

2019

4HB Nativity Script

Name: _____

Role: _____

Scene 1

Narrator 1: This is Mary, she is a very kind, helpful and obedient young woman. One day during her daily chores, a bright shining star appeared. Out of the star came an angel, called Gabriel, his arms outstretched he said...

(Gabriel outstretches his arms – Mary looks confused and a little scared)

Angel Gabriel: Mary do not be afraid for I am a messenger of God. I have come here to tell you that you have an important job. God has chosen you to carry his son. You must marry Joseph and name the baby Jesus.

Narrator 1: Being the faithful servant of God she replied...

Mary: Of course I will!

(A smile forms on her face but her eyes are unsure)

Mary: As I am a worshipper of God, if God orders I shall follow. I will marry Joseph!

Angel Gabriel: You can trust me, this is God's word. So do not worry.

(Gabriel nodded then disappeared – walk off the stage)

Mary: I must go and tell Elizabeth and get some advice.

Narrator 1: And that is just what she did.

Scene 2

(Elizabeth in centre stage folding clothes, Mary stage left)

Narrator 2: Soon after Mary found out that she was pregnant with the son of God, she went to visit her cousin Elizabeth to tell her the unexpected news.

(Mary enters from stage left and knocks on the door)

Elizabeth: Come in, it's open. (Mary opens the door)

Mary: Elizabeth! You will never believe what has just happened! The angel Gabriel came to me and told me that I am pregnant with the son of God and his name will be Jesus.

Elizabeth: Mary, that is amazing but shocking news.

(Elizabeth puts her hand on Mary's shoulder and smiles)

It is such a coincidence that I am also pregnant. You are blessed by God, so don't worry. Everything will be fine, but you need to tell Joseph the news. He will be shocked, but it will make things easier.

(Mary exits to stage right)

Narrator 2: After the visit to Elizabeth's home, Mary felt that she had to tell Joseph that she is pregnant with the son of God. She was unsure how he would react but she knew that she must go to see him.

(Elizabeth walks off stage left)

Scene 3

(Mary and Joseph meet in the middle of the stage after entering from opposites of the stage)

Mary: An angel has asked me to give birth to the saviour of the earth!

(Joseph looks confused and surprised)

Joseph: What, really! But we are not even married. I need to think about this.

(Mary walks off stage right looking worried, Joseph lies down in centre of the stage)

Narrator 3: Mary is going to give birth to the son of god in Bethlehem. Joseph goes to sleep feeling very confused. In his dream something amazing and unexpected happens.

(Angel appears over Joseph whilst Joseph is sleeping)

Angel Gabriel: Hello Joseph. *(Joseph wakes and gasps with fright)*

Joseph: *(sounding scared)* Who are you?

Angel Gabriel: I have been sent by God. You will marry a woman called Mary and travel to Bethlehem for Mary to have the saviour of the world.

Joseph: *(says confidently)* Now I know for sure what to do. I will follow the word of God and marry Mary.

Narrator 3: And so, he obeys the angel and marries Mary.

Scene 4

(civilians are standing in a small group talking about the recent census - showing they are unhappy)

Civilian 1: I cannot believe this selfish Roman leader has forced us to pay his ridiculous taxes!

Civilian 2: Why should we pay your taxes! It is completely absurd and unfair.

Civilian 3: I do not understand why they need to have a census. I am too busy to walk all the way back to my home town.

Caesar Augustus: *(Speaks sternly to all the crowd)* All right people, my name is Caesar Augustus, because of this census unfortunately you must pay my taxes and move back to your home town.

Narrator 4: Using the records of where people were born, the civilians were forced to return to their town of birth and pay this tax.

Caesar Augustus: *(speaking to the guards)* Make these people start moving and go and collect my money.

Royal guards: *(Yelling and waving their arms)* Understood!! Move along!!

Narrator 4: *(the crowd of civilians walk off stage slouching, the guards follow to make sure they go)* So, the people did what the guards said and went back to their hometown.

Scene 5

(Pregnant Mary is on a donkey and Joseph is walking)

Narrator 5: Mary and Joseph are on their way to Bethlehem which is Joseph's hometown.

(Mary and Joseph walk onto the stage right)

Mary: How far are we from Bethlehem Joseph?

Joseph: We are three quarters of the way there. It is a long and tiring trip for you.

Mary: (looking tired) It is but we must have faith in God.

Narrator 5: They continued walking and after many long days they finally arrived in Bethlehem.

Joseph: Mary, we have arrived in Bethlehem.

Mary: Finally!
(Mary throws her hands up in the air.)

Joseph: (Speaks and looks tired) All we have to do now is get to the inn.

Mary: Okay. I think the baby will come soon. (holding her pregnant belly)

(Joseph makes a knocking action while Narrator 5 knocks on the table.)

Innkeeper 1: (Walk in from stage left waiting for the knock, opens the door) Hello, are you after a room.

Joseph: Yes, we were wondering if you had any available for my wife and I.

Innkeeper 1: (annoyed) Unfortunately, there are no more rooms available right now. (gruff voice) Goodbye (shuts the door - quickly)

Mary: Joseph what are we going to do now?

Joseph: Lets go to another inn.

Narrator 5: Joseph leads the donkey to another inn. Joseph is feeling tired and desperate to find a place for his wife to give birth.

(Joseph makes a knocking action while Narrator 5 is knocking on the table)

Innkeeper 2: (walks in from stage left ready to for Mary and Joseph, opens the door) Good evening. Are you after a room?

Joseph: (Sounding desperate) Yes, my wife is about to have a baby.

Innkeeper 2: (speaks calmly) Sorry, we don't have any vacancy.

Joseph: Okay, Mary let's try and find another inn.

Innkeeper 2: Wait! I do have a stable where I keep my animals.

Joseph: Great, thank you so much.

Narrator 5: Mary and Joseph follow the kind innkeeper to the stable. It was filled with sheep, donkeys and many other animals. There, in the stable, Baby Jesus was born. Mary wrapped him in cloth and lay him in a manger.

(everyone exits stage left)

Scene 6

(Star on left side of stage)

(The wise men enter right side of stage)

Narrator 6: On a warm summer's night one of the wise men named Gaspar spotted a bright golden star shining in the darkness of the night. It was the star in the east, meanwhile the other two wise men are studying maps in the observatory.

(Gasper point to the star and goes to tell the others)

Narrator 6: Balthasar and Melchior, the other wise men, are sitting down in the observatory studying maps of the sky. They have also noticed the bright star in the east.

(Gasper comes rushing in and tells that the star is the star in the east.)

Gasper: Th...The star is the star from the east.

(Melchior and Balthasar both glance at Gasper wide mouthed.)

Narrator 6: Melchior and Balthasar both glance at Gasper wide mouthed, they pause then reply...

Balthasar: Which means someone important has been born.

Melchior: We must go and worship the lord. Praise the new born king!

Gasper + Balthasar + Melchior: Praise the new born king!

Narrator 6: The wise men pack for the long journey ahead and off they go with their camels to see King Herod, to tell him the great news and because they thought the baby would be in Jerusalem.

Scene 7

(Shepherds are sitting by a campfire with their sheep)

Narrator 7: Meanwhile, a group of shepherds sit in the field quietly by a campfire.

Shepherd 1: Finally, we can have a well-deserved break after long hard day.

Shepherd 2: I agree, am I exhausted. These sheep don't watch themselves.

Shepherd 3: What is that in the sky?
(Angel comes in stage left)

Narrator 7: While the shepherds are talking about their day a bright light appears. It is an angel. He has some good news to share with them.

Angel Gabriel: (loud, clear and warm voice) Do not fear me. I am not a threat. I am here to tell you some wonderful news. A baby has been born. He is God's Son. You will find him wrapped in swaddling, lying in a manger. The manger can be found in a rundown stable in Bethlehem.

(shepherds speak with excitement and shock)

Shepherd 1: How do we get there?

Shepherd 2: Must we leave now?

Shepherd 3: How long will it take to get there?

Narrator 7: The shepherds had lot of questions for the poor angel. They had lots of concerns and he needed to help them to understand.

Angel Gabriel: Now go, travel carefully. Visit God's son. There will be others who are also interested to meet the new born king.

Narrator 7: The shepherds went to Bethlehem to meet and honour the Messiah.

(Angel leaves stage right, shepherds walk together off stage)

Scene 8

Narrator 8: The wise men have travelled to King Herod's palace to meet the son of God.

(wise men knock on the door)

Royal guards: (opens the door) Who are you?

Wise men (all together): We are wise men.

Gaspar: Hello my lord (all 3 wise men bow together)

King Herod: (in a commanding tone) What brings you here my servants? (he gestures with his arms to show his authority)

Balthasar: (in an excited tone) We bring good news, we have heard of the birth of a new king, the son of God.

Melchior: We have come to see the new born king.

King Herod: The baby is not here. (pause and looks like he is thinking) find him, and when you do come back and tell me where he is, as I want to worship the new king. (smirks)

Narrator 8: King Herod now was smiling but on the inside he was furious and angry. He was planning to kill the new king of Israel and new born son of God, the bridge between men and God. The wise men left King Herod and started their journey to the stables to meet the new born king. (Wise men walk across the stage as if on a long journey)

Scene 9

Narrator 9: As the wise men come into the stable where Mary, Joseph and Jesus were still staying.

(Wise men collide into the room through the door and topple like dominoes.)

All wise men together: (said together excitedly) Where's the baby! We must worship the new born baby king!

Gaspar: We saw a big eastern star and followed it here as we knew this was a sign of a new holy king.

Melchior: May we bow to the saviour of the good holy spirits. (Wise men bow down to Jesus) We've come with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Gaspar: This is my gift of gold. (bows as he gives gift)

Balthasar: This is my gift of frankincense. (bows as he gives gift)

Melchior: This is my gift of myrrh. (bows as he gives gift)

Mary: Thank you, may God bless you as well as the new born king, Jesus.

Melchior: May God know that he has a beautiful son and may the whole world bless him.

Narrator 9: As everyone sat down, they all talked happily about the new baby boy. They were all wondering what good he will do in the world when he grows up.

(Mary and Joseph leave stage with baby Jesus. Wise men walk to centre of the stage and set up camp)

Scene 10

(Angel Gabriel, off stage, wise men on the floor, chatting)

Narrator 10: Later that night, the wise men were sitting talking about Jesus when they see an Angel coming towards them.

(Angel Gabriel glides gracefully towards the group)

Gaspar: (turns around shaking) Who are you? Why are you here?

Angel Gabriel: I am an angel of God and I have come to warn you. The king wishes not to worship but to kill baby Jesus.

Gaspar: We are forever at God's service.

Balthasar: (begging on knees) Please forgive us for what we have done. We did not know what King Herod planned.

Melchior: But, we may have an idea.

All Wise Men: We're all going to sneak out home by a secret path.

Narrator 10: The wise men are going to have to travel home at midnight to avoid the king's wrath. They will not tell the king where to find the baby child.

Scene 11

Narrator 11: Unfortunately, the royal guards had seen the wise men and knew they were not heading to the palace to see King Herod. The guards quickly returned to tell King Herod that the wise men are ignoring his orders.

Royal Guards: (yelling and anxious) King Herod! King Herod! The wise men are ignoring you. They are going in the opposite direction.

King Herod: (angry and loud) WHAT! WHY ARE THEY DOING THIS?

Royal Guards: I don't know, all I saw was they were walking in the wrong direction.

King Herod: (still angry and stern) Send all my soldiers to find them and bring them back to face their consequences. And while you are at it, kill all the first born sons in the land!

Narrator 11: So the guards went to find the wise men and all the young baby boys for King Herod.

Scene 12

(Gabriel appears on stage and points at Jesus who is in the manger. Joseph is sitting next to the manger. Looking at baby Jesus. Mary is off stage.)

Angel Gabriel: (speaking urgently) Joseph, your son Jesus is in danger, you need to take him to a safe place away from King Herod.

Narrator 12: Joseph looks up at Gabriel, startled by his sudden appearance. He had not seen Gabriel come in.

Joseph: (looking worried) Thank you for telling me Gabriel. We will go to Egypt to be safe and away from the dangers that King Herod may bring to our family.

Narrator 12: Joseph ran tell Mary that they needed to go, now.

(Joseph runs toward Mary and Jesus)

Joseph: Mary, I just saw Gabriel! He told me that Jesus is in danger. King Herod is jealous of our son and wants to kill him. We need to go somewhere safe, where Herod can't harm us.

Mary: That's a good idea. I will go and get prepared for our journey.

Narrator 12: Mary, Joseph and Jesus set off on a 400 kilometre journey to Egypt, where they would be safe.

(Mary and Joseph gather up their stuff and Jesus and hop on the donkey to leave to Egypt in a hurry.)

(Mary and Joseph leave the stage.)