

# Zion Church Christmas 2016

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let earth receive her King.*

## Church Collections



During the Carol Service on Sunday evening, 18<sup>th</sup> December, a collection will be taken the proceeds of which will be used to house Syrian Refugees and to enable people to exit direct provision. This is a Diocesan Appeal, run in conjunction with the Irish Refugee Council.

1

The collections taken up in church on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be jointly shared between the Parish Special Needs Fund and the above appeal.

## Register of Vestry Members

### Notice of the Annual Revision of the Register of Vestry Members.

2

At the meeting of the Select Vestry arranged for Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017 the *'Register of Vestry Members will be revised by adding the names of any qualified persons who wish to be members of Zion Church and removing the names of those no longer qualified since the revision of the register'* last January.

Before January 26<sup>th</sup> all you need to do in order to be included in the register is complete a short form with the details of your name, address and signature. The forms will be available in Church from December 23<sup>rd</sup>.



# O Holy night,

The stars are brightly shining...

You will find a timetable of Services for Christmas on page 3.



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.

## Luke tells of the birth of Jesus

**2** In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

*“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”*

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

*The Cloisters at the Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem.*



# Zion Church Christmas Services

## **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December – The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

9.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Service of the Word and the Sunday Club Nativity Play  
5.00pm Carols by Candlelight  
*followed by seasonal refreshments in the parochial hall*

**Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December** - 6.30pm Zion Parish School Carol Service

**Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> December** – 10.30am Holy Communion

## **Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve**

3.00pm Children's Service and Blessing of the Crib  
11.00pm The First Eucharist of Christmas

## **Christmas Day – The Nativity of Our Lord**

9.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Holy Communion

## **Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> December - St. Stephen**

10.30am Holy Communion

## **Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> December**

*No Service*

*For all inquiries about Church Services  
please visit our Website  
[www.zionparish.ie](http://www.zionparish.ie)*