

# CATHOLIC NURSERY RHYMES



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*Censor Librorum*

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**A** is for Angel,  
St. Gabriel fair,  
Who appeared as Our Lady  
was kneeling in prayer,  
And told her that Mother  
of God she would be.  
“Hail Mary!” he whispered;  
“The Lord is with thee.”



**B** is for Bethlehem,

dear little town!

As the birthplace of Jesus  
it has great renown.

For there, when His Mother  
was duly enrolled,

Our sweet little Saviour  
was born in the cold.



**C** is the Cave.

See the ox and the sheep,  
And the straw where the Infant  
is lying asleep.  
Mary and Joseph  
are kneeling in prayer,  
And poor men, called shepherds,  
also are there.



**D** is the Death

which King Herod now planned  
For all the boy-babies  
who lived in his land.  
He hated the newly-born  
King of the Jews,  
Fearing in time  
his own kingdom to lose.



**E** is for East.

Three wise men there were,  
Who brought from their countries  
gold, incense and myrrh.  
At the side of the manger,  
they knelt down to pray;  
Then returned to their homes  
by a different way.



**F** is for Flight  
to a far-distant land.  
“To Egypt depart”  
was the angel’s command.  
Though painful the journey,  
at once they obeyed,  
And seven long years  
in that country they stayed.





**G** is for God,  
Who made you and me,  
The sun, moon and stars,  
the earth and the sea.  
He is everywhere present,  
Three Persons in One;  
The Second came down  
and became Mary's Son.



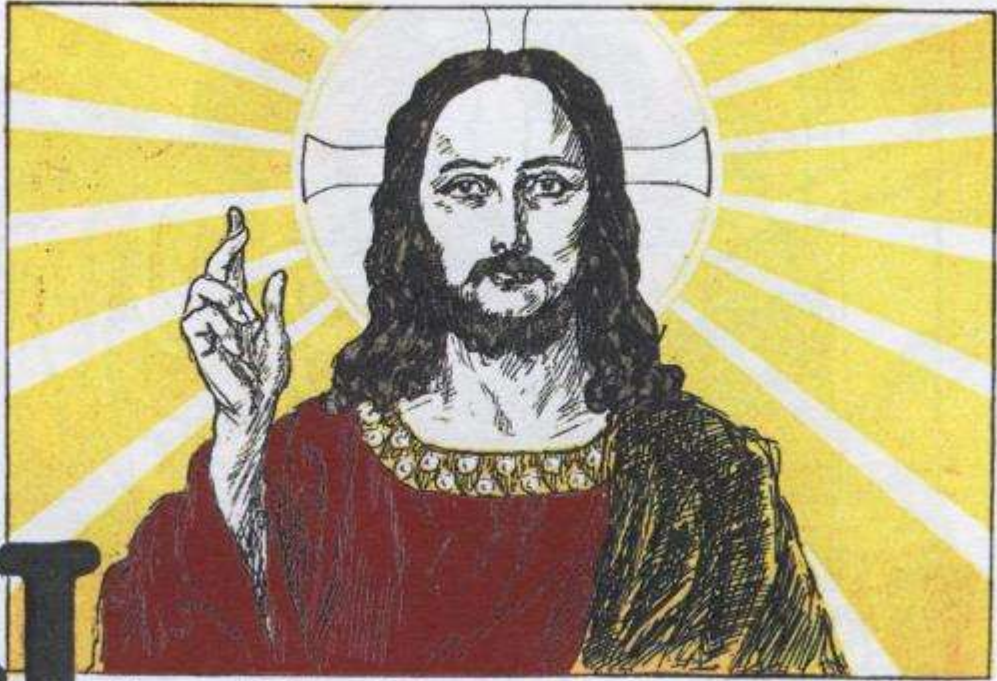
**H** is for Home.

It is Nazareth at last,  
Where with His parents  
His boyhood was passed.  
“He was subject to them,”  
for He always obeyed,  
And practised with Joseph  
the Carpenter’s trade.



**I** for Instruction.

When only a boy  
He taught the wise doctors,  
who listened with joy.  
In the Temple He lingered  
the law to explain,  
While for three days His Mother  
was searching in vain.

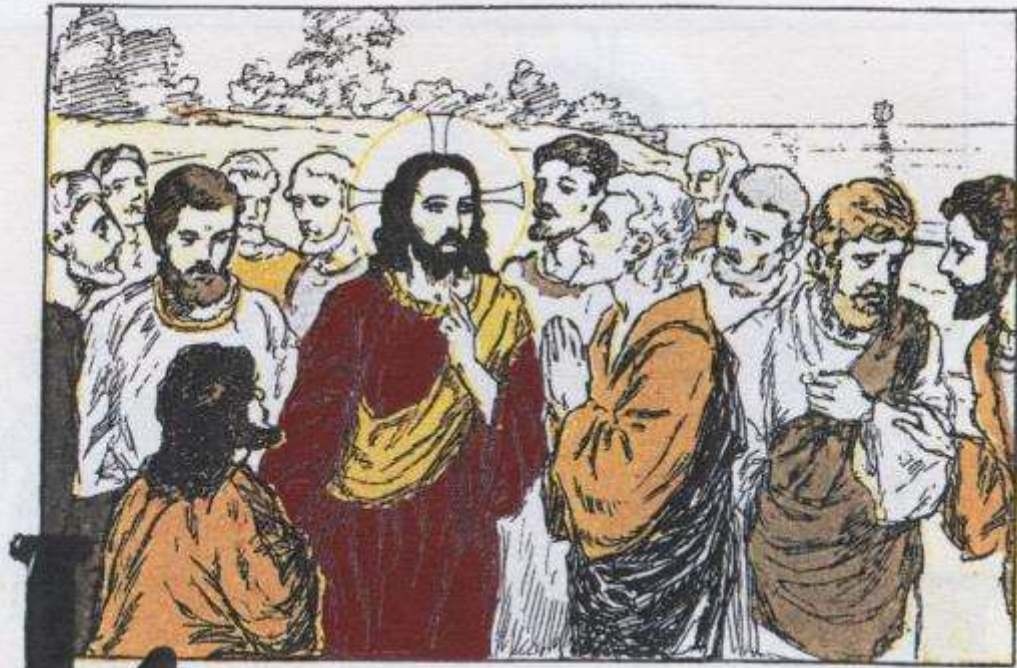


**J** for His Name,  
so revered and so blest;  
Of all names we utter,  
'tis holiest, best.  
Whenever you hear it,  
wherever it's said,  
You must show your devotion  
by bowing your head.



**K** is for Kindness.

When grown to a man,  
He left His dear home,  
and His life-work began.  
The little ones loved Him  
so gentle was He,  
Saying, "Suffer the children  
to come unto Me."



**L** is for Learners,  
poor men, twelve in all,  
Apostles who left  
all they had at His call.  
They learned His great doctrine,  
then taught in His name.  
Their chief was St. Peter.  
First Pope he became.



**M** is for Miracles.

See the great crowd  
Which everywhere followed Him,  
crying aloud.

He cured their diseases,  
gave life to their dead,  
While the fame of His power  
through all the land spread.



**N** is for New Law,  
replacing the Old,  
Which at the Last Supper  
so sweetly He told,---  
The New Law of love  
which induced Him to leave  
His body and blood  
which we daily receive.





**O** is for Olivet,  
lonely and drear.  
The supper is over,  
His Passion draws near.  
He sweats blood to suffer  
for your sins and mine,  
And prays to His Father,  
“Not My will, but Thine.”



**P** is for Pilate,  
the judge on his throne.  
Christ stands before him,  
accused by His own.  
“Condemn Him to death!”  
the rude mob demands;  
Then Pilate delivers Him  
into their hands.



Q

for Quadrangle,  
a courtyard enclosed;  
To suffering and insult  
Our Lord was exposed.  
They scourged Him, and pressed  
on His head a sharp crown,  
Then hailed Him as King,  
and to mock Him, knelt down.



**R** for Redeemer,  
so patient and sweet,  
As He carries His cross  
through the rough, crowded  
street.

Beneath it He falls;  
with His blood it is stained,  
Yet He shoulders it bravely  
till Calvary is gained.



**S** is for Sacrifice.  
nailed between thieves,  
Three hours He hangs,  
while His dear Mother grieves.  
At length "it is finished";  
His life-work is done;  
Christ dies on the cross,  
and redemption is won.



**T** is for Tomb.

In a rock it was made.  
Within it Our Lord's  
sacred body was laid.  
See! Mary is leaving  
the place where He died,  
Departing in sorrow,  
St. John at her side.



**U** is for souls

Unredeemed, and denied  
An entrance to heaven  
till Jesus had died.  
In Limbo they waited  
in longing and prayer.  
Our Lord's soul descended  
to comfort them there.



**V** is for Victor.

At dawn the third day,  
The tomb became bright,  
and the stone rolled away.  
Disfigured no longer,  
but beautiful, bright,  
Christ rose from the dead,  
and appeared in His might.





**W** the Welcome,  
that waited above  
For Him Who redeemed us  
with infinite love.  
“I go to make ready  
a place for My friends,”---  
And while He is speaking,  
behold! He ascends.



**X** is for Ten;

it is used as a sign.

The Ten great Commandments  
our duties define.

The Church is our Mother,  
and teaches us, too;

Her laws are but six,  
and are binding, though few.



**Y** is for You, for whom  
all this was done.

Your body will die,  
but your soul will live on.  
Do all the Church teaches,  
and love our dear Lord;  
Then heaven will be  
your eternal reward.



**Z**

With this letter  
the alphabet ends.  
Our story is finished  
for Christ's little friends.  
Some day through the earth  
will be heard a loud blast,---  
**THE END OF THE WORLD!**  
day of judgment at last!