

A Bush Christening

Poem by A.B. (Banjo) Paterson

Tune by Harry Gardner. chords by Stan Ciuchak

1 C F

1. On the out - er Bar - coo where the church - es are few and
 2. And his wife used to cry, "If the dar - lin' should die, Saint
 3. He was none of your dolts, he had seen them brand colts, And it
 4. Like a young nat - ive dog he ran in - to a log, While his
 5. "Poke a stick up the log, give the spal - peen a prog; Poke him
 6. As the how - ling young cub ran a - way to the scrub Where he

6 C D7 G7 F

1. men of re - lig - ion are scan - ty, On a track nev - er cross'd 'cept by
 2. - Pet - er would not re - cog - nise him!" But by luck he sur - vived till a
 3. seemed to his small und - er - stand - ing, If the man in the frock made him
 4. - fath - er with lan - gauge un - civ - il, Nev - er heed - ing the "praste" cried a -
 5. - ais - y; don't hurt him or maim him, "Tis not long that he'll stand, I've the
 6. knew that pur - suit would be risk - y, The priest, as he fled, flung a

12 D7 C G C

1. folk that are lost, one Mich - ael Mag - ee had a shant - y. Now this
 2. - preach - er ar - rived, Who a - greed straight - a - way to bap - tise him. But the
 3. one of the flock, it must mean some - thing ver - y like brand - ing. So a -
 4. loud in his haste "Come out and be christ - ened you div - il!" But he
 5. - wat - er at hand. When he rushes out this end I 'll name him. Here he
 6. flask at his head That was lab - elled "Ma - gin - nis 's Whisk - y!" Now Ma -

18 F C F

1. Mike was the dad of a ten - year - old lad, Plump, heal - thy, and
 2. - art - ful young rogue, while they held their col - logue, With his ear to the
 3. way with a rush he set off for the bush, While the tears in his
 4. lay there as snug as a bug in a rug, While his par - ents in
 5. comes, and for shame! ye've for - got - ten the name; Is it Pat - sy or
 6. - gin - nis Ma - gee has been made a J. P., And the one thing he

23 G F

1. - stout - ly con - di - tioned; He was strong as the best, but poor
 2. - key - hole was list - enin', And he out - mut - tered in the fright while his
 3. - eye - lids they glist - ened; "Tis out - rag - eous" says he, "to brand
 4. vain might re - prove him, Till his rev - er - ence spoke, (He was brand
 5. - Mich - ael or Din - nis?" Here the young - ster ran out, and the
 6. hates more than sin is To be asked by the folk who have

28 C Am C G C

1. Mike had no rest, for the young - ster had nev - er been christ - ened.
 2. - feat - ures turned white, "What the div - il and all is this christ - enin'?"
 3. - young - sters like me, I'll be dashed if I'll stop and be christ - ened."
 4. fond of a joke.) "I've a no - tion" says he, "that 'll move him."
 5. priest gave a shout; "Take your chance, an - y - how, wid 'Ma - gin - nis!"
 6. heard of the joke, How he came to be christ - ened "Ma - gin - nis!"

!..... Introduction and bridge phrase between alternate verses

Note: the phrases in italics are best spoken or sometimes shouted.