

Messiah

Notes for CHORUS

Everything refers to Novello Watkins Shaw edition

- **Cuts:** Nos. 34 - 35, Nos. 49 - 52
- Other points to note:
 - No. 13 (Pastoral Symphony) is only **bars 1 - 11**
 - No. 23 (Alto aria) the DC is only **bars 1-8**
 - No. 48 (Bass aria) **bars 1 - 156 only** (i.e. up to FINE)

Choruses:

No. 4 - And the glory - STAND when intro. begins

bar 11 - **alto** entry **f**
bar 14 - **altos** - 'Lord' - minim, crotchet rest
bar 17 - 'Lord' only a crotchet
bar 25 - **tenors** - 'Lord' - minim, crotchet rest
bar 28 - **sops** - 'Lord' - minim, crotchet rest
bar 38 - minim, crotchet rest
bar 57 - minim, crotchet rest
bar 73 - minim, crotchet rest
bar 84 - **sops, altos** - remain **f**
bar 87 - **altos** - 'Lord' - crotchet, crotchet rest
bar 87 - **altos** + later entries of **T & B** - **mf** from 'shall'
bar 93 onwards - **sops f**, then **tenors f** end 94 then **f altos, basses**
bar 102, letter E - **altos mf**, then **tenors, basses mf**
bar 106 - **sops f, A,T,B f** bar 110
bar 110 - **sops** - minim, crotchet rest
bar 124 - **ATB** - minim, crotchet rest
SIT when No.5 begins

No. 7 - And he shall purify - STAND pg 34, bar 151

bar 21, letter B - **ff**
bar 22 - no breath - take breath after '-ness' (beat 1) in bar 24
page 37 - last bar and bit - **basses** - sempre **p**
page 38 - sempre **p** except **altos**, last bar **forte**
page 39 - all entries **forte**
bar 52, letter E - all parts **ff**
bars 54, 55 - diminuendo to **mp**
bar 56 - full minim
REMAIN STANDING

No. 9 - O thou that tellest

bar 118 - make break after 'Judah' and accent 'Behold'
bar 124, 128, 127- breath at commas
bar 132 - rest on tied quaver after 'Lord'
bar 133 - make 'Lord' all parts dotted crotchet + quaver - i.e. put 'd' of 'Lord' on 5th quaver
bar 134 - **altos** - diminuendo to **p** - end of bar **S,T,B** enter **p**
bar 136 - crescendo to **f**
SIT when No.10 begins

No. 12 - For unto us a child is born - STAND when intro. begins

- General - always hold 'us' for full length
bar 24 - **basses**, breath after first note (C#)
bar 26 - **tenors** - **f**
bar 27 - **tenors**, bar 29 - **sops**, bar 44 - **altos**, bar 46 - **basses** (+ altos)
'shoulder' staccato on quavers
bar 28 - **sopranos** - **f**
bar 37 - very short crotchets - Prince/of/Peace/
bar 43 - **altos** - **f**
bar 45 - **basses** - **f**
bar 53, bar 72 - 'Peace' - short
bar 61 - **tenors** - **f** (2nd beat)
bar 63 - **sopranos** - **f**
bar 65 - **altos/basses** - **f**
bar 72 - **basses**, last beat - **ff**
bar 73 - **S,A,T** - **ff**
bar 90 - break after 'Father'
bar 91, last bar 'Peace' - only a crotchet
REMAIN STANDING

No. 17 - Glory to God

bar 5, bar 14 - **T & B** - **mp**
bar 29 - **mp**

SIT when No.18 begins

(No. 19. 20 - version II)

No. 21 - His yoke is easy - STAND pg 85, bar 53

General - take note of all the contrasting dynamics
bars 25, 26 - **basses** - do dotted rhythm as written above stave
bar 38 - **S** - 'light' - make a quaver, quaver rest
bar 38 - **A & T** - crotchet at end of 'light' make a quaver, quaver rest
bar 41 - **all parts, ff** at 'his yoke'
bar 44 - **sops** - 'light' - crotchet, quaver rest
- **ATB** - crotchet at end of 'light' make a quaver, quaver rest
bar 45 - **sops** - no breath after 'easy'
bar 46 - **SATB** - as before, break after 'light'
bar 48 - **ff**

INTERVAL

STAND on cue

No. 22 - Behold the lamb of God - See sheet

SIT on cue (before No. 23 begins)

No. 24 - Surely he hath borne our griefs - STAND when intro. begins

bar 7 - **no** breath after 'griefs'
bar 8 - last note '-rows' make quaver, quaver rest
bar 10 - **no** breath after 'griefs'
bar 11 - hold last note for full length
bar 12 - Alto then other parts - enter **p**
bar 13 - crescendo beat 3 to beginning of next bar, then diminuendo back again
bar 14 - crescendo beat 3 to beginning of next bar, then diminuendo back again
bar 15 - big break after 'transgressions'
bar 15 - **pp** from 'he was'
bar 16 - quaver out of '-ed' ie quaver, quaver rest for **SAT** and dotted crotchet, quaver rest for **B**
bar 18 - massive crescendo
bar 19 - make dotted rhythm very dotted i.e. double dotted
bar 19 - make crotchet on 2nd beat ('-ties') a quaver, quaver rest
bar 22 - no breath after 'peace'
bar 24 - last note make crotchet, crotchet rest

No. 25 - And with his stripes

- whole piece - every entry with 'And with His stripes' - first three notes always v. short
- each entry at beginning (**S** then **A**, then **T**, then **B**), start **f**, sing as above and then diminuendo from 'stripes' down to **p**
- from bar 13, **Sops**, then **Basses** bar 14, **Tenors** 16, **Altos** 17, sing **f** all way through
bar 20 onwards - **tenors** - sing italics
bar 36 - **altos** - sing upper note
last 2 bars, **Adagio**, diminuendo down to **p**

No. 26 - All we like sheep

- all way though - 'All we like sheep' - slightly detached
bar 5 - **S&T** - beats 3&4, dim to **p**
bar 10 - **A&B** - beats 3&4, dim to **p**
bar 11 - **S&T** - 'we have' staccato
bar 13/14 - **Sop** - 'ev'ry one to his own' - all staccato
bar 13 - **A** - 'we have' staccato
bar 15/16 - **Tenor** - 'ev'ry one to his own' - all staccato
bar 20 - **T&B** - beats 3&4, dim to **p**
bar 22 - **S&A** - beats 3&4, dim to **p**

bar 23 - **T&S** - 'we have' staccato
bar 25 - **S** - 'we have' staccato
bar 25/26 - **T** - 'ev'ry one to his own' - all staccato
bar 27 - **S** - 'ev'ry one to his own' - all staccato
bar 29 - all parts - 'way' - short
bar 29 - **S**, bar 30 **T&A**, bar 31 **B** - 'we have' staccato
bar 32 - **S&A**, bar 33 - **T&B** - **dim.** on 'one to his own way'
bar 39 - **T** - **dim.** from top g
bar 41 - **S&B dim.**
bar 41 - **T**, bar 42 - **A**, bar 43 - **B** - 'we have' staccato
bar 43/44 - **A** - 'ev'ry one to his own' - all staccato
bar 45/46 - all parts - 'we have' staccato
bars 47, 48 - 'one to his own way' - all crotchets short
bar 57 - **T&B dim.**
bar 59 - **S&A dim** to **p**
from end 59 - **all parts** - 'we have' staccato
bars 65, 66, 67, 68 - **all parts** - 'we have' staccato
bars 72, 73 - **all parts** - 'one to his own way' - all crotchets short
bar 74 - **all parts** - 'one to' - crotchets staccato
bar 76 - **all parts** - 'way' make crotchet, crotchet rest
from bar 76 - **all entries f**
bar 83 - **all parts** - general **diminuendo**
bar 88 - **all parts** - take breath, then **crescendo** to next bar and then **dim.** back again

REMAIN STANDING

No. 28 - He trusted in God

- opening tune - make 'him' short
- all the way through: when you sing 'delight in him', make last three syllables short: light/in/him/ - **every time!**
bar 40, 41 - general **cresc.**
bar 61 - **ff** - all three crotchets short
SIT when No.30 begins

No. 33 - Lift up your heads - STAND when intro begins

bars 6, 7, 16, 20, 21 - make last note a QUAVER up-beat (not semi-quaver)
bar 11 - **basses** - do dotted rhythm on 'King of' as tenors
bars 14, 15 - **tenors** - do dotted rhythm on 'King of' (not basses)
bar 22 - break after 'doors'
bar 26 - **sops, altos**, begin **p** then crescendo
bar 29 - **A,T,B** legato and **p** (from end of the bar)
bar 55 - **all parts** - start **mf** then **crescendo**
bar 75 - all parts - p - 'of Glory'
SIT when No.36 begins

No. 37 - The Lord gave the word - STAND pg 145, bar 106

bar 10 - **S&A** - last note, crotchet, crotchet rest
bar 22 - **all parts** - breath after 'preachers'
SIT on cue

No. 39 - Their sound is gone out - STAND pg 150, bar 21 - See sheet

SIT when No.40 begins

No. 41 - Let us break - STAND pg 159, bar 68

- General - make last note of phrases short i.e 'break', 'bonds', 'us'
bars 52, 57 - break after 'away'
SIT when No.43 begins (NOT 42)

No. 44 - Hallelujah! - STAND when intro begins

bars 37, 39 - no breath
bar 40 - break after 'Christ'
bar 41 - make 'Christ' a crotchet + rest
bar 60 - **sops** cut off 'KINGS' on the crotchet i.e. make crotchet a rest
bar 63 - **sops** - make the minim a crotchet + crotchet rest
bar 66 - **sops** - make 'KINGS' crotchet + quaver rest
bar 68 - no breath
bar 69 - 'LORDS' - crotchet + rest
SIT on cue

No. 46 - Since by man came death - STAND pg.185, bar 154

bar 3 - accent on 'death'
bar 5 - crescendo to 'death', then dim.
bar 13 - break after 'dead'

bar 19 - accent on 'die'
bar 21 - crescendo to 'die', then dim.
bars 25, 27 - break after '-live'
bar 29 - no breath after first note
bar 32 - no breath after 'Christ', take breath after 'all'
SIT when No.48 begins (NOT 47)

No. 53 - Worthy is the Lamb - STAND pg.194, 3rd bar

bar 3, 14 - 'that/was/' - short
bar 12 - **p**
bar 19 - **f** at the **Andante**
bars 91, 106 - last minim make a crotchet
A-men section, page 225, all **p** - at letter 'G' **f**