

THE CHRISTMAS

SCENE 1 INT/EXT. COMMUNITY HALL - DAY

Wide view of a community hall. Guests are talking each other happily. (Joyous music hears)

A priest holds Joseph's and Mary's hands. He keeps it in his hands and prays.

PRIEST

May this betrothal, one to the
Other, Joseph, Mary; be blessed
and sanctified according to the
law of Moses and of Israel. Amen.

Close view of two pair of hands holding one above the other. Slowly the priest takes away his hands. Now Joseph's and Mary's hands remain together.

Joseph and Mary smile at each other.

CROWD says together

Amen

SCENE 2 INT. MARY'S HOUSE - DAY

We hear the bible verses while camera pan through the house and stops in the face of Mary's father, Joachim who is reading a Holy Scripture (a scroll like Holy Scripture).

Mary and Anna are sitting on a wooden stool. She folds her hands very devotedly and listens to the Holy Scriptures.

JOACHIM (Isaiah 7:14-16)

Therefore the Lord himself shall
give you a sign; Behold, a virgin
shall conceive, and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel.
Butter and honey shall he eat,
that he may know to refuse the
evil, and choose the good. For
before the child shall know to
refuse the evil, and choose the
good, the land that thou abhorrest
shall be forsaken of both her kings.

Hearing the verses of the scriptures Mary keenly looks at her father with deep thought. She asks eagerly.

MARY
Father! When this prophecy of
Prophet Isaiah will be fulfilled?

JOACHIM (looks at Mary and says)
The time of fulfillment is very near.

Mary is very anxious. Her face glows and her eyes
glitter with divinity and fulfillment.

MARY
You mean a virgin will conceive!!

JOACHIM (says with faith)
Yes my child, everything will
happen according to the word.
Because God promised and sworn
to our father, Abraham.

ANNA (says with wonder)
Sara was barren and old. Yet she
has conceived a child according
to the promise.

JOACHIM (says like a monologue)
Nothing is impossible for God.

Mary looks at the sky through the window in deep thought.

View of the sky seen through the window. Light fades and it
is night.

VOICE OVER
Behold, a virgin shall conceive,
and bear a son, and shall call
his name Immanuel.

SCENE 3 INT. MARY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Mary sleeps in a mat. (Wind sound increases) A light
flashes in her body. She wakes and looks at the window.

A light beam forms and angel Gabriel appears.

Mary suddenly gets up from the mat staring at the angel.

ANGEL (calmly says) (Luke 1:28)
Hail Mary full of grace! The
Lord is with you.

Mary is confused. She doesn't understand the angel's words.
She fearfully moves to another side hitting something.

It falls down with loud noise.

Hearing it, Anna and Joachim suddenly wake up from the bed.

They look at the other room through the window.

They see a light beam in Mary's room.

They watch it with wonder and great reverence.

Mary stares at the angel with wonder.

ANGEL smiles and says (Luke 1:30-33)
Do not be afraid, Mary, for you
have found favor with God. Behold,
you will conceive in your womb
and bear a son, and you shall
name him Jesus. He will be great
and will be called Son of the Most
High, and the Lord God will give
him the throne of David his
father, and he will rule over the
house of Jacob forever, and of
his kingdom there will be no end.

Mary is very much anxious and she asks the angel.

MARY (Luke 1:34)
How can this be, since I have
no relations with a man?

The light in the room becomes brighter. Angel replies Mary.

ANGEL (Luke 1:35-37)
The holy Spirit will come upon
you, and the power of the Most
High will overshadow you.
Therefore the child to be born
will be called holy, the Son of
God. And behold, Elizabeth, your

relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God.

(At the end while finishing the words angel becomes light)

Mary kneels down with great reverence and says with content and realization.

MARY (Luke 1:38)

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.

(CAMERA focuses on Mary with a divine aura.)

Angel (only light) slowly disappears from there.

Anna and Joachim come near Mary with great love and concern. Anna hugs her.

Joachim raises his hand looking at the sky.

JOACHIM (Luke: 1-56)

Praise be to Lord our God. He has helped Israel his servant, remembering his mercy, according to his promise to our fathers, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

Mary places both hands on her heart feeling something in her heart. She takes deep breath.

MARY (Luke: 1-46)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior.

Mary moves towards Anna. Anna keeps Mary's head on her chest with great love and compassion. She caresses on Mary's hair.

MARY

The angel said! Elizabeth has conceived a son.

ANNA

Praise be to you lord!

MARY
Mother! Shall I visit her soon
and help her, she is very old.

ANNA
Hummm, give her our greetings.
I shall prepare everything for
your going, you get ready.

SCENE 4 INT/EXT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE - DAY

CAMERA PANS on the panoramic natural beauty of the hills and valleys with green trees and flowers and reaches before a country road and finally focuses on Mary. (Mary's song can be heard in the back ground).

Mary is going sitting on the back of an ass looking at the beautiful scenes around.

Great joy springs up in her face. (Song continues)

MARY'S SONG (Luke 1:46-56)
My soul proclaims the greatness
of the Lord; my spirit rejoices
in God my savior. For he has
looked upon his handmaid's
lowliness; behold, from now on
will all ages call me blessed.
The Mighty One has done great
things for me, and holy is his
name. His mercy is from age to
age to those who fear him. He
has shown might with his arm,
dispersed the arrogant of mind
and heart. He has thrown down
the rulers from their thrones
but lifted up the lowly. The
hungry he has filled with good
things; the rich he has sent
away empty.

A beautiful rainbow is seen.

Mary gets down from the ass, happily raises her hands in jubilation and turns around with great joy.

A peacock is seen with its feathers spreading and dancing.

The donkey is also moving its head joyfully.

Birds are singing and flying in the sky. A deer is moving through the meadows.

MARY'S SONG continuing
He has helped Israel his
Servant, (camera focus on
the rainbow) remembering his
mercy, according to his
promise to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his
descendants forever.

Many houses are seen in the village. Mary reaches before a moderately big house.

An old priest, Zechariah, Elizabeth and some others are seen in the front area of the house.

Seeing Mary Elizabeth greets her warmly.

ELIZABETH
Mary

Mary enters the house, happily calling Elizabeth.

MARY
Elizabeth

An old priest, Zechariah, and some family members, standing there looks at Mary.

A divine aura is visible around Mary and this light spread to Elizabeth. The divine aura is now moving on Elizabeth.

(Inside the womb) A child lying in the womb smiles and jumps

A hand touches the belly, (a woman's sound calling "Elizabeth" overlaps) camera tilts up from the belly to the old but elegant face of Elizabeth. Elizabeth's eyes fill with tears of happiness. She walks fast towards Mary. Mary comes closer to Elizabeth. She holds Elizabeth.

Elizabeth hugs her. She says like crying.

ELIZABETH (Luke 1:42-45)
Most blessed are you among women,

and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy.[divine aura of a shot of the belly] Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.

Elizabeth overwhelms with emotions. She holds one hand on her womb.

A slight movement is seen in her belly.

ELIZABETH

Look! The child is jumping with joy.

Elizabeth holds her hands in Mary's shoulder, looks at her eyes with reverence.

Mary says with content and realization.

MARY (Luke 1:46-56)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior. For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is from age to age to those who fear him. He has shown might with his arm, dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart. He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones but lifted up the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things; the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped Israel his servant, remembering his mercy, according to his promise to our fathers, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

While saying this she looks at the sky.

Others standing there stare at Mary and Elizabeth.

Elizabeth also looks at the sky closing her eyes.

Zachariah and others are standing there with astonishment.

Zachariah slowly looks at the sky.

Clear and beautiful sky

SCENE 5 EXT. JOSEPH'S HOUSE (CARPENTRY PROPERTIES ARE SEEN) - DAY

A piece of wood drops in the ground. Camera tilts up from it to the disturbed face of Joseph.

His friend, who was there with Joseph in the betrothal, is standing before Joseph.

Joseph says his friend with disbelief shaking his head.

JOSEPH
I won't believe this.

His friend keeps his hands in Joseph's shoulder and says.

FRIEND
But it's true, Joseph.

Saying this, friend takes his hands from Joseph's shoulder, looks down expressing his concern and goes from there. Joseph moves fast towards him, stops him and says.

JOSEPH
Please..... Please do not tell
this to any body.

Friend shakes his head. He comforts Joseph.

FRIEND
Don't worry.

Saying this he leaves there.

Joseph in deep thought looks at him going away.

Wind increases and a leaf hits in Joseph's face.

Joseph, turns slowly looking down at the ground and he comes back near his work place.

He looks at the wood and his tools uninterestingly and stands there perplexed.

SCENE 6 EXT. PRIEST'S HOUSE - DAY

Priest, who betrothed earlier, looks at Joseph with wonder. He then closes his eyes. Then he looks again at Joseph.

Joseph is standing there with a depressed face.

Priest tries to say something, but then he stops.

PRIEST

But...

JOSEPH (interferes)

I'll be responsible for her
public disgrace. What will
I do? I don't know.

Saying this he sits in a corner of the house in the ground.

JOSEPH

I must dismiss her quietly.
That may be the only way.

Chief priest doesn't answer for a moment. He thinks for a moment, then looks at the sky closing his eyes and prays.

After a while chief priest opens his eyes, looks at Joseph, walks towards him, bents and touches Joseph's shoulders.

Joseph gets up.

PRIEST

There may be some thing mystical in
it. We don't know God's ways.

Joseph looks at the priest.

PRIEST continued

Mary is a holy woman. (He presses him
and says again) Everything will

happen according to God's wish.
Please wait before you take any decision.

Joseph looks at him and leaves there with a desperate face.

Joseph walks through the street desperately. He looks at the sky while walking.

SCENE 7 INT. JOSEPH'S ROOM - NIGHT

Day sky transforms to night sky. Wind increases. (Sound of night birds can be heard.)

Extreme close view of Joseph's closed eyes. Sound continued in Joseph's closed eyes. Joseph is sleeping.

He moves as if he is disturbed in sleep because of a dream.

A white light fills and a messenger appears.

GOD'S MESSENGER (Matthew 1:20-21)
Joseph, son of David, do not be
afraid to take Mary your wife into
your home. For it is through the
holy Spirit that this child has
been conceived in her. She will
bear a son and you are to name
him Jesus, because he will save
his people from their sins.

Joseph suddenly wakes up from the bed. He looks at the wall and around.

He gets up from the bed, walks towards the door, opens it and moves to the yard.

He looks at the sky.

Night sky; voice over hears like an incorporeal.

VOICE OVER (Matthew 1:23)
Behold, the virgin shall be with
child and bear a son, and they
shall name him Emmanuel, which
means "God is with us."

(Meanwhile night sky changes to morning sky.)

Joseph is reading the above voice over in a Holy Scripture. A smile in Joseph's face while reading it. After reading it Joseph raises his head and looks at the sky. Then he raises his hand to the sky.

JOSEPH (PS: 71-18)
Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
who alone does wonderful deeds.

Music and ambience of marriage overlaps in Joseph's face.
Fade out

SCENE 8 EXT. JOSEPH'S HOUSE - DAY

(Fade in) Joseph and Mary, accompanied by few people are coming to the house of Joseph after marriage.

While approaching the house Joseph says at Mary.

JOSEPH
This is a poor house. We have
to manage with this.

Mary smiles at him with consent.

They both enter the house with a smile.

Mary kneels down for praying. Joseph also kneels down. All others follow them.

JOSEPH & MARY pray together (PS 71:18, 19)
O God, That I may proclaim your might
to all generations yet to come, your
power and justice, God to the highest
heaven. You have done great things;
O God, who is your equal? (Ps 126-3)
The LORD has done great things for
us; Oh, how happy we were!

Fade out

SCENE 9 EXT/INT. SYNAGOGUE - DAY

Exterior view of a synagogue

Inside the synagogue; fully filled with people; old Jews, ladies and youth are seen. All of them attentively listens the priest's words.

Mary and Joseph are standing there in a row. Mary's belly is very big (near delivery). Her one hand is on her hip and the other hand on her belly caressing on it.

All are attentively listening to the voice of the priest.

The priest is reading from a scroll kept on an ambo (high table/pedestal for preaching the word of God).

PRIEST (reading) (Micah: 5-1,3)
But you, Bethlehem-Ephrathah too small
to be among the clans of Judah, from
you shall come forth for me one who is
to be ruler in Israel;(camera on the
belly of Mary) Whose origin is from of
old, from ancient times. He shall
stand firm and shepherd his flock by
the strength of the LORD,
(Camera on the listening face of the people)
in the majestic name of the LORD, his
God; And they shall remain, for now
his greatness shall reach to the ends
of the earth;
Silence in the faces of the crowd as if the message is
sinking inside them.

Joseph and Mary look at each other eye to eye.

Suddenly the child in the womb jumps.

Realizing it Mary touches Joseph's hand inviting his
attention of that movement.

Both of them share a smile.

An old Jew with long white beard, who is sitting very near
to the priest, began to announce spontaneously.

OLD JEW (Isaiah:60-1-3)
So Isaiah prophesies, Rise up in
splendour! Your light has come,
the glory of the Lord shines upon
you. 2 See, darkness covers the
earth, and thick clouds cover the
peoples; But upon you the LORD
shines, and over you appears his
glory.

With the voice over scene fades
3 Nations shall walk by your light,
and kings by your shining radiance.

Fade out

SCENE 10 INT. JOSEPH'S HOUSE - DAY

Mary, with big belly is lying on the floor in a mat. She is in deep thought. (We hears a voice over)

PRIEST (VOICE OVER)
Bethlehem-Ephrathah too small to be
among the clans of Judah, From you
shall come forth for me one who is
to be ruler in Israel...

Mary, with big belly is lying on the floor in a mat. She tries to take water kept in a pot nearby.

That time Joseph enters the house. He sees her trying to take water.

Mary also sees him. Joseph takes the water and gives it to her.

JOSEPH
Have it.

She drinks it. Joseph sits beside her.

Joseph caresses on her hair. He looks at her belly.

JOSEPH (thinks & says)
There is a decree that all of us
have to go to Bethlehem, to be
registered for the census. All
over there announcement is going
on about it. But how can we go
at this stage?

Mary's eyes shines with great joy. Suddenly she raises and sits on her mat.

JOSEPH (amazingly asks)
What happened Mary?

Mary raises her one hand open to above and other hand on her belly and raised her head with great fulfillment.

MARY
Praise be to you Lord My God,
the prophecy will be soon
fulfilled! Oh Bethlehem!

A divine light shines all over Mary.

Joseph looks at her with great reverence and bows.

MARY
We must then go soon, I am ready.
(Music starts)

SCENE 11 EXT. LANDSCAPE - DAY

(Music continues) Joseph is walking. Beside him we see Mary traveling in a donkey's back. (Silhouette)

Mary travels in a donkey's back. A few luggages are on the donkey's back. Walking the long way Joseph is very tedious.

Large crowd moves from one place to another with their luggage. Some are traveling in their donkey's back.

Highly tedious Mary is sleeping by a tree side. Joseph watches her with care and affection.

Evening sky; a star is seen in the sky.

Joseph and group travels through another landscape.

Mary is suffering from severe pain. Desert wind, dust and travel make her tedious.

They traversed through long desert roads. (Silhouette)

Slowly the roads are different and become good country road with trees small bushes even Christmas trees.

Joseph looks at the sky.

Sky goes dark and it is night; a star shines in the sky.

SCENE 12 EXT. DESERT - NIGHT

While camera tilts down from the sky we see three kings looking at the star in the sky. (Silhouette)

They three look at each other, smiles and go forward. A king in the front orders others to follow.

Star shines brightly in the night sky.

SCENE 13 EXT/INT. CITY STREET - NIGHT

People are busy with many activities in the night street. Many are walking busy through the street.

Mary is desperately walking. Joseph holds her. But she cannot walk anymore. She stops with severe pain.

MARY

I can't. I can't walk anymore.

Joseph holds her to get down from the donkey and helps her to sit down in a side and says.

JOSEPH

You sit here. I'll find a place.

Joseph leaves there looking back again and again. He is highly tensed.

Joseph sees an inn.

He goes inside it. The inn is highly busy.

The inn-keeper keeps a question mark face and asks Joseph.

INN-KEEPER

What do you want?

Joseph enters there with excitement and asks.

JOSEPH

Please be kind to me. We need a space. My wife is in labour pain.

INN-KEEPER

No, no, no, it's full. We don't have space here. We already have too many people. Please look another place.

Saying this he turns to his work commanding other workers.

INN-KEEPER
Don't let others inside.

JOSEPH (pleads once again)
Please..... Consider.

But the inn-keeper doesn't mind him.

Joseph desperately leaves there. He is very much worried.

He dreadfully runs towards another place. While moving he prays.

JOSEPH
Help us my Lord, help us.

Joseph reaches before another building. He desperately stops a layman and asks.

JOSEPH
Please be kind to us. My wife is in labour pain. We desperately need a place to rest. Please give us some space.

LAYMAN
I cannot help you. The whole Bethlehem is overflowing with people came for census. Here everywhere is busy and I don't think that you will get a place tonight.

Saying this he leaves there.

A woman hears this and looks at Joseph compassionately.

Joseph is very much worried and he runs towards the side where Mary is sitting. While running he pushes others.

Mary is sitting there suffering huge pain.

Joseph reaches beside her, bents and touches her forehead.

JOSEPH
No room for us here. How do you feel now? Are you capable to move to another place?

She tries to get up. But she feels severe pain.

Mary turns her head fast suffering severe pain and says.

MARY

No, I... I can't.

Mary opens her eyes. She suffers great pain.

The woman who sees Joseph enquiring earlier watches them.

She sees Mary with her big belly suffering pain.

She moves towards them and reaches beside them.

KIND-HEARTED WOMAN

Look it's no use trying to find
a place here at this hour.

(looking kindly at Mary) I'll
show you a place.

Saying this she holds Mary and says to Joseph looking and
pointing at a far away stable.

KIND-HEARTED WOMAN

Have you seen the fire in that
place in front of a hut?

JOSEPH (looking at the place)

Yes.

Long-view of a place; fire, buildings, huts etc is seen.
Woman continued talking.

KIND-HEARTED WOMAN

Go behind that hut. There is a
place which you can use. Of course,
it's not an inn like place. But
it may be useful for you now. It
is a stable.

Joseph looks at the place and then he looks at Mary, holds
her and asks.

JOSEPH

Shall we move there slowly?

Mary shakes her head with consent. She suffers severe pain.

Joseph looks at the place.

Long view of the place

SCENE 14 EXT/ INT. STABLE - NIGHT

Exterior of a stable; crying voice of Mary hears outside

Cow, goat etc are there in the stable. (Crying voice overlaps in cattle's face).

Mary's hand strongly holds the cloth and dry grass.

Mary's crying face. She suffers great pain.

Joseph looks at her. He is highly tensed. He holds her.

She firmly holds him. Pain and sweat fills in her face.

Cattle stay there chewing looking at them.

Joseph's highly tensed face.

Close-view of Mary shivering with pain; she cries out. Her crying sound lowering overlaps in Joseph's face.

She exhales heavily with relief.

Her relief appears in Joseph's face. Crying sound of infant Jesus overlaps in Joseph's face. He smiles.

While the cry of the infant Jesus continues, view of heaven; all the angels are listening. The cry becomes jubilant and angels are dancing and singing with orchestration.

VOICE OVER

Glory to God in the highest and
on earth peace to those on whom
his favour rests.

Mary lies there closing her eyes.

The kind-hearted woman enters. She smiles seeing the child.

Close-view of infant Jesus 1st cry

Joseph holds him.

Woman approaches infant Jesus. She smiles and kisses her.

Close-view of infant Jesus; Mary is laying beside, Joseph sits near the child. In the background cattle are seen.

Close up of the cow. They too swing its head according to the music... angels music continues...

SCENE 15 EXT/INT. FIELD - NIGHT

A star shines in the sky.

An old shepherd looks at the sky with wonder.

Shepherds are roaming in the field watching their sheep.

Suddenly a long spark of light flashes in the sky and an angel appears.

Shepherds are very much afraid.

The angel appears to them and the glory of the Lord shines around them.

The old shepherd is taken aback with fear. After a moment he slowly looks at it hearing the angel's voice.

Other shepherds also look at it with wonder and fear.

ANGEL (Luke 2:10-12)
Do not be afraid; for behold, I
proclaim to you good news of great
joy that will be for all the people.
For today in the city of David a
savior has been born for you who
is Messiah and Lord.

View of heaven; a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying:

ANGELS (Luke 2:13, 14)
Glory to God in the highest and
on earth peace to those on whom
his favour rests.

Light and background changes to the stable where infant Jesus wrapped in bands of cloth are lying in the stable. Cattle are seen in the surroundings.

Mary is sleeping beside. Joseph smiles and looks at the child with love.

The kind-hearted woman smoothly touches the infant Jesus.

Suddenly they hear a knocking sound and they are a bit tensed. They look at each other.

KIND-HEARTED WOMAN (asks seriously)
Who are you?

The wooden temporary door opens and the shepherds we seen earlier enter in the stable.

Joseph, Mary and the woman are a bit tensed. The woman asks with irritation.

KIND-HEARTED WOMAN
What do you want? Why you are here?

OLD SHEPHERD (says politely)
We heard the good news from the
Lord about the birth of our
savior. We are here to see him.

Joseph and Mary look at each other with surprise.

Shepherds look at the infant child.

Infant Jesus' divine smile

Mary and Joseph look at each other sharing a smile.

That time the door opens and three kings enter the stable.

Everybody look at it eagerly.

That time one of the kings says.

A KING (Matthew 2-2)
Don't be afraid. We saw his star at its
rising and have come to do him homage.

Hearing it Joseph smiles.

Another king comes frontward and all the kings kneel down before the child.

ANOTHER KING

Please accept our small offerings.

They open their treasure chests and present it. Gold, Frankincense and myrrh are seen. Joseph looks at it and has a respectful, light smile.

All the shepherds, kings and the woman look at infant Jesus with great reverence and devotion.

A multitude of angels appear in the sky and together they praise God.

ANGELS (Luke 2:14)

Glory to God in the highest and
on earth peace to those on whom
his favour rests.

Holy family

Infant Jesus smiles at all. A divine light surrounds him.

The star in the sky touches the divine light in the stable.
(Bluish light beam) Divine light blesses the earth.