

Feast + Fast + Feria



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This booklet contains excerpts from
The Feast Fast Feria Companion, coming soon.

It is an offering of Feast Fast Feria,
a Barefoot Abbey ministry whose purpose is to aid
families as they grow in holiness and journey to
heaven by living out their Catholic faith each day through
the Liturgical Year.

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Our Family Nativity Play & Epiphany Pageant
Filled with Traditional Carols &
Scenes from the Prophets & Gospels

www.feastfastferia.com

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MAIN CHARACTERS

Some actors may need to play two roles. And the role of Narrator is best for an adult or older child. All other roles are suitable for the youngest of actors when fed their lines.

Narrator	1st Wiseman
Mary	King Herod
Joseph	Scribe
1st Angel	Chorus - all in attendance
1st Shepherd	Light Technician

OPTIONAL CHARACTERS

Any number of Angels, Shepherds, Wisemen, Scribes, & animals can be added to fit your family or present guests. **Donkey** (person or prop) **Baby Jesus** (the newest baby or doll)

2nd Angel

2nd Shepherd

2nd Wiseman

2nd Scribe

COSTUMES

- Foil or paper halos
- Wings from dress up clothes, cardboard, or paper
- White shirts or slips for angels
- Old colorful tee shirts for robes
- Towels for headdresses
- Scarfs for headdresses or more belts
- Blanket capes
- Mary's mantle from any of the above
- Wisemen & Herod paper crowns

PROPS

- Baby Jesus doll
- Blankets for swaddling clothes & the manger
- Joseph's staff & Shepherds' crooks
- Stuffed animals for stable animals
- Wisemen gifts - perfume & oil bottles, boxes, or something gold toned
- Donkey - mop, broom, or stick horse
- Cardboard or wood box for the manger

SETS

- Foil or paper star pinned up
- Sheet hung up or as a chair fort for the stable
- Sheet over the couch for the hillside

CAROLS

All the sung parts of this script are bolded.

You can find recordings of all these

carols at our resource page:
www.barefootabbey.com/family-nativity-play/

- O Come O Come Emmanuel
- Maria Walks Amid the Thorn
- O Little Town of Bethlehem
- Come Thou Redeemer of the Earth
- Away in a Manger
- Silent Night
- Joy to the World
- Angels We Have Heard on High
- The First Noel
- O Come All Ye Faithful
- Go Tell It on the Mountain
- We Three Kings
- What Child Is This
- Songs of Thankfulness & Praise

**The King of Kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and Angels sing
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The Babe, The Son of Mary**

The Wisemen go to sleep off to the side of the stable.
Then an angel comes to whisper in one of their ears.

NARRATOR:

And being warned of God in a dream that
they should not return to Herod, they
departed into their own country another
way.

While singing, all the actors make their way back to
the stable to bow when the song ends.

CHORUS:

**Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to you we raise,
manifested by the star
to the sages from afar,
Branch of royal David's stem,
in your birth at Bethlehem,
anthems be to Thee address
God in man made manifest!**

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

The Wisemen jump for joy and celebrate! They slowly walk around the room to arrive at the stable.

WISEMEN:

**We three kings of orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.
Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide with thy perfect light.**

NARRATOR:

And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

The Wisemen knell at the manger and present their gifts to Mary and Joseph.

CHORUS:

**So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,
Come Peasant, King to own Him**

Scene 1

Lights off with the Advent wreath candles lit.
The road to Bethlehem.

CHORUS:

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Enter the Narrator in front of the stable.
Turn on lights. Blow out candles.

NARRATOR:

The people that walked in darkness have
seen a great light: they that dwell in the
land of the shadow of death, upon them
hath the light shined. For unto us a child is
born, unto us a son is given: and the
government shall be upon his shoulder:
and his name shall be called Wonderful,
Counsellor, The mighty God, The
everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Enter Joseph, Mary, & the Donkey from another
room. They slowly walk around from the back of the
room to the stable during this scene.

the chief priests and scribes of the people
together, he demanded of them:

KING HEROD:

Where should Christ be born?

SCRIBE:

In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is
written by the prophet, "And thou
Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, art not
the least among the princes of Judah: for
out of thee shall come a Governor, that
shall rule my people Israel."

NARRATOR:

Then Herod, when he had privily called the
wise men, enquired of them diligently what
time the star appeared. And he sent them
to Bethlehem, and said:

KING HEROD:

Go and search diligently for the young
child; and when ye have found him, bring
me word again, that I may come and
worship him also.

NARRATOR:

When they had heard the king, they
departed: and, lo, the star, which they saw
in the east, went before them, till it came
and stood over where the young child was.

Here the Nativity Play ends and the Epiphany Pageant may begin without pause or be saved for another day.

Turn the lights off and on to signal the next scene.

Scene 3

King Herod's Court

King Herod and Scribes stand off to one side of the stable wall. Enter the Wisemen from another room.

They walk up through the middle of the room & make their way to King Herod during the narration.

NARRATOR:

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying:

WISEMEN:

Where is He that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship Him.

NARRATOR:

When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all

NARRATOR:

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David: to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

Joseph helps Mary along on the Donkey.

JOSEPH:

**What 'neath her heart does Mary bear?
Kyrieleison!
A little child doth Mary bear
beneath her heart he nestles there.
Jesu and Maria.**

MARY:

But thou, Bethlehem... though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

CHORUS:

**O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie.**

**Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;**

**Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;**

**The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.**

Mary & Joseph kneel by the manger.

NARRATOR:

And so it was, that, while they were there,
the days were accomplished that she

should be delivered. And she brought forth
her firstborn son, and wrapped him in
swaddling clothes, and laid him in a

manger; because there was no room for
them in the inn.

The lights flicker and Mary grabs Baby Jesus

**covered by a blanket in the manger, or the newest
family baby, & wraps him in the swaddling cloth.**

CHORUS:

**Come, Thou Redeemer of the earth,
And manifest Thy virgin birth:**

Let every age adorning fall;

Such birth befits the God of all.

NARRATOR:

And when they had seen it, they made
known abroad the saying which was told
them concerning this child. And all they
that heard it wondered at those things
which were told them by the shepherds.
But Mary kept all these things, and
pondered them in her heart. And the
shepherds returned, glorifying and
praising God for all the things that they
had heard and seen, as it was told unto
them.

The Shepherds leave the stable and room singing.

SHEPHERDS:

**Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;**

**Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.**

**Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation**

that blessed Christmas morn.

CHORUS:

**Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.**

**The Shepherds process around the room then kneel
at the manger.**

CHORUS:

**The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay; in fields where they
lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night
that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel**

NARRATOR:

And they came with haste, and found
Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a
manger.

CHORUS:

**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;
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!**

JOSEPH:

Before she travailed, she brought forth;
before her pain came, she was delivered of
a man child. Therefore the Lord himself
shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall
conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his
name Emmanuel.

Mary lays Baby Jesus in the manger.

MARY:

**Away in a manger,
No crib for a bed
the little Lord Jesus
laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky
looked down where He lay.
The little Lord Jesus
asleep on the hay.**

CHORUS:

**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**

Turn the lights off and on to signal the next scene.

Scene 2

The hills of Bethlehem

Enter the shepherds and their sheep near whatever furniture is covered with a sheet as the hillside.

NARRATOR:

And there were in the same country

shepherds abiding in the field, keeping

watch over their flock by night. And, lo,

the angel of the Lord came upon them, and

the glory of the Lord shone round about

them: and they were sore afraid. And the

angel said unto them:

Enter the 1st Angel

1ST ANGEL:

Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all

people. For unto you is born this day in the

city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the

Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye

shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling

clothes, lying in a manger.

NARRATOR:

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising

God, and saying:

Enter any other angels.

ANGELS:

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men!

ANGELS:

Joy to the world, the Lord is come

Let earth receive her King

Let every heart prepare Him room

And Heaven & nature sing

And Heaven & nature sing

And Heaven, & Heaven, & nature sing

SHEPHERDS:

Angels we have heard on high

Sweetly singing o'er the plains

And the mountains in reply

Echoing their joyous strains

Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Gloria, in excelsis Deo

NARRATOR:

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another:

SHEPHERDS:

Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.