

Jesus In The Manger

Infant Script

by

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CAST LIST

N.B. In the following list, the bracketed number shows the number of spoken lines each role has

An asterisk (*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.

Narrators

Narrator 1	(4)
Narrator 2	(3)
Narrator 3	(3)
Narrator 4	(4)
Narrator 5	(3)
Narrator 6	(4)
Narrator 7	(5)

Travellers To Bethlehem

*Mary	(6)
Joseph	(8)
Donkey	(0)
Friend 1	(2)
Friend 2	(1)

Kings

*King 1	(7)
*King 2	(7)
*King 3	(6)
Camel 1	(0)
Camel 2	(0)
Camel 3	(0)

Shepherds

Sam	(4)
Tom	(2)
Jenny	(2)
Helen	(2)

The Market

*Seller 1	(1)
*Seller 2	(1)
*Seller 3	(1)
*Seller 4	(1)
Buyer 1	(1)
Buyer 2	(1)
Buyer 3	(1)
Buyer 4	(1)

Other Characters

Innkeeper	(5)
Innkeepers Wife	(3)
Angel	(3)

N.B. In addition to the Characters listed a Chorus of Stable Animals and Onlookers will be required.

SPEAKING ROLES BY NUMBER OF LINES

N.B. In the following list, the number shows how many spoken lines each role has. An asterisk (*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.

Joseph.....	8
*King 1.....	7
*King 2.....	7
*King 3.....	6
*Mary.....	6
Innkeeper.....	5
Narrator 7.....	5
Narrator 1.....	4
Narrator 4.....	4
Narrator 6.....	4
Sam.....	4
Narrator 2.....	3
Narrator 3.....	3
Narrator 5.....	3
Innkeepers Wife.....	3
Angel.....	3
Tom.....	2
Jenny.....	2
Helen.....	2
Friend 1.....	2
Friend 2.....	1
*Seller 1.....	1
*Seller 2.....	1
*Seller 3.....	1
*Seller 4.....	1
Buyer 1.....	1
Buyer 2.....	1
Buyer 3.....	1
Buyer 4.....	1

CAST LIST IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER (WITH LINE COUNT)

N.B. In the following list, the number shows how many spoken lines each role has. An asterisk (*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.

Angel.....	3
Buyer 1	1
Buyer 2	1
Buyer 3	1
Buyer 4	1
Friend 1.....	2
Friend 2.....	1
Helen	2
Innkeeper.....	5
Innkeepers Wife.....	3
Jenny	2
Joseph	8
*King 1	7
*King 2	7
*King 3	6
*Mary	6
Narrator 1.....	4
Narrator 2.....	3
Narrator 3.....	3
Narrator 4.....	4
Narrator 5.....	3
Narrator 6.....	4
Narrator 7.....	5
Sam	4
*Seller 1	1
*Seller 2	1
*Seller 3	1
*Seller 4	1
Tom.....	2

Non speaking roles:- Camels 1-3, Chorus of Stable Animals, Chorus of Onlookers and a Donkey.

CHARACTERS IN EACH SCENE

Prelude

Narrators 1-7

Scene One

Donkey

Friend 1

Friend 2

Joseph

Mary

Scene Two

Camels 1-3

Kings 1-3

Narrators 1-3

Scene Three

Buyers 1-4

Innkeeper

Innkeepers Wife

Joseph

Mary

Narrators 1-7

Sellers 1-4

Scene Four

Angel

Helen

Jenny

Narrator 4

Sam

Tom

Scene Five

Buyers 1-4

Innkeepers Wife

Innkeepers Wife

Joseph

Kings 1-3

Mary

Narrator 1

Onlookers

Sellers 1-4

Shepherds

Stable Animals

Entire Cast for final song and bows

LIST OF PROPERTIES**Prelude**

No properties required

Scene One

No properties required

Scene Two

GoldKing 1
 FrankincenseKing 2
 Myrrh.....King 3

Scene Three

Basket labelled 'figs'Seller 1
 Basket labelled 'spice'Seller 2
 Basket labelled 'cloth'Seller 3
 Basket labelled 'oil'Seller 4
 Coins..... Buyer 1

Scene Four

Toy lamb Sam

Scene Five

Manger..... Scene Prop
 Baby doll (Jesus)Mary
 Toy Lamb..... Shepherds
 GoldKing 1
 FrankincenseKing 2
 Myrrh.....King 3

HELPFUL HINTS AND TIPS

Give your children their words to learn first – enlist the help of parents here. Set a date by which they should know them; you cannot hope to rehearse movement or introduce props until words and cues are learnt.

If sending home words to learn, send cues (the preceding line or two) as well, so children not only know what to say but when to say it!

Songs are best learnt separately (it helps to keep the blood pressure down for all concerned). We've suggested that only the Kings sing Track 3, Mary has a solo (There's No Room) and the Shepherds sing Track 6. However, do feel free to use as many children as you like in all of the songs – solos can be quite daunting at KS1.

Once rehearsing begins on stage, introduce any flats (free standing scenery) as soon as possible, so that children have their positions correct from the start. And don't forget to have one or two rehearsals with props, microphones (and lights if using) before the official dress rehearsal to allow time for children to get used to them.

Finally – this may seem obvious but is often forgotten – don't forget to practise your cast bows (arms across tummies or not?) and the order in which they should lead off stage. All too often a super show ends in foot shuffling embarrassment because no one knows quite what to do when the applause ends.

PRODUCTION NOTES

STAGING

Depending on the facilities available this show can be as simple or complex as you want. Just remember, this is not supposed to be a West End production. All most parents want to see is their child on stage. All most teachers want is to survive unscathed. So feel free to add, subtract or completely change the ideas below. And don't forget to send your comments and pictures to kate@musicline-ltd.com.

Prelude

Dead easy! Narrators stand centre stage to deliver their lines and the introduction to scene one. After their lines Narrators 1, 2, 3 and 4 place themselves to stage right. Narrators 5, 6 and 7 can stand to stage left. This enables the Narrators to be in position for lines in later scenes.

Scene One: Nazareth

In this Scene Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem with their Donkey. Just make sure that there is plenty of room on stage for them to walk around during their journey in Track 2.

Scene Two: The Kings

This Scene sees the three Kings following the star that will lead them to baby Jesus. Again, plenty of room will be needed on stage for the Kings and Camels journey in Track 3. If resources allow, lighting could be made brighter during the song to represent the star.

Scene Three: The Market

The Market Sellers should enter with their baskets of wares and form a line across the stage facing the audience. The Buyers can enter and visit the Sellers in turn to buy their goods. During Track 5 the Market People gradually exit, leaving Mary centre stage singing her solo (Other cast members can support Mary from off-stage if required.).

Scene Four: Watching Sheep

So simple! The Shepherds are sat in a semi-circle at centre stage facing the audience. Lighting could again be used to light up the Angel when she appears.

Scene Five: The Stable

A manger needs to be placed at centre stage with Mary, Joseph, the chorus of Onlookers and Stable Animals gathered around it. During the final song the rest of the cast gather on stage before taking their bows.

BACKDROPS

Backdrops can be as simple or elaborate as you wish. However, for a really easy solution and fuss free performance, instant scenery is now available with our **digital** backdrops: **Project It!** provides a different backdrop for EVERY scene change and is supplied in both a PowerPoint presentation and as individual JPG files.

COSTUMES

Narrators should be dressed in school uniform or smart clothes.

Joseph is in thigh-length smock and calf-length trousers. He probably has some sort of apron over the top to hold the tools of his trade (carpenter).

Mary is generally seen wearing a white smock and headdress with a blue outer garment over the top. A cushion helps with the illusion of imminent birth.

Shepherds could wear long (ankle length) smocks or knee-length tunics and tea-towel head-dress.

The Innkeeper and his Wife could dress as the Shepherds but also wear aprons to make them look a little different.

The Three Kings are generally seen wearing a cape or robe over a tunic or bright-coloured smock. Generally, gold and purple or crimson are the colours of choice. Crowns on their heads would complete the effect. They carry their gifts of Gold (a gold coloured trinket box), Frankincense (maybe a wooden, carved box) and Myrrh (a phial of sorts).

The Market People, Friends and Onlookers can be dressed in full length smocks tied around the waist with cord, the Sellers carry baskets.

The Angel should be dressed in a long white gown with wings and a halo.

Animal characters can wear colour appropriate tights and tops and head dresses or masks to show who they are. If budget allows, whole costumes can be purchased on-line.

CHOREOGRAPHY

Track 1: Birthday Time Again

The whole cast should join in with this song as it is the opening number. Not much movement is required, just a simple swaying action and lots of smiles and enthusiasm!

Track 2: Travelling To Bethlehem

This song is about Mary, Joseph and their Donkey travelling to Bethlehem. Mary and Joseph could each place a hand on the Donkeys shoulders and plod wearily around the stage.

Track 3: Gee Up Camel

As each of the Kings sings about their present they should step forward and hold it up to the audience. During the chorus the Camels should perform a marching on the spot action or march around in a small circle.

Track 4: Let's Go To The Market

A simple swaying from side to side action would be suitable for the chorus of this song. During the verses a Buyer could approach the Seller that is singing and mime buying their goods.

Track 5: There's No Room

During the song Mary rests at centre stage as the Market People gradually exit. She sits singing out to the audience looking sad.

Track 6: In The Dark Of The Night

The Shepherds are sat at centre stage in a semi-circle. The Angel moves around them gracefully as they watch.

Track 7: Jesus In The Manger

As this is the final song, the whole cast should be on stage. Not much movement is required due to the lack of space on stage but again, smiles and lots of enthusiasm is needed. Some claps and swaying from side to side during the chorus is also effective.

PRELUDE**TRACK 1:****BIRTHDAY TIME AGAIN****ALL:**

CHRISTMAS, HERE AGAIN, TIME FOR US TO SHARE,
CHRISTMAS, HERE AGAIN, TIME FOR US TO CARE,
LONG, LONG AGO, FAR, FAR AWAY,
THERE WAS A BABY BORN TODAY.
CHRISTMAS, BIRTHDAY TIME AGAIN.

CHRISTMAS, HERE AGAIN, TIME FOR BELLS TO RING,
CHRISTMAS, HERE AGAIN, TIME FOR CHOIRS TO SING,
LONG, LONG AGO, FAR, FAR AWAY,
THERE WAS A BABY BORN TODAY.
CHRISTMAS, BIRTHDAY TIME AGAIN.

CHRISTMAS, HERE AGAIN, TIME FOR US TO USE,
CHRISTMAS, HERE AGAIN, TIME TO TELL GOOD NEWS,
LONG, LONG AGO, FAR, FAR AWAY,
THERE WAS A BABY BORN TODAY.
CHRISTMAS, BIRTHDAY TIME AGAIN.

NARRATOR 1:

A very, very long time ago lived a man called Joseph, and his wife Mary.

NARRATOR 2:

Two very special things were about to happen.

NARRATOR 3:

The most important thing was that Mary was going to have a baby.

NARRATOR 4:

The other thing was that they had to go to Bethlehem.

NARRATOR 5:

Bethlehem was a long way from Nazareth, the village where they lived.

NARRATOR 6:

In those days the only ways to get around were on a horse, a camel or a donkey.

NARRATOR 7:

Mary and Joseph had a little donkey.

SCENE ONE:**NAZARETH**

(Mary and Joseph are outside their house packing the Donkey.)

MARY: Why have we got to go to Bethlehem Joseph?

JOSEPH: King Herod has ordered a census which means that everybody has to be counted.

MARY: Can't we just send a letter saying there are two of us?

JOSEPH: No! Now come on Mary, it's not going to be very comfortable, but we've got to get going.

(Two Friends arrive and start chatting to them.)

FRIEND 1: Hello Mary, Hello Joseph. Going to Bethlehem I see. I hope you've got somewhere to stay.

FRIEND 2: It's going to be very, very busy. We're staying with our cousin.

MARY: Oh Joseph, I'm a bit worried.

JOSEPH: Don't worry, you and the baby (*he pats Mary's tummy*) will be OK. Come on.

TRACK 2: TRAVELLING TO BETHLEHEM

(During the song Mary, Joseph and Friends respond to the lyrics and then exit at the end.)

ALL: MARY AND JOSEPH,
TRAVELLING, TRAVELLING,
RIDING ON A DONKEY,
MARY AND JOSEPH,
TRAVELLING, TRAVELLING,
TRAVELLING TO BETHLEHEM.

MARY AND JOSEPH,
IN THE SUN, IN THE SUN,
RIDING ON A DONKEY,
MARY AND JOSEPH,
IN THE SUN, IN THE SUN,
TRAVELLING TO BETHLEHEM.

MARY AND JOSEPH,
TIRED OUT, TIRED OUT,
RIDING ON A DONKEY,
MARY AND JOSEPH,
TIRED OUT, TIRED OUT,
TRAVELLING TO BETHLEHEM.
MARY AND JOSEPH,
COLD AT NIGHT, COLD AT NIGHT,
RIDING ON A DONKEY,
MARY AND JOSEPH,
COLD AT NIGHT, COLD AT NIGHT,
TRAVELLING TO BETHLEHEM.

SCENE TWO: THE KINGS

(The Kings enter with their Camels holding presents.)

NARRATOR 1: A long way away three kings were also getting ready.

NARRATOR 2: Their books had told them to follow a very bright star.

NARRATOR 3: They didn't know that it was going to lead them to Bethlehem.

KING 1: I just didn't know what to get the baby.

KING 2: Neither did I. There's nothing much in the shops.

KING 3: What did you get in the end?

KING 1: I was going to get him some socks, but I got some gold and gave it a really good polish. It looks shiny and bright.

KING 2: I got some frankincense.

KING 3: Frankie who?
KING 2: Frankincense. You know, the stuff you burn and it smells really lovely. I thought he'd like that.
KING 1: It will come in handy when he's having his nappy changed.
KING 3: I got some myrrh. That smells beautiful as well and you can rub it on.
KING 2: He's going to be a very nice smelling baby!
KING 1: We'd better get a move on. Have you packed the camels?
KING 3: They wouldn't fit into the suitcase.
KING 1: *(Hands on hips)* No, silly, I mean have you packed the suitcases onto the camels?
KING 3: Yes, they're all ready.
KING 2: Well, let's follow that star!

TRACK 3: **GEE UP CAMEL**

KING 1: I HAVE GOT SOME GOLD FOR THE BABY,
 IT'S GOOD, VERY, VERY GOOD.
 I HAVE GOT SOME GOLD FOR THE BABY,
 IT'S VERY, VERY GOOD. *(Spoken)* So,

ALL KINGS: GEE UP CAMEL, MOVE THOSE FEET,
 GEE UP CAMEL, WE'VE A TREAT FOR THAT BABY BOY.

KING 2: I HAVE FRANKINCENSE FOR THE BABY,
 IT'S GOOD, VERY, VERY GOOD.
 I HAVE FRANKINCENSE FOR THE BABY,
 IT'S VERY, VERY GOOD. *(Spoken)* So,

ALL KINGS: GEE UP CAMEL, MOVE THOSE FEET,
 GEE UP CAMEL, WE'VE A TREAT FOR THAT BABY BOY.

KING 3: I HAVE GOT SOME MYRRH FOR THE BABY,
 IT'S GOOD, VERY, VERY GOOD.
 I HAVE GOT SOME MYRRH FOR THE BABY,
 IT'S VERY, VERY GOOD. *(Spoken)* So,

ALL KINGS: GEE UP CAMEL, MOVE THOSE FEET,
 GEE UP CAMEL, WE'VE A TREAT FOR THAT BABY BOY.

WE HAVE GOT SOME GIFTS FOR THE BABY,
 THEY'RE GOOD, VERY, VERY GOOD.
 WE HAVE GOT SOME GIFTS FOR THE BABY,
 THEY'RE VERY, VERY GOOD. *(Spoken)* So,

GEE UP CAMEL, MOVE THOSE FEET,
 GEE UP CAMEL, WE'VE A TREAT FOR THAT BABY BOY.

SCENE THREE:**THE MARKET**

(Lots of Buyers and Sellers are crammed into the market place.)

- NARRATOR 5:** It seemed like a lot of people were headed for Bethlehem.
NARRATOR 6: Lots of people were already there, and the city was very busy indeed.
NARRATOR 7: So many people meant that the market was doing a busy trade.
 People wanted to buy all sorts of things.
SELLER 1: Buy my figs, buy my figs, buy my tasty figs.
SELLER 2: Buy my spice, buy my spice, buy my tangy spice.
SELLER 3: Buy my cloth, buy my cloth, buy my pretty cloth.
SELLER 4: Buy my oil, buy my oil, buy my lighting oil.
BUYER 1: I'll have a bunch of figs please. *(Offers money)*
BUYER 2: I'll have a jar of spices please.
BUYER 3: I'll have a roll of your cloth please.
BUYER 4: I'll have a big jar of oil for my lamp please.

TRACK 4:**LET'S GO TO THE MARKET**

(There continues to be lots of business during the song. At the end of the song Mary and Joseph enter.)

- ALL:** LET'S GO TO THE MARKET, LET'S GO TO THE SHOPS;
 LET'S GO TO THE MARKET, SHOP UNTIL WE DROP.
- SELLER 1:** BUY MY FIGS, BUY MY FIGS, BUY MY TASTY FIGS.
 BUY MY FIGS, BUY MY FIGS, BUY MY TASTY FIGS.
- ALL:** LET'S GO TO THE MARKET, LET'S GO TO THE SHOPS;
 LET'S GO TO THE MARKET, SHOP UNTIL WE DROP.
- SELLER 2:** BUY MY SPICE, BUY MY SPICE, BUY MY TANGY SPICE.
 BUY MY SPICE, BUY MY SPICE, BUY MY TANGY SPICE.
- ALL:** LET'S GO TO THE MARKET, LET'S GO TO THE SHOPS;
 LET'S GO TO THE MARKET, SHOP UNTIL WE DROP.
- SELLER 3:** BUY MY CLOTH, BUY MY CLOTH, BUY MY PRETTY CLOTH.
 BUY MY CLOTH, BUY MY CLOTH, BUY MY PRETTY CLOTH.
- ALL:** LET'S GO TO THE MARKET, LET'S GO TO THE SHOPS;
 LET'S GO TO THE MARKET, SHOP UNTIL WE DROP.
- SELLER 4:** BUY MY OIL, BUY MY OIL, BUY MY LIGHTING OIL.
 BUY MY OIL, BUY MY OIL, BUY MY LIGHTING OIL.