

MARY HAD A BABY (2017)

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for boys choir

Optional obbligato
(melody) instrument

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The musical score is written for an optional obbligato instrument, likely a flute or organ, in 2/2 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked as $\text{♩} = 63$. The score consists of seven staves of music. The first staff begins with a 7-measure rest, followed by a *mp* (mezzo-piano) dynamic marking and a 9-measure rest. The melody is composed of half notes, mostly with ties. The score includes measure numbers 7, 9, 17, 25, 35, 41, 49, 58, and 65. The final staff ends with a double bar line. Notes in parentheses, such as (G) and (F), indicate notes that melody instruments should omit.

Optional obbligato instrument must have a steady, simple, flute-like tone capable of sustaining long notes. No tremolo or vibrato. Ideal is the flute stop on a church organ or comparable electronic keyboard. Other possibilities; flute, recorder, clarinet. Except where marked, sound should be continuous (only very minimal pauses for breathing). Keyboard instruments play all notes; melody instruments omit notes in parentheses.