

O Come All... ¹⁵ (Music for Xmas)

VO: At this Christmas holiday, meantime, peace, joy and the blessings of Christ's coming
be with ^{you} and your families

FADE: Let us pray together for a few moments, in words from the liturgy of the Church

PRAYERS

The birth of Christ is joy for all creation, for He is saviour of the world: many of the traditional, and some modern carols too, which may at first sight or hearing not seem to have too much to do with the gospel story, are in fact not unlike some of the Old Testament psalms in seeing the universal dimension of God's coming among his people. Listen in prayer now, (for these are songs of praise to God) to a couple of them. The words of this could possibly have been written by one of the early Greek fathers of the Church, who loved allegory - "The Holly & The Ivy"

MUSIC (Music for Xmas 2³)

The psalm used for reflection after the reading of scripture at Christmas midnight Mass reminded me this year of this song of Rolf Harris 'Remember Bethlehem'

MUSIC (Rolf Harris 1⁶)

Let us think specially, in our prayers these days of children: your own children, children who are orphaned or deprived, children who have no joy or happiness in their lives, children born this Christmas - that the Lord may bless them, give them His peace, and bring them to know the Child who was born for them at Bethlehem

And finally, a pilgrim carol, from France: Rolf Harris again - it's humorous. ^{but it ends with a perfect Xmas prayer}
MUSIC (Rolf Harris 1⁴)