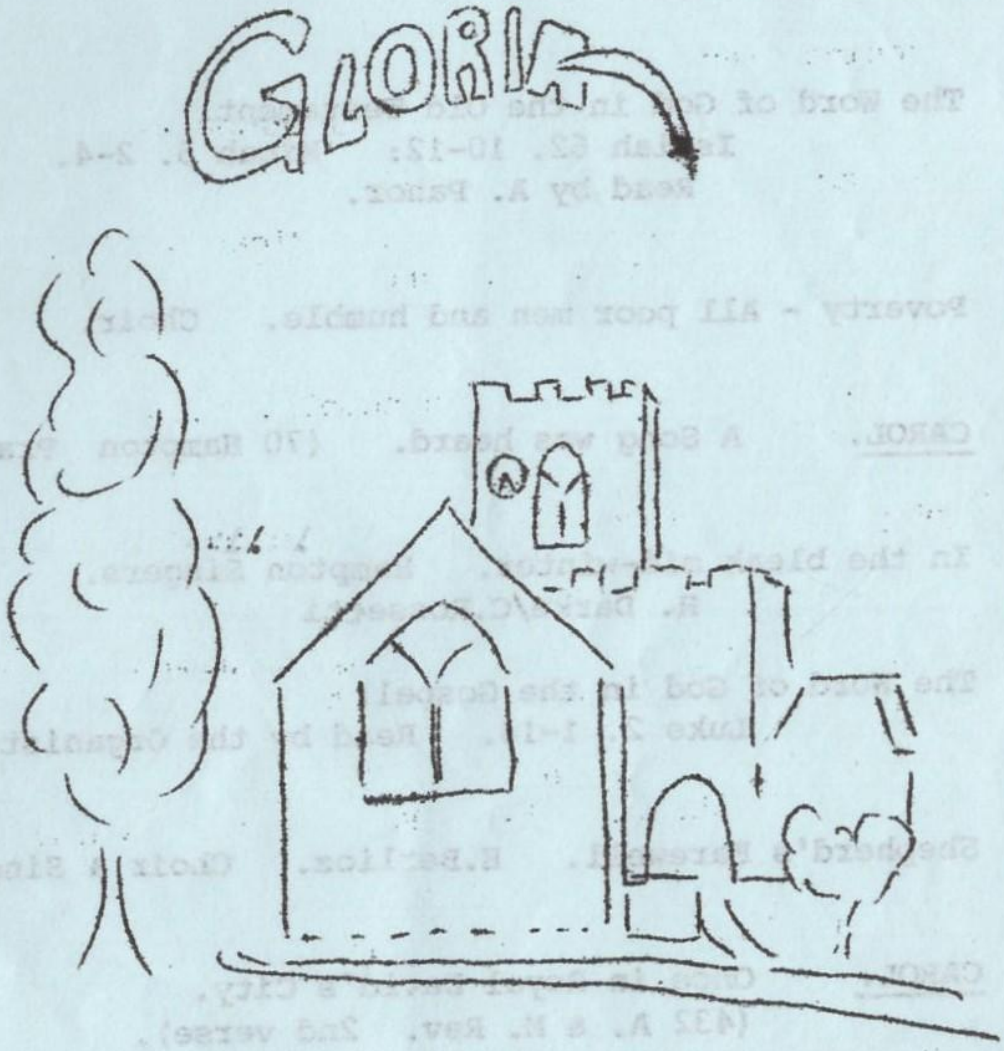
A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Hampton-in-Arden Parish Church

6.30 p.m. December 28, 1987.



ORDER OF SERVICE.

Introit. "Torches" J. Joubert. Choir and Hampton Singers. 150

Welcome.

CAROL. Hark the herald angels. (60 A. & M.Rev.) 39

Opening Prayer.

The Word of God in the Old Testament.
Isaiah 62. 10-12: Micah 5. 2-4.
Read by A. Pahor.

Poverty - All poor men and humble. Choir.

CAROL. A Song was heard. (70 Hampton Praise).

In the bleak mid-winter. Hampton Singers.
H. Darke/C.Rossetti

The Word of God in the Gospel.
Luke 2. 1-14. Read by the Organist.

Shepherd's Farewell. H.Berlioz. Choir & Singers. 142

CAROL. Once in Royal David's City.
(432 A. & M. Rev. 2nd verse). 100

Sussex Carol. Vaughan Williams. Choir.

The Word of God in the Epistles.
Philippians 2. 1-11. Read by a Warden.

Nativity Carol. John Rutter. Hampton Singers.

A music item.

CAROL. God rest you merry gentlemen. 29
(71 Hampton Praise).

Coventry Carol. Choir.

Reading. "An Old Story". Poem by J. Clarke.

A Virgin most pure. Eng.Trad. Choir & Singers. 14

CAROL. See amid the winter snow (80 Hampton Praise/ Collection.) 103

Good King Wenceslas. Hampton Singers. 34

Prayer.

Blessing.

CAROL. O Come all ye faithful (59 A. & M. Rev.) 88

Christmas is Really for the Children.

Christmas is really
for the children.
Especially for children
who like animals, stables,
stars and babies wrapped
in swaddling clothes.
Then there are wise men,
kings in fine robes,
humble shepherds and a
hint of rich perfume.

Easter is not really
for the children
unless accompanied by a
cream-filled egg.
It has whips, blood, nails,
a spear and allegations
of body snatching.
It involves politics, God
and the sins of the world.
It is not good for people
of a nervous disposition.
They would do better to
think of rabbits, chickens
and the first snowdrop
of spring.

Or they'd do better to
wait for a re-run of
Christmas without asking
too many questions about
what Jesus did when he grew up
or whether there's any connection.

Steve Turner.

Our thanks to Stewart Reeve and the Church Choir,
to Andrew Dicks and the Hampton Singers, and to
the brass ensemble for carols round the village
beforehand.