

THE MIRACLE OF THE POINSETTIA – sample script

CAST LIST

Maria Gonzales (a poor peasant girl)

Ernesto Gonzales (her brother)

Mrs Gonzales (their mother)

The children of the village:-

Girls –

Damita (her name means Little Princess and she is the wealthiest girl in the village), Pilar, Alva, Tia, Rosario and Yolanda.

Boys –

Francisco, Enrique, Rafael and Joachim

Grandma Gonzales

Mr Rodriguez

Mrs Rodriguez

The Angel (who visits in disguise and also acts as a Narrator)

Two non-speaking angels

17 speaking parts – non-speaking (singing) can be added.

(Everyone goes into various groups and mimes talking. Mrs Gonzales starts brushing the floor outside her house; the boys crouch down and play a game of jacks; Grandma Gonzales talks to Mr and Mrs Rodriguez; Maria Gonzales sits alone looking sad. The Angel walks on stage. He is wearing a poncho and a sombrero, like a simple shepherd and he addresses the audience.)

ANGEL

Welcome to the small village of Poca Fe. The name means “Little Faith” and that is why this village is in trouble. The people here have begun to lose their faith in God. There are too many other things to occupy their minds, like who has the most money, or whose husband has the most horses, or whose child is the cleverest. So that is where I come in. I’m an angel. I know, I know – I don’t look much like an angel – but you can’t move around amongst ordinary people wearing long white robes and showing off your wings and halo, can you? No, I have come here, at this very special time of the year, to see if I can help the people of Poco Fe find the true meaning of Christmas. Today is the start of the festival called the Posadas. Nine days before Christmas Eve, a procession of people pretending to be Saint Joseph and the Virgin Mary looking for lodgings in Bethlehem go from house to house. Each night they will go to three different houses and one of those houses will host the prayers and the celebrations afterwards.

There are only nine houses in this village, so every house here will have to host a party for the next nine nights. This family (*he points to the Gonzales’ house*) is the poorest in the village. Mrs Gonzales is a widow with two children – Maria and Ernesto. She also takes care of her elderly mother. They have been told that this year they have to host the most important party, the one on the twenty fourth of December – Holy Night. How are they going to do that? They have no money for extra food and sweets for all the village children. Maria and Ernesto don’t even have a pair of shoes each. The whole Gonzales family are worried.