

# OMG!

## An Advent Pageant

*By Ian Reed Twiss*

What if the Angel Gabriel called Mary on her mobile phone? In this contemporary take on the Christmas story, Elizabeth and Mary chat by instant messaging, a mysterious GPS leads three members of the Wisacre family to find the newborn king in Bethlehem, and shepherds hitch a ride because Gabriel contacted them on "Faithbook."

Chaos and hilarity ensue, but in the end, everyone discovers that the holy child born to teen parents in a barn will change their lives.



# LICENSING TERMS

---



**Single organization.** Licenses are normally issued to a parish, school, or other single-entity, non-profit organization. If you serve more than one parish or school, each should purchase its own license. A diocese may use a standard license within its own office. For information about diocese-wide licenses and discounts, please contact us.



**Adaptations.** You are permitted to modify the resource for use in your own organization without permission. We encourage you to adapt the work to best suit your community.



**Prohibited uses.** You may not use this resource outside your organization or distribute it to anyone outside your organization. You may not sell copies of these materials in any form.



**Copies and sharing.** You are allowed to make unlimited copies of this resources for use within your own organization. You may also email these to members of your organization (e.g. parishioners, parents, volunteers, and staff) or participants in your program, and we encourage you to share them widely.



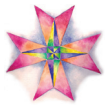
**Thank you!** We appreciate you following our honor system (and copyright law). Your licensing fees support the creative team that developed this resource, and funds additional work like this.



**Posting to websites.** You may not post this resource as a whole to any public web site without explicit permission. You are allowed to publish reasonable excerpts. Please request permission or clarification for other uses.



**Questions?** Please contact us at [resources@pastoralcenter.com](mailto:resources@pastoralcenter.com) or 844-727-8672.



**The Pastoral Center** *in partnership with*



**LeaderResources**

SAMPLE - DO NOT REPRODUCE

**Cast** (in order of appearance)

Mary  
Elizabeth  
Gabriel  
Wise Guy  
Wise Mom  
Wise Kid  
GPS  
Joseph  
Sheba  
Barbara  
Sheep

**Adult Helpers**

Someone to ring mobile phones and announce each scene and dim lights  
A prompter  
Someone backstage with kids

**Prop List**

Mobile phones for all except the sheep, Elizabeth, Mary, Joseph, and Gabriel--they can be non-working phones  
Scene 1: 2 cardboard laptops, pillow  
Scene 2: A cooler, picnic basket, and thermos  
Scene 3: 2 plates and forks and one candle on the table  
Scene 4: Baby doll (Jesus), swaddled

**Costumes**

Costumes should be contemporary but can have a suggestion of Bible times if desired  
Mary, Elizabeth, Joseph and Wise Kid should dress like contemporary teens  
Wise Guy and Wise Mom like contemporary parents  
GPS should wear all black so her head stands out  
Sheep can have the usual sheep ears or whatever  
Sheba and Barbara should look like hippies/flower children of the 21st century  
Gabriel should have wings, but can otherwise be dressed in contemporary clothes as well

**Set**

*The stage is set up with an enormous mobile phone (made of a cardboard box) in the center with the "screen" cut out so Gabriel can step behind it and be framed by the screen. Stage right is a table and two chairs. Stage left is a set of small chairs oriented like a minivan/car with a "steering wheel." The "car" is facing toward the audience.*

*(Note: it's a good idea to print the slang guide below and hand it out for multi generational audiences.)*

**A Guide to Instant Messaging Slang  
from the Time of Jesus**

(in order of appearance in the play)

BTW = by the way

BAB = baby

(Smiley face) = :-)

(Winking face) = ;-)

MSIA = messiah

LOL = laughing out loud

OMG = oh my god

G2G = got to go

CUL8R = see you later

TTFN = ta-ta for now

BFF = best friend forever

SAMPLE - DO NOT REPRODUCE

## **Scene 1: Mary and Elizabeth's Instant Messages**

*Mary is sitting at the table stage R with a pillow typing on a computer. Elizabeth is stage L or near the entrance also typing on a computer. Gabriel is sitting behind the enormous mobile phone, out of sight. Most of their "lines" are reciting what they are typing to each other. They pronounce the letters of the acronyms, i.e. "B-T-W," "L-O-L," etc.*

Eliz: Mary, are you there?

Mary: *(To audience.)* Oh, it's my older cousin. She's like twenty-seven and super cool. *(Typing.)* Hey, Elizabeth.

Eliz: What are you up to?

Mary: In my room, studying. Geography test.

Eliz: BTW, what's up with that guy you were crushing on in Geography? Did he ever call you?

Mary: Joseph? Yeah, we're dating now. He's taking me to this Babylonian restaurant next week. It's called The Fertile Croissant.

Eliz: You go girl! So I have news.

Mary: Do tell.

Eliz: Guess who's expecting a BAB!

Mary: *(Squeals with excitement. Types.)* No way! *(Smiley face!)*

Eliz: I know, right? We never thought this day would come!

Mary: What did Zechariah say when you told him?

Eliz: He was pretty speechless.

Mary: *That's* hard to imagine. *(Winking face!)*

Eliz: He wants to name him "John" because he had some dream where God told him to. He said God told him John would prepare the way for the next MSIA. The kid's not even born yet and Zechariah's already bragging on him!

Mary: LOL! Seriously, though, this news is way cool. I'm just like OMG! *(Mary's mobile phone rings. Gabriel appears in the enormous mobile phone. Mary flips open her phone.)* Hello?

Gabriel: You called?

Mary: What? Who is this?

Gabriel: My full name is Otis Maximus Gabriel, but I mostly go by Gabriel. Just think of me as the voice of God.

Mary: Whatevs. Can you hang on a minute?

Gabriel: (*To audience.*) She's putting *me* on hold! I'm a messenger of God and she's putting *me* on hold! Teenagers!

Mary: (*Typing.*) Elizabeth? G2G.

Eliz: Me, too. BAB is suddenly kicking like crazy!

Mary: OK. CUL8R!

Eliz: TTFN.

Mary: (*Returns to phone.*) Sorry, I had to sign off with my BFF. Who are you again?

Gabriel: I'm Gabriel. I come from the LORD God of your ancestors Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar; Isaac and Rebekah; Jacob, Leah, and Rachel.

Mary: No way!

Gabriel: Actually, YAH-weh. Listen, Mary, I have an important message for you. God is planning to give you a child soon. This child is going to change everything. He's going to be the Messiah and bring God's kingdom to the whole world, and God wants you to be his mother.

Mary: But, I'm just a high school kid. I haven't even held hands with my boyfriend yet! I'm not ready to become another statistic!

Gabriel: Mary, it's not going to be easy. But God will stay with you and guide you all the way.

Mary: Well, okay, I guess. But my parents are *not* going to be happy about this.