

# O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam  
*Arranged by David Marlatt*

Adolphe Adam (1803-1856) was a French composer and critic. He wrote church music, several ballets and more than 70 operas. He is best known, throughout the world, as the composer of the famous Cantique de Noel or O Holy Night as it has become known. This powerful and beautiful song drew people into the churches at Christmas time and quickly became a holiday favourite. It is difficult to believe that a French bishop once criticized the piece for its “lack of musical taste and total absence of the spirit of religion”.

PREVIEW ONLY

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DIFFICULTY RATING: Medium-Difficult  
Brass Quintet and Organ

# O HOLY NIGHT

A. Adam  
(1803-1856)

Arranged by David Marlatt

Andante Maestoso ♩ = 66

B♭ Trumpet 1

B♭ Trumpet 2

F Horn

Trombone

Tuba

Andante Maestoso ♩ = 66

Organ

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4 6

4 5 6

Musical score for measures 7, 8, and 9. The score is written for five staves: two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and three piano accompaniment staves (Right Hand, Left Hand, and Bass). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). Measure 7 is in 6/8 time, measure 8 is in 12/8 time, and measure 9 is in 6/8 time. The vocal staves are marked with a *mp* dynamic and the word "lead". The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and single notes in the left hand.

Piano accompaniment for measures 7, 8, and 9. The right hand plays a melodic line with eighth notes, and the left hand plays a bass line with single notes. The time signature changes from 6/8 to 12/8 in measure 8 and back to 6/8 in measure 9.

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Musical score for measures 10, 11, and 12. The score is written for five staves: two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and three piano accompaniment staves (Right Hand, Left Hand, and Bass). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). Measure 10 is in 6/8 time, measure 11 is in 12/8 time, and measure 12 is in 6/8 time. The vocal staves are marked with a *mp* dynamic. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and single notes in the left hand.

Piano accompaniment for measures 10, 11, and 12. The right hand plays a melodic line with eighth notes, and the left hand plays a bass line with single notes. The time signature changes from 6/8 to 12/8 in measure 11 and back to 6/8 in measure 12.

13 14 15

lead

Musical score for measures 13-15. It features five staves: three vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor) and two piano accompaniment staves. The key signature is B-flat major. Measure 13 shows the vocalists entering with a melodic line. Measure 14 continues the vocal line with a 'lead' instruction. Measure 15 shows the vocalists concluding their phrase. The piano accompaniment provides a steady bass line and harmonic support.

13 14 15

Musical score for measures 13-15, piano accompaniment. It features two staves: Treble and Bass. The key signature is B-flat major. The right hand plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, while the left hand plays a steady bass line of quarter notes.

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16 17

*mf*

Musical score for measures 16-17. It features five staves: three vocal staves and two piano accompaniment staves. The key signature is B-flat major. Measure 16 shows the vocalists entering with a melodic line. Measure 17 continues the vocal line. The piano accompaniment provides a steady bass line and harmonic support. The dynamic marking *mf* is present.

16 17 18

*mf*

Musical score for measures 16-18, piano accompaniment. It features two staves: Treble and Bass. The key signature is B-flat major. The right hand plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, while the left hand plays a steady bass line of quarter notes. The dynamic marking *mf* is present.

19 20 21

lead  
*mp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 19, 20, and 21. It features five staves: two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and three piano staves (Right Hand, Left Hand, and Bass). The vocal parts have melodic lines with some rests. The piano accompaniment includes a lead line in the right hand and harmonic support in the left and bass hands. A dynamic marking of *mp* is present in the third measure of the vocal part.

19 20 21

*mp*

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 19, 20, and 21. It consists of three staves: Right Hand, Left Hand, and Bass. The right hand features a continuous eighth-note pattern. The left and bass hands provide harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. A dynamic marking of *mp* is shown in the right hand.

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22 23

*mf*  
*mf*  
*mf*  
*mp* *mf*  
*mp* *mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 22 and 23. It features five staves: two vocal staves and three piano staves. The vocal parts have melodic lines. The piano accompaniment includes a lead line in the right hand and harmonic support in the left and bass hands. Dynamic markings of *mf* and *mp* are present across the staves.

22 23 24

*mf*

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 22, 23, and 24. It consists of three staves: Right Hand, Left Hand, and Bass. The right hand features a continuous eighth-note pattern. The left and bass hands provide harmonic accompaniment. A dynamic marking of *mf* is shown in the right hand.

Musical score for voices and piano, measures 25-27. The score is in 3/4 time and B-flat major. It features five staves: four for voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and one for piano. Measures 25-27 show vocal lines with long notes and piano accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

Musical score for piano, measures 25-27. The score is in 3/4 time and B-flat major. It features two staves: treble and bass. Measures 25-27 show a piano accompaniment with a melodic line in the treble and a supporting line in the bass. A dynamic marking of *mp* is present in measure 27.

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Musical score for voices and piano, measures 28-30. The score is in 3/4 time and B-flat major. It features five staves: four for voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and one for piano. Measures 28-30 show vocal lines with long notes and piano accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

Musical score for piano, measures 28-30. The score is in 3/4 time and B-flat major. It features two staves: treble and bass. Measures 28-30 show a piano accompaniment with a melodic line in the treble and a supporting line in the bass. A trill (*tr*) is marked in measure 29.

31 32 33

mp

mp

mp

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of music, measures 31 through 33. It features five staves: two for voices (Soprano and Alto) and three for piano (Right Hand, Middle Bass, and Left Hand). The key signature is B-flat major. Measure 31 shows the vocal entries with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. Measure 32 is a 12/8 time signature change where the piano accompaniment continues. Measure 33 shows the vocal lines continuing.

31 32 33

Detailed description: This block shows the piano accompaniment for measures 31-33. The right hand plays chords and single notes, while the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Measure 32 features a 12/8 time signature change.

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34

mp

mp

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of music, measures 34 through 36. It features five staves: two for voices and three for piano. Measure 34 continues the vocal and piano parts. Measure 35 shows the vocal lines with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. Measure 36 is a 6/8 time signature change where the piano accompaniment continues.

34 35 36

Detailed description: This block shows the piano accompaniment for measures 34-36. The right hand plays chords and single notes, while the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Measure 36 features a 6/8 time signature change.

Musical score for three voices and two basses, measures 37-39. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 12/8. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor) and the two bass parts are shown. Measures 37 and 38 show vocal entries with various note values, while measure 39 continues the vocal lines.

Piano accompaniment for measures 37-39. The right hand features chords and melodic fragments, while the left hand plays a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. Measure 39 includes a sharp sign (#) on a note in the right hand.

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Musical score for three voices and two basses, measures 40-42. The key signature has two flats, and the time signature is 12/8. Measures 40 and 41 show vocal entries with a *mf* dynamic marking. Measure 42 continues the vocal lines.

Piano accompaniment for measures 40-42. The right hand features chords and melodic fragments, while the left hand plays a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. Measure 40 includes a *mf* dynamic marking and a crescendo hairpin.



43 44 45

*f*  
*f*  
wait!  
*ff*  
*f*  
*f*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 43, 44, and 45. It features five staves: two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and three piano staves (Right Hand, Left Hand, and Pedal). The vocal parts enter in measure 45 with a 'wait!' instruction. Dynamics include *f* and *ff*. The piano accompaniment includes a triplet in the right hand and a doublet in the left hand in measure 45.

43 44 45

*f*

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 43, 44, and 45. It consists of two staves: the right hand and the left hand. The right hand features a continuous eighth-note pattern, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and a doublet in measure 45. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 45.

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46 47 48

*f*  
*f*  
*f*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 46, 47, and 48. It features five staves: two vocal staves and three piano staves. The vocal parts continue with melodic lines. The piano accompaniment includes a triplet in the right hand and a doublet in the left hand in measure 47. Dynamics include *f* and *ff*.

46 47 48

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 46, 47, and 48. It consists of two staves: the right hand and the left hand. The right hand features a continuous eighth-note pattern, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and a doublet in measure 47.

49 50 51

*mp*  
*mp*  
*mp*  
*mp*  
*mp*

*mp* lead

Detailed description: This block contains the vocal staves for measures 49, 50, and 51. It features five staves: four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and one piano accompaniment staff. The music is in a minor key and 4/4 time. Measures 49 and 50 show vocal lines with sustained notes and some melodic movement. Measure 51 shows a vocal line with a long note and a melodic phrase. Dynamics are marked as *mp* (mezzo-piano) throughout. A specific dynamic marking *mp* lead is present in the Tenor part of measure 50.

49 50 51

*mp*

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 49, 50, and 51. It consists of two staves: a right-hand treble clef staff and a left-hand bass clef staff. The right hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment pattern. The left hand plays a simple harmonic accompaniment with quarter notes. A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is indicated with a hairpin crescendo across measures 49 and 50.

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52 53 54

*mf*  
*f*  
*mf*  
*f*  
*mf*  
*f*

Detailed description: This block contains the vocal staves for measures 52, 53, and 54. It features five staves: four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and one piano accompaniment staff. Measures 52 and 53 show vocal lines with sustained notes and some melodic movement. Measure 54 shows a vocal line with a long note and a melodic phrase. Dynamics are marked as *mf* (mezzo-forte) in measures 52 and 53, and *f* (forte) in measure 54.

52 53 54

*mf*  
*f*

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 52, 53, and 54. It consists of two staves: a right-hand treble clef staff and a left-hand bass clef staff. The right hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment pattern. The left hand plays a simple harmonic accompaniment with quarter notes. A dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) is indicated with a hairpin crescendo across measures 52 and 53, and *f* (forte) in measure 54.

55 56 57

55 56 57

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58 *molto rit.*

58 59 60 *molto rit.*