

## The Virgin Mary Had A Baby Boy

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff contains measures 1-4 with chords G, D, D7, and G. The second staff contains measures 5-8 with chords G7, C, G (with a triplet), D7, and G. The third staff contains measures 9-12 with chords D7 and G. The fourth staff contains measures 13-17 with chords Am, G, Am, and G. The fifth staff contains measures 18-20 with chords D7 and G. The piece ends with a double bar line.

1. The Virgin Mary had a baby boy  
 The Virgin Mary had a baby boy  
 The Virgin Mary had a baby boy  
 And they say that His name is Jesus.

**Chorus:**

He come from the glory  
 He come from the glorious kingdom  
 He come from the glory  
 He come from the glorious kingdom  
 Oh yes, believer!  
 Oh yes, believer!  
 He come from the glory  
 He come from the glorious kingdom.

2. The angels sang when the baby was born  
 The angels sang when the baby was born  
 The angels sang when the baby was born  
 And proclaimed Him the Savior, Jesus.

**Chorus:**

3. The wise men saw where the baby was born  
 The wise men saw where the baby was born  
 The wise men saw where the baby was born  
 And they said that His name was Jesus.

**Chorus:**

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The verses are in calypso form from Trinidad. The refrain is more African in nature. It may predate the verse melody. This was collected by Edric Conner for **The Edric Conner Collection of West Indian Spirituals and Folk Tunes** (1945). It is included in **The New Oxford Book of Carols** (#174). I think I learned the verses and the first part of the refrain from Jamaican singer Stan Shepherd at the Altoona Campus of Penn State.