

**The Priory Church of the Holy Trinity
Micklegate, York**



Christingle Service

Christmas Eve at 4.00 pm

Contents

Page 2 - How to make your Christingle

Page 3 - A Christingle prayer reflection

Page 5 - The Christingle Service

Page 15 - Colour-in Christingle

Welcome to this special service. We are very grateful to you for joining us online and by telephone. We would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas and invite you to join us for any of our services in the future.

Christmas appeal

This year, we are fundraising for four York charities that support and reach out to some of the most vulnerable people in our communities. It is during the time of lockdown that the most vulnerable have struggled the most. The church will distribute proceeds from the Christmas Appeal between SASH, MySight York, Older Citizens Advocacy York and The Island.

How to donate:

- Scan the QR code opposite.
- Go to <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/15022>
- By BACS or electronic transfer to account 16846098, sort code 05-04-54 (Yorkshire Bank) - please add 'Christmas appeal' to the payment reference.
- By cheque payable to PCC Holy Trinity Church (marked as 'Christmas appeal' on the reverse) and post to 2 Cromarty Cottages, Birdsall, Malton, YO17 9NN.



How to join this service

This year due to COVID-19, the Christingle Service will be held online and by telephone only. Please do not attend the church building. To take part, we have three ways for you to join. All options will be live from 3.50 pm.

- Telephone: dial 0131 460 1196 and enter the meeting ID 894 0658 1489 when asked.
- Zoom: head to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89406581489> and join us on Zoom from your computer, phone or tablet.
- Facebook: head to <https://www.facebook.com/holytrinityyork> and watch the live video.

Making your Christingle

You may have collected everything you need to make a Christingle from the church. If you have not, you can find what you need around the house. Don't panic if you haven't got the right ingredients to hand – we've got some ideas for making a Christingle from whatever you have below.

What you will need

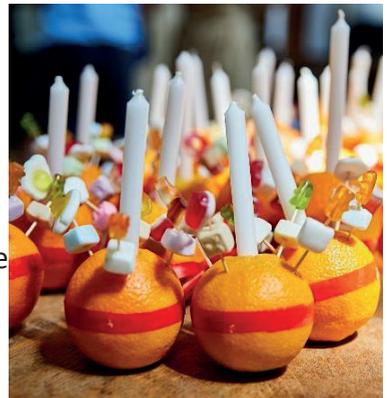
- An orange
- Red ribbon or tape (or even a piece of red string or wool)
- A small candle (it needs to be inserted in the orange)
- Four cocktail sticks
- Sweets (e.g. Dolly mixtures, jelly sweets or liquorice all sorts work well) or dried fruits to add to the cocktail sticks – both need to be soft enough to push a cocktail stick through
- Scissors or a knife to make an incision in the orange

Safety tips

- Wash your hands before handling the fruit and sweets (and keep hand sanitiser away from lit flames).
- Make sure long hair is tied back.
- Supervise children near cocktail sticks (sharp ends!) and lit candles.
- Hold your Christingle upright and away from your body.
- Keep any loose fabrics (scarves etc) away from your lit flame.
- Don't move around with a lit Christingle.
- Always place your Christingle where you can see it and make sure it won't fall over. Never leave a lit candle unattended.
- Be careful when you put your candle out as hot wax can burn.

How to make a Christingle

- Take your orange (or smaller fruit) and fasten a piece of red sticky tape/ribbon/wool around the middle.
- Cut a small cross in the top of the orange. Wedge the candle firmly into the orange.
- Load four cocktail sticks with a mixture of dried fruits or sweets so that the points are covered, and insert around the base of the candle.



A Christingle prayer reflection

When the Wise Men visited Jesus after this birth in Bethlehem, they brought gifts (Matthew 2.11). At Christmas many of us give and receive gifts – a symbol of the love we have for family and friends. The Christingle reminds us of the many good things God gives, and of the need to share them, not only with our family and friends, but with the whole world.

Take a moment to look at your Christingle.

Think about the orange.

- The orange represents the world. God made the world for us to enjoy.
- What part of the world are you particularly grateful for today? A special place, a creature, another person? Give thanks for it.
- Sadly, we have all been guilty of damaging God's creation or not appreciating it enough. Take a moment to say sorry and to pray for God's creation where it is suffering.

Think about the red band (ribbon or tape).

- The red band (ribbon or tape) represents the love of Jesus, who gave his life as a gift for us.
- Who is special to you? Whose love are you grateful for today? Give thanks for them.
- At this time of year, some are feeling lonely or sad. Pray for any particular needs of those known to you.

Think about the four cocktail sticks and the fruits or sweets.

- The cocktail sticks and fruits remind us of the four seasons, of food and all the good things God gives us.
- Which season are you most grateful for? What are your favourite foods? Give thanks for them.
- Some people in our country and in the world do not have enough food. Pray for them.

Think about the candle/light source.

- The candle represents Jesus, the Light of the World, who brings joy, happiness and hope to the world and all people.
- What things make you full of joy? Give thanks for them now.
- Some people do not feel joyful or hopeful and are struggling. Pray for them.
- Bring all your prayers together by saying 'Amen.'

Welcome

It's wonderful to be with you all this evening for our first ever online Christingle service. I'm Mark the Pastoral Assistant here at Holy Trinity and I welcome you to my home near York. Although we can't gather in person through the wonders of technology, it is a privilege to be able to share this special service with you all on this Christmas Eve.

A little later in the service we're going to be lighting our Christingles. Don't worry if you haven't got a pre-prepared Christingle to hand. You can either colour in the Christingle on p.15 or you can have a Christingle scavenger hunt and find items in your home that represent the different parts of the Christingle.

Christmas this year is going to be different. But Christmas is different every year in every house and family, sometimes in happy ways and sometimes in sad ways. All over the world, children will be celebrating Christmas in all kinds of good ways and less good ways. Some in refugee camps, some in wars and others in lovely, secure places of warmth and comfort. Yet, however great the darkness, Christmas has at its heart the idea that the light of God comes into the world.

I'm going to start with a little prayer, praying for this Christmas, for the light of Christ and for The Children's Society: Lord Jesus, light of the world. As I hold this Christingle and think about Your great love for me and for those especially in places of darkness at this time, give me strength, give us all strength to take this light into the world, to share your love with others, especially vulnerable children and young people. And we remember particularly before you, the work of The Children's Society, guard and bless them.

Amen.

The beginning

Christ has brought us out of darkness
to live in his marvellous light.

I bring you good news of great joy:
a Saviour has been born to you. Alleluia.

Unto us a child is born,
unto us a Son is given. Alleluia.

Hear the words of St Luke: When the angels had gone from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us.' So they hastened, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

He is Christ the Lord. Alleluia.
We worship and adore him. Alleluia.

Carol

**Ding-dong! Merrily on high
in heaven the bells are ringing.
Ding-dong! Verily the sky
is riven with angels singing:
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!**

**E'en so, here below, below,
let steeple bells be swungen;
and i-o, i-o, i-o,
by priest and people sungen!
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!**

**Pray you, dutifully prime
your matin chime, you ringers;
may you beautifully rhyme
your evetime song, you singers:
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!**

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Each Sunday in Advent, we light a candle on the Advent wreath to remind us of those who prepared the way for Jesus, the light of the world. Today we remember the Virgin Mary who bore the Christ child and tomorrow we will light the fifth candle symbolising Jesus the light of the world.

God our Father, the angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary that she was to be the mother of your Son. Though Mary was afraid, she responded to your call with joy. Help us, whom you call to serve you, to share like her in your great work of bringing to our world your love and healing. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world.

Amen.

As we think of those who prepared the way for Christ, we say:

Jesus, Light of the World,

Shine in this place.

Jesus, Light of the World,

Shine in our hearts.

Jesus, Light of the World,

Shine in our lives.

Jesus, Light of the World,

Shine in all the earth. Amen.

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

Father God, we are sorry for the things we say and do which make you sad, and for not thinking of others before ourselves. We are sorry for times when we have seen people in need and ignored them and walked on by. Please forgive us and help us to love you and other people, so we may share your light with others and bring hope to the world. Amen.

Carol

Join in with Sing Christingle! sung by Westbury-on-Trym Parish Church Choir

**The Christingle is made with an orange,
Telling us of the world God made,
By the fruits of the earth in their seasons,
We can see the love of God displayed.**

**Sing Christingle, Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, it's the light of Christ.
Sing Christingle, Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, light of Christ.**

**God of love, we give thanks now for Jesus,
We remember his birth again,
But the red ribbon round the Christingle,
Tells the story of his cross and pain.**

**Sing Christingle, Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, it's the light of Christ.
Sing Christingle, Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, light of Christ.**

**To complete the Christingle: a candle,
Shining out in the darkest night,
Jesus promised to lead us and guide us,
Come and celebrate the world's true light!**

**Sing Christingle, Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, it's the light of Christ.
Sing Christingle, Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, light of Christ.**

Reading

The birth of Jesus in Bethlehem (St Luke 2: 1-7).

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

God's word is a lantern to our feet
and a light to our path.

Carol

**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.**

**Silent night, holy night.
Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavn'ly hosts sing alleluia:
Christ the Saviour is born.**

**Silent night, holy night.
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.**

The blessing of the Crib

A hallowed day has dawned upon us. Come and worship the Lord:
for a great light has shone on the earth.

Let us pray that God our Father will bless this crib, and that all who worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father, on this day your Son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary for us and for our salvation: bless this crib, which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth; may all who see it be strengthened in faith and receive the fullness of life he came to bring, who is alive and reigns for ever. Amen.

Carol

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 darkness 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 in us today.**

**We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.**

Reading

The shepherds visit the Christ child (St Luke 2: 8-20).

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

God's word is a lantern to our feet
and a light to our path.

Carol

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
an 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 all mankind.

“To you, in David’s town, this day
is born of David’s line
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:

“The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all simply wrapped in swaddling clothes
and in a manger laid.”

Thus spoke the angel. Suddenly
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

“All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
to those on whom his favor rests
goodwill shall never cease.”

The Christingle

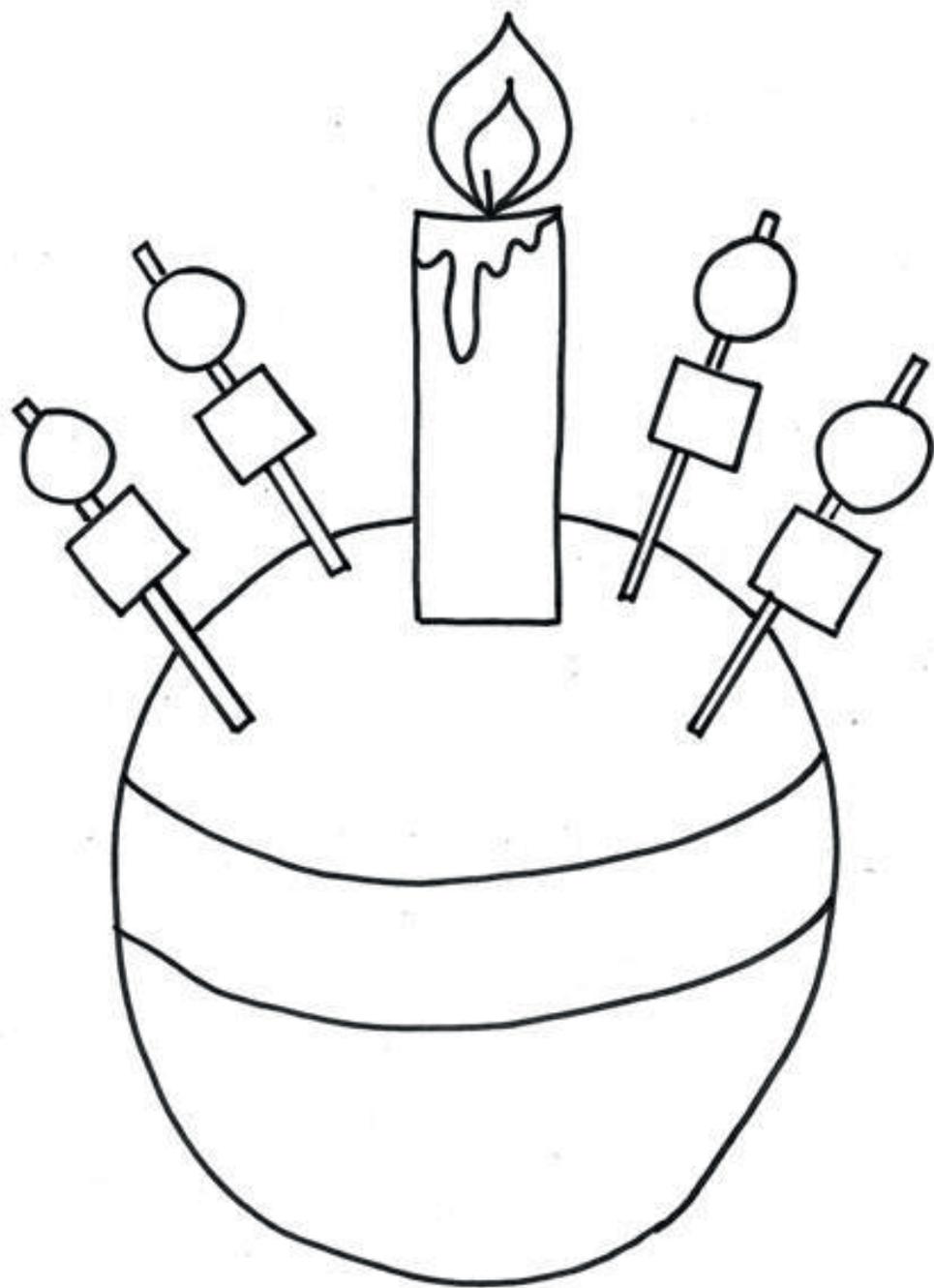
Just over 50 years ago, The Children's Society introduced Christingle services to the Church of England. For over 50 years in services around the country, Christingle has been a treasured part of Christmas with so many children and young people holding oranges with candles flickering with warmth and light and hope.

In the darkness of winter days, we make Christingle's to symbolise the world. That's the point of the orange because it's round and it's like the world. They have fruit of the earth on them, all the good things that the world produces for us. We have sweets on ours to symbolise this. If you're like me you will slowly eat them through the service. Although you will probably be told that is the wrong thing to do.

They have a red band round them, which reminds us that Jesus came and died on the cross. It's the red band of the love of Jesus shown in the shedding of his blood on the cross.

And they have a light, which is the light of Christ. We light the light to say to the ourselves, we will be light in the world. This little Christingle candle reminds us that no matter how dark the room, this little candle can extinguish that darkness. And what happens is that God's love and God's light shine through Jesus Christ. We receive that light and that love and then we can reflect it to those around us. We can pick up the phone to an elderly person having a tough time and feeling alone. We can send a card or a text message to somebody who's struggling. We can leave food at our local foodbank. What Christingle tells us most of all, is that when we stand together, even remotely online or by telephone this evening, our light will shine brighter. So, let's stand together whether we are in York, Nottingham, Canada, Glasgow, Tanzania or Liverpool.

We are now ready to light our Christingles. So with your parents or your guardian, take a hold of your Christingle and light it with the first prayer. But if you don't have a Christingle that's okay. If you're colouring in the Christingle, then colour in the appropriate parts as we say each prayer. Of if you have done the scavenger hunt around your home, then reflect on those items you've found, as we say these prayers together.



Lord Jesus, Light of the world, I hold this Christingle as a sign of your love.
May we share your light in the darkness.

The candle, planted deep within the world, as a sign that you made your home among us, and lived with the poor and neglected.
May we share your light in the darkness.

The ribbon, wrapped around the earth, a sign of your love shown on the cross, enfolding the whole world with your saving love.
May we share your light in the darkness.

The fruits and sweets, signs of all the good things you have made, given to us that we might share them fairly so everyone can have enough.
May we share your light in the darkness.

Lord Jesus, Light of the World, as I hold this Christingle and think about your great love for me, help me to take this light out into the world and to share your love with others, especially those who need it most. 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 for ever,
and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children
in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven,
to live with thee there.**

Prayers

Lord Jesus, born in a stable, yet surrounded by love, we pray for all children, that they may be nurtured in communities of care.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, cradled in a manger, kept warm and protected from harm, we pray for children and young people who feel unsafe and afraid. Help them to find places of safety.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, worshipped by shepherds and kings, we pray for The Children's Society, SASH and The Island and all those who form communities of support around vulnerable children and young people.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, God with us, we pray for children and young people who feel alone, please give them someone to support and help them.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Loving God, your Son told his disciples to become like little children. Lead us to work for the welfare and protection of all young people. May we respect their dignity that they may flourish in life, following the example of the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Dear God, at this Christmas time thank you for loving us, our families and friends. Give us joyful hearts and helping hands so that your love may be seen in all we do. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

On this special day of celebration, we are gathered together as one family to give thanks for Christ's presence in our world and to light our Christingles to symbolise God's love. We pray today for all Christians, that we may be the light of Christ in our world.

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Carol

**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 nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns!
let all 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
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

The Sending Out

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ-child be ours this Christmas.

Amen.

We go in peace: To share the peace of God with all we meet.

We go in love: To share God's gift of love with the world.

We go in the light of Christ: To shine as lights in the world.

To the glory of God the Father. Amen.

This Order of Service is for use in Holy Trinity Priory Church, York.

The Advent, Christmas and Epiphany hymns and choral music were recorded by St Martin's Voices, directed by Andrew Earis, with organist Ben Giddens.

Hymns and music are reproduced under CCLI License Number 1324258.

Material is taken from:

- Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England;
Common Worship: Times and Seasons; The Promise of His Glory, material from which is included in this service, copyright © The Archbishops' Council (2006).

-Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

www.holytrinityyork.org
info@holytrinityyork.org