

Rutland Choral Society

incorporating Rutland Singers

with the choir of English Martyrs Academy

Caroline Trutz – director

Keith Hannis – piano

presents

Wonderful

Christmas

A joyful evening of
Traditional Carols and
Modern Christmas Songs

All Saints' Church, Oakham

Saturday 13 December – 7:30pm



Dot Dickinson R.I.P.



Tonight's concert is presented in memory of Dot Dickinson, long standing member of the Rutland Choral Society, who was devoted to the choir, not only as a valuable member of the sopranos, but also as an enthusiastic and devoted chairman over a number of years – indeed, she chaired her last AGM just a few weeks before she passed away on 24 September following a brave battle with cancer.

You are invited to make a donation to Cancer Research UK this evening in memory of Dot, and we hope that you will feel able to give generously using the collecting buckets as you leave.

Congregational Carol

1. 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 to-night.

2. 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 wond'ring love.

3. 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.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us to-day.
We hear the Christmas Angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!

Choir

Ding Dong Merrily on High (*G R Woodward / 16th century French arr Charles Wood*)
Do You Hear What I Hear? (*Noel Regney & Gloria Shayne*)

Reading

'Memories of Christmas' by Thomas Hardy (*read by Brian Lewis*)

Choir of English Martyrs Academy

When I grow up, from Matilda (*Tim Minchin*)
Sing! (*Gary Barlow / Andrew Lloyd Webber*)

Congregational Carol (*children sing the first verse*)

1. 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 in the hay.

2. (*All*) 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.

3. 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

Choir

White Christmas (*Irving Berlin, arr Roy Rongwals*)

Reading

'Kid Stuff' by Frank Horne (*read by Graham Reeve*)

A Capella Choir

Infant Holy (*Polish Carol, arr David Willcocks*)

Ring Christmas Bells! (*Mykola Leontovich*)

Choir

Nella Fantasia (*Chiara Ferrau / Ennio Morricone*)

When a Child is Born – *solo Clare Askham (Fred Jacobson & Zacar)*

Congregational Carol (*first verse solo – Eve Mottram*)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. 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.</p> <p>2. (<i>All</i>) 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.</p> <p>3. 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.</p> | <p>4. For he is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew, he was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew; and he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.</p> <p>5. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love, for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above; and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.</p> <p>6. 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; when like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.</p> |
|---|---|

*** INTERVAL ***

during which refreshments will be served

Congregational Carol

1. God rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay,
for Jesus 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.

2. From God our heavenly Father
a blessèd angel came,
and unto certain shepherds
brought tidings of the same,
how that in Bethlehem was born:
the Son of God by name:

O tidings of comfort and joy.

3. The shepherds at those tidings
rejoicèd much in mind,
and left their flocks a-feeding
in tempest, storm, and wind,
and went to Bethlehem straightway
this blessèd Babe to find:

O tidings of comfort and joy.

4. But when to Bethlehem they came,
whereat this infant lay,
they found him in a manger,
where oxen feed on hay;
his mother Mary kneeling
unto the Lord did pray:

O tidings of comfort and joy

5. (All) Now to the Lord sing praises,
all you within this place,
and with true love and brotherhood
each other now embrace;
this holy tide of Christmas
all others doth deface:

O tidings of comfort and joy.

Choir

In The Bleak Midwinter – *solos Glenys Seymour & Geoff Thomson*
(*Christina Rossetti / Harold Darke*)

God So Loved the World – *solo Judith Doverty (Bob Chilcott)*

Reading

'Christmas in 1914' by Mike Harding (*read by Judy Ford*)

Congregational Carol

1. Hark! the herald angels sing:
'Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations rise!
Join the triumph of the skies!
With the angelic host proclaim:
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'
*Hark! the herald angels sing:
'Glory to the new-born King!'*

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord:
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with man to dwell:
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
*Hark! the herald angels sing:
'Glory to the new-born King!'*

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.
*Hark! the herald angels sing:
'Glory to the new-born King!'*

Duet (*soloists Geoff Thomson and Judith Doverty*)
That's What Christmas Means to Me

Reading

'Christmas Eve' by Pam Ayres (*read by Ena Hornsblow*)

Choir

Silent Night (*Joseph Mohr / Franz Gruber*)

The Most Wonderful Time of the Year (*Eddie Pole & George Wyle*)

(audience join in second time)

It's the most wonderful time of the year
With the kids jingle belling
And everyone telling you "Be of good cheer"
It's the most wonderful time of the year
It's the hap-happiest season of all
With those holiday greetings and gay
happy meetings
When friends come to call
It's the hap- happiest season of all

There'll be parties for hosting
Marshmallows for toasting
And caroling out in the snow
There'll be scary ghost stories
And tales of the glories of
Christmases long, long ago

It's the most wonderful time of the year
There'll be much mistltoeing

And hearts will be glowing
When love ones are near
It's the most wonderful time of the year

There'll be parties for hosting
Marshmallows for toasting
And caroling out in the snow
There'll be scary ghost stories
And tales of the glories of
Christmases long, long ago

It's the most wonderful time of the year
There'll be much mistltoeing
And hearts will be glowing
When love ones are near
It's the most wonderful time
It's the most wonderful time
It's the most wonderful time
It's the most wonderful time of the year

Congregational Carol

1. O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the King of Angels.
*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.*

2. God of God,
Light of Light,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
very God,
begotten, not created.
*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.*

3. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
'Glory to God
in the highest'.
*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.*



With grateful thanks to:

James Barlow, Musical Director of the Choir of English Martyrs Academy, who sadly cannot be here tonight;

Kevin Slingsby for designing the poster and programme and printing;

Oakham Parish Church for their warm welcome to us all;

All those who helped organise, prepare and serve refreshments;

All of you for coming and making it an evening to remember!

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas!