

# Holy Trinity Christmas Play (7 Dec)

by Rich Behrens

**Narrator 1:** Welcome to Holy Trinity's first ever Christmas play in our Banquet Hall! We will start with a short prayer, In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Dear God we ask you to bless us this night as we try to honor the gift of your son with this play. Thank you heavenly Father. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen. (Pause, look up and smile) I hope you each have a copy of our nice program. In it are the words to three special Christmas songs. The audience is an important part of the play. You are all honorary choir members and so please join us in the spirit of Christmas and sing along. The words to the first song are not in the program as this song is a special treat for you to enjoy. Thank you very much for coming. *(Smile and allow the next Narrator to speak).*

**Narrator 2:** *(Do not rush, read for feeling.)* Christmas is a very special time of year, why is that? It is not because of the soon to be opened presents, although they are nice, nor due to the lights and decorations. It is because we are all getting ready to celebrate the greatest gift that God has ever given us. It is because we are preparing our hearts to join Mary and Joseph in receiving the little baby Jesus, *the Son of God, the King of Kings* as A Little Baby! To hug and squeeze the little baby Jesus and whisper to Him, Happy Birthday as we give him our whole heart on Christmas day 😊. *(Look up and smile)*

**Narrator 1:** Let us travel back in time to Bethlehem as we re-live the Annunciation and the story of our precious Lord's birth as told in the gospel of Luke. *(Pause, look up)*

"The Angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary."

## Scene 1 Angel and Mary

*The lights begin to brighten on the right side and we see Mary kneeling with her hands folded in prayer. Then the lights begin to brighten on the left to show the Angel Gabriel walking toward Mary*

**Gabriel:** Hail full of grace, the Lord is with you!

*(Mary stands up from her kneeling startled)*

**Gabriel:** “Do not be afraid Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High! The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

**Mary:** Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word. *(Stretch out your hands as if to receive a great gift.)*

**Gabriel:** *(Gabriel then goes to one knee to honor the new Queen of Heaven)*

**Dolores:** *(Is already positioned behind the podium and sings Ave Maria 😊)*

*When song ends **darken stage**, both angels leave and Joseph with the donkey join Mary next to the Inn in Bethlehem. Mrs. Dolores will join the audience. Stable still not on stage.*

## Scene 2 The Inn Keepers

*Lights are slowly turned on to see Joseph and the donkey are with Mary and one of the Inn Keepers.*

**Narrator 2:** In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirin’i-us was Governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

**Joseph:** Shalom, do you have any room in your inn?

**Inn Keeper #1:** Shalom, no, I am sorry, we are very full, we have no room. Please try across the way.

*(Joseph smiles at Mary and then leads Mary to the next inn and knocks.)*

**Joseph:** Shalom, please, do you have any room for us in your inn?

**Inn Keeper #2:** We have too many guests, we do not even have room for one more! *(Shuts the door while saying Shalom! a bit angry!)*

**Joseph:** Shalom, my wife is with child and about to give birth. Do you have any room in your inn?

**Inn Keeper #3:** Shalom, sorry, all of my rooms are taken, I have none to give you. But, I do have a nice cozy stable out back that you may use. It is clean, will give you shelter and I put nice fresh straw in it this morning.

**Mary:** Joseph, the baby will be coming soon, let's please go to this stable. *(Mary and Joseph smile at each other.)*

**Joseph:** Agreed, thank you kind Inn keeper, please show us to your nice stable. *(The Inn Keeper walks with them to show them the stable, and they all walk off stage as the lights darken.) Stable still not on stage.*

*Once the shepherds and sheep are on stage brighten the lights*

### **Scene 3 The Shepherds**

*Shepherds are out tending their flock, have them with three lambs. Lights come on them. Then all the angels enter the scene, shepherds look scared at first, blocking the angels lights with their hands.*

**Narrator 1:** And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.

**Angel:** *(Speak powerfully)* Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

**Shepherd Esteban:** Let us go down to Bethlehem and see this birth that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.

**Shepherd Royce:** It will be easy to know where to go as the star shows the way

**Shepherd Patrick:** Wow, the star is so majestic and beautiful!

**Choir:** (Moves to front right of the stage and becomes ready to sing.)

*We all sing O Come all Ye Faithful*

*Darken lights, bring the stable out on the stage and have Mary, Joseph, the drummer boy and the shepherds gathered around.*

#### **Scene 4 The Birth of Jesus**

**Narrator 2:** And while Mary and Joseph were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to be delivered and she gave birth to her son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

*Brighten the lights, showing Mary and Joseph with the shepherds around the stable.*

**Mary:** (Shows the baby Jesus in swaddling clothes and she holds Him and hugs and talks a little to Him and then places Him in the manger.)

**Mary:** Thank you heavenly Father for sending us your most beautiful and precious son.

**Joseph:** Amen!

(Both Joseph and Mary kneel before the baby Jesus)

**All:** (Adore and lovingly look at Jesus.)

**Drummer Boy:** May I play for the new born King?

**Mary:** (nods yes)

**Joseph:** Mary nodded, you may play drummer boy. (Joseph smiles.)

**Choir:** Should be in front right of the stage ready to sing.

*We all sing Away in the Manger as soon as Joseph says "you may play drummer boy" start singing 😊*

*After the song darken the stable area and light up further away with Wise men coming 😊 If not possible simply darken and light up when Wise Men are positioned.*

## Scene 5 The Wise Men

**Narrator 1:** And lo, the star, which they had seen in the East, went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; <sup>11</sup> and going into the stable they saw the child with Mary his mother and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts; gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

*(Kings, speak like you truly are a King, with power and authority 😊)*

**Caspar:** Gold for the true King of Kings!

**Melchior:** Frankincense because You are God!

**Balthazar:** Myrrh to be used when You, the Anointed One, are sacrificed for our salvation.

**Choir:** Moves to front right of the stage and becomes ready to sing.

**All:** (Look lovingly at Jesus, Mary can pick Him up and hold him while facing the audience, everyone else on a knee and then we sing **Silent Night** 😊)

**Narrator 2:** Thank you all for coming tonight. We have some refreshments for you to enjoy and hope to see most of you at our Christmas Children's Mass on 24 December at 4:00 P.M. We would like to end with a closing prayer. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Thank you Holy Father for all your grace, for sending us your beautiful Son and giving us all His mother and Father in-law. We ask that you bless us all with safety on our way home tonight. Bless us, O Lord, and these, Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen. Goodnight and Merry Christmas!

**END OF PLAY**

## O Come All Ye Faithful

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;

Refrain: O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2. True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,  
lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;

Son of the Father, begotten not created;

Refrain: 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;

O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

Refrain: O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

## Away in the Manger

1. Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,

The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;

The stars in the heavens looked down where he lay,

The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.

I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky  
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.

Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there

## Silent Night

Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright.  
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,  
Christ the Savior is born!  
Christ the Savior is born

Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God love's pure light.  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

**Day of Play:** Thursday, 14 December 2023. Play begins at 7:00 P.M. in the Banquet Hall.

**Director:** Joslyn Campbell

**Choir Leader:** Rose Mary Colome