

# ***Sunday Players***

## ***Drama Resources***

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# "OH HOLY NIGHT"

by Michelle Taylor

A Christmas Eve skit performed by the Sunday Players; a drama ministry of Pine Castle United Methodist Church

LENGTH: 5 minutes

## CAST:

Old Man-wants church service to remain traditional.

College Age Male-bored with service being the same, old thing and it not applying to his generation.

Middle Aged Female-comes to church once a year. Doesn't have a heart for worship. Too caught up in the Christmas rush.

A Spiritually Balanced Person-Has a personal relationship with Jesus. Has the right attitude. Understands the true reason for Christmas.

## SET AND PROPS:

A church pew; big enough to seat four people (placed on stage)  
church bulletin, candlelight service candles, pencil, and white pad of paper used for sermon notes.

## SFX:

The entire skit will be the audience hearing the character's thoughts. The actor's lines are pre-recorded. We hear a few seconds sung of the Christmas carol "Oh Holy Night", followed by the character's thoughts. For the night of the performance, the actors won't actually be speaking their lines. They will simply react to their "thoughts" that we hear played over the sound system.

(The scene opens with all four actors seated on the pew. In order from stage right to stage left: Old man, college student, middle aged woman, spiritually balanced Christian. We hear the recording of the Christmas carol "Oh Holy Night" which is interrupted with the various actors "thoughts".)

OLD MAN: (humming "Oh Holy Night" contently 'says'...) Aaah! This is my kind of Christmas Eve service. Traditional. Same Christmas carols. Same everything. (looks at watch) Oh good. Another hour to go. This is going to be a wonderful service. (added thought) As long as they don't add one of those drama skits.

COLLEGE STUDENT: (disgusted) Uugh! How many Christmas carols must they subject us to?! I just know this is going to be a long service. (looks at watch) Another hour of this same old Christmas Eve service. Boring! ( shift in chair, fidgety and bored)

MIDDLE AGED WOMAN.(break from happily singing to frightened realization that you forgot something. stop in mid song to yell “Turkey” ) (singing the carol) Oh holy night, the...TURKEY!! I forgot to buy the turkey! (look at watch) Another hour to go. ( look around your pew) Maybe I can sneak out a little early. Gooding's is open 24 hours. I can still make it.

BALANCED CHRISTIAN: (reverently spoken in worship) Oh HOLY night. Thank you Lord for leaving your kingdom so that you could be born in Bethlehem. It truly was a holy night. You sacrificed so much for me (looks at watch) and I'm only giving you one hour of my day. Take this hour Lord and prepare my heart for the message you want me to receive tonight.

OLD MAN: Yesiree. I just love a service where I'm comfortable knowing what's going to happen. And on Christmas Eve I can expect the same Christmas carols I've sung all my life. (look disgustingly at the college student seated next to you. College student is fidgeting with boredom.) Look at him wiggling. Can't sit still. I bet you he's doing one of those “young kid” dances. (hold up candle and look from your candle to college student) He better not spill wax on me.

COLLEGE STUDENT: (sees old man glaring at him. Tries to be friendly and smiles to him then looks away) Gee. Even he's not happy. I thought for sure he'd enjoy this kind of service 'cause it's certainly not geared for me and my friends. But why does it have to be so miserable? Why can't I come to church and have a good time too? Oh well. At least I've done my duty. God can't fault me for 'forsaking the gathering of believers.

MIDDLE AGED WOMAN: (pulls out pad of paper used for taking sermon notes and begins to write.) Let's see. I can leave the service early, buy the turkey and get home in time to bake 3 dozen cookies. While the cookies are in the oven, I can finish wrapping presents and straighten up the house a little. I can't believe all the work I still have to do. (stop writing and look up) Oh. The sermon's started. Hey. Whose that guy preaching? Where's the other preacher from last year? What was his name? Bill. Bill Pritchett or something. I hope this new guy doesn't try to make me feel guilty for only coming to church once a year. (change of heart) Maybe I should give the new preacher a chance. I'll listen to what he has to say. AFTER I finish up my list of things to do. (go back to writing)

BALANCED CHRISTIAN: (looking at and referring to middle aged woman) Wow. She must be getting some great sermon notes. ( say the following to God) Look at your children praising you Lord. ( referring to old man) This elderly gentleman, so full of wisdom. The man next to him ( college student fidgets again with boredom) who can't control his excitement at being in your house of worship. This woman next to me who is faithfully taking notes from Pastor Blake's sermon so she can commit them to her heart. We're so thankful that you were born so that you could die for us and save us from our sins. Thank you that we know our destiny in you. In you, Jesus, we have life

and not death. (in prayer) Lord, thank you for this Christmas Eve service. Thank you that people of different ages can come together and worship you as we're doing tonight.

OLD MAN: (in prayer) Lord, keep the church services the way they've always been.

COLLEGE STUDENT: (in prayer) Lord, make these services interesting for kids my age.

MIDDLE AGED WOMAN: (in prayer) Lord, don't let me burn the turkey again like I did last year.

BALANCED CHRISTIAN: (prayer continued) Lord, Thank you for Pine Castle ministering to us. God bless the people who are seated near me. May your message reach them.

OLD MAN: (finishing your prayer) Amen!

COLLEGE STUDENT: (finishing your prayer) Amen!

MIDDLE AGED WOMAN: (finishing your prayer) Amen!

BALANCED CHRISTIAN: (finishing your sincere prayer) Amen!

(Lights out. End of skit.)