Llandaff Festival of Christmas Music 2026

Just a Tale

It is a story, a simple story,
A story told in lands we've never seen.
And though we'll always ask, 'What can it mean?'
It's just a tale, another tale.

There was a baby, a newborn baby,
A baby bathed in swathes of love and dreams.
But nothing in this story's as it seems
For this one child, this special child.

How often does a young man teach beyond his years,
Beyond his reach,
To touch the lives, so many lives who came to know
That truth survives?
How often does a wise man die because he dared to
Question why we live with fear,
And witness lies with tired and soft unseeing eyes?
How often does a man live on where flesh and blood have long since gone?

There was a baby, a newborn baby
Whose words would one day warm the coldest night,
Whose sword was peace, whose gentle touch was light,
To those who heard: and soon they heard

This simple story, it's just a story
Of how a people learned to love and trust,
And learned to see the hope in barren dust,
From just one tale, one Christmas tale.
It's just a tale, a Christmas tale.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

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.

O morning stars together,
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary;
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep,
Their watch of wond'ring love.

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is giv'n.
So God imparts to human hearts,
The blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still,
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels,
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

Calypso Carol

See him lying on a bed of straw
Draughty stable with an open door
Mary cradling the babe she bore
The prince of glory is his name!

Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem
To see the Lord appear to men
Just as poor as was the stable then
The prince of glory when he came.

Star of silver sweeps across the skies
Show where Jesus in the manger lies
Shepherds swiftly from your stupor rise
To see the Saviour of the world.

Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem
To see the Lord appear to men
Just as poor as was the stable then
The prince of glory when he came.

Mine are riches from thy poverty
From thine innocence, eternity
Mine, forgiveness by thy death for me
Child of sorrow, for my joy.

Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem
To see the Lord appear to men
Just as poor as was the stable then
The prince of glory when he came.

Angels, sing again the song you sang
Bring God's glory to the heart of man
Sing, "Bethlehem's little baby can
Be salvation to the soul."

Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem
To see the Lord appear to men
Just as poor as was the stable then
The prince of glory when he came.

Nadolig? Pwy a ŵyr?

Tinsel ar y goeden
Seren yn y nen
A doli fach yn eistedd
Mor ddel a'r frig y pren

Ai hyn yw Nadolig
Pwy a ŵyr?

Clychau Santa'n tincian
Dros yr eira man
A lleisiau plant yn uno
i ganu carol lân

Ai hyn yw Nadolig
Pwy a ŵyr?

Plant yn dawel dawel
Yn eu cwsg drwy'r oriau bach
A breuddwyd fwyn yn gofyn
A ddaw Santa gyda'i sach?

Daw tegannau lawer
A phwy a wyr o ble
A swn eu chwerthin hapus
A glywir dros y lle

Ai hyn yw'r Nadolig
Pwy a ŵyr?

Clychau eglwys fechan
A'i neges i'r holl fyd
Yn canu i'n atgoffa
fod baban yn ei grud

Neswch at y preseb,
plygwch yno'n llwyr.
Wrth weld y brenhinoedd a'r engyl
Nid oes rhaid gofyn, pawb a ŵyr.

The Colours of Christmas

Green for the ivy that grows by the wall,
White for the mistletoe that hangs in the hall;
Red for the berries that shine in the snow,
Orange and yellow for the morning's first glow.

These are the colours of Christmas;
Let them shine all over the earth.
These are the colours of happiness;
The joy of a new baby's birth.

Blue for the robe of his mother so mild,
Gold for the precious gifts they brought to the child:
Silver the starlight to shine through your sleep;
And a rainbow for all the sweet dreams you will keep.

These are the colours of Christmas;
Let them shine all over the earth.
These are the colours of happiness;
The joy of a new baby's birth.

Blue for the robe of his mother so mild,
Gold for the precious gifts they brought to the child:
Silver the starlight to shine through your sleep;
And a rainbow for all the sweet dreams you will keep.

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

We wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas,
And a happy New Year.

Good tidings we bring,
To you and your kin,
Good tidings of Christmas,
And a happy New Year.

Now bring us some figgy pudding,
Now bring us some figgy pudding,
Now bring us some figgy pudding,
And bring it right here.

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin,
Good tidings of Christmas
And a happy New Year.

For we all like figgy pudding,
For we all like figgy pudding,
For we all like figgy pudding,
With all its good cheer.

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin,
Good tidings of Christmas
And a happy New Year.

Dymunwn Nadolig llawen,
Dymunwn Nadolig llawen,
Dymunwn Nadolig llawen,
A Blwyddyn Newydd Dda

Llawenydd i chi
a phawb yn y tŷ
Dymunwn Nadolig Llawen
a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda

So Many Stars

When the night is dark and air is clear,
Do you look up to the stars in the heavens,
Stop for a moment and just wonder why you are here?
When the moonlight glows, when the shadows pass,
Do you feel something stirring within you,
Stop for a moment to listen instead to your heart?

So many stars far in the distance,
Each has a purpose, a reason to glow,
Showing the way to an infinite heaven,
Shedding their light on a world far below.
Helpless we stand, just a speck on this planet,
Wondering just how this whole thing began,
Playing our part in this magical moment, taking our place in this mystical plan.

On a night like this oh so long ago,
One special star led the way to the stable,
Stopped for a moment, its wonderful blessing to show.
So we stand and gaze, held within this spell,
Lost in the beauty of God's own creation,
Hoping one day we'll discover it all: who can tell?

So many stars far in the distance,
Each has a purpose, a reason to glow,
Showing the way to an infinite heaven,
Shedding their light on a world far below.

Helpless we stand, just a speck on this planet,
Wondering just how this whole thing began,
Playing our part in this magical moment, taking our place in this mystical plan.