

# All The Legends of Holy Night (2)



THREE SHORT NATIVITY PLAYS



### ALL THE LEGENDS OF HOLY NIGHT (VERSION 2)

3 plays about the Nativity

## **CAST FOR PLAY 1** Angel Innkeeper Innkeeper's wife Mary Joseph Shepherd 1 Shepherd 2 (could add more non-speaking) Balthazar Melchior Caspar Ox Donkey Camel 1 Camel 2 Camel 3 Sheep 1

17 speaking parts (possibly several non-speaking)

Sheep 2 (could add more non-speaking)

# Angel Mary Joseph A wild cat Other cats (dancers) Innkeeper A brown bird Other birds (dancers)

# **CAST FOR PLAY 3** Angel Mary Joseph Ox Donkey Camel 1 Camel 2 Camel 3 Sheep 1 Sheep 2 Shepherd 1 (could add others non-speaking) Caspar (Other two wise men do not speak in this play but should be present) Olive tree Palm tree Holly (old bush) Holly (new bush - non-speaking) 14 speaking parts, 1 solo non-speaking, non-speaking shepherds and two wise men.

### ALL THE LEGENDS OF HOLY NIGHT (Version 2)

### PLAY 1

(The curtains open to reveal Mary sitting on a stool, cradling Jesus in her arms. Joseph is standing behind her. On one side of the stage is a stall containing the ox and the donkey. The Angel enters and the innkeeper and his wife come on from opposite sides of the stage, ready to address the audience.)

### **ANGEL**

It was a strange night in Bethlehem. Many people were gathered in this small town to register for the census that the Romans had created. Mary and Joseph took shelter in a stable and their baby, Jesus, was born. But that was not the only wonderful event that took place on this holy night. Many small miracles happened. Miracles that would turn into legends. And this is the story of the first legend.

(The Angel leaves)

### **INNKEEPER**

It was such a strange night – (looking at his wife) wasn't it my dear? WIFE

Oh a very strange night. There were so many people in Bethlehem.

### **INNKEEPER**

All here for the census. All looking for beds.

### WIFE

We were full. Couldn't pack another body into the inn. People sleeping on the floors.

### **INNKEEPER**

Then this couple came to the door. They were very tired and had tried everywhere else.

### WIFE

And she was about to have a baby any minute. I said to my husband 'We can't turn them away'.

### **INNKEEPER**

But what were we to do?

### WIFE

Let them stay in the stable, I said. It's warm and peaceful.

### **INNKEEPER**

So we let them stay in the stable and she had her baby that night.

(The innkeeper and his wife move over to either end of the manger and move it over to Mary and Joseph. The innkeeper tidies the straw in the manger while the wife gently takes the baby and lays him on the straw.)

### WIFE

Such a lovely boy. He'll be warm there. And my husband will light you a fire to keep you and your husband warm through the night.

### **MARY**

Thank you. You are very kind.

### **JOSEPH**

Yes. Thank you.

(The innkeeper and his wife separate to either side of the stage. The innkeeper goes offstage and comes back with an armful of twigs and proceeds to build a fire by Mary.)

### WIFE

Then all the strangers started coming. To see the baby. I'd never seen anything like it.

(The Shepherds enter and they have rope tied around the neck of each sheep and are leading them like dogs.)

### **SHEPHERD 1**

(Kneeling) An angel came and told us of the baby and we have come to worship him.

(Both the shepherds kneel)

### **INNKEEPER**

Quite amazing. Quite amazing. (indicating the shepherds) There they all were, kneeling before this baby and the mother seemed to take it all very calmly.

### WIFE

And these shepherds brought some sheep as a gift. So we had to find room for them too.

(She goes over to the sheep and leads them over to the stall with the other animals.)

### **SHEPHERD 2**

We shall sleep outside here tonight and return to our flocks in the morning.

(The shepherds come down off the front of the stage and form a group and settle down for the night.)

### **INNKEEPER**

(Coming to the front of the stage) As if that were not enough – another group arrived!