God” (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).’

⁸When he said above, ‘You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings’ (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, ‘See, I have come to do your will.’ He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:39–45

Alleluia, Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

All: Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.' And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Scriptures for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day 2024

Isaiah 9:2–7

Psalm 96

Titus 2:11–14

Luke 2:1–20

Anglican Chaplaincy of Saint Andrew - Charity of the Month for December 2024 and January 2025

Tearfund Middle East Emergency Appeal

The suffering across the region is escalating daily. A year on, the conflict precipitated on the 7th October 2023 is causing devastating humanitarian needs. The lives of men, women and children are being destroyed across the Middle East.

In Gaza, Tearfund's partner is providing life-saving medicine and desperately needed healthcare.

In Lebanon, Tearfund are working through local churches to provide food, mattresses and other essentials to people forced from their homes by the fighting.

In the West Bank, Tearfund are working with the Diocese of Jerusalem who are providing healthcare and education to those affected.

Prayer for the Middle East

Dear God, We cry out to you on behalf of the people seriously affected by the conflict in the Middle East. Our hearts break at the devastation and suffering that we see, and we know it breaks yours, too. We ask that you would stretch out your mighty hand to bring an end to this war. We cry out for people who have been injured or traumatised, who have lost loved ones or their homes. Please provide everything they need and be their comfort, their hope, their healer, and their safe refuge. We pray for your peace to reign. We look to you as our Saviour and the hope of the world. Amen.