



Scene 1

*(As **intro music** plays (CD track 11) the children enter and take their positions for the first scene. Fade the music when ready. 15 Angels, or as many as your numbers will allow, sit and stand in pairs or groups of three around the stage, reading scrolls, making notes with feather quills and talking with each other – generally looking very busy!)*

Narrator 1 Heaven is an extremely busy place and it's non-stop for the angels who work there. Being on the go day and night, they hardly ever get any time to relax and rest their wings.

Narrator 2 They have a variety of jobs to do, each one as important as the next. For some angels their main duty is welcoming new souls to heaven and settling them in for their long stay. Others work 'out in the field', travelling far and wide delivering messages from God.

Narrator 3 There are those whose job it is to watch over and protect people in need, helping them through difficult times – we call these guardian angels. And there are angels who keep an eye on our behaviour and tell us when we need to make big improvements.....then make sure we do as we're told!

Narrator 4 But whatever job an angel does, there is one thing they all have in common. When work gets a bit too much and they're feeling tired, to perk themselves up and lift their spirits they all meet up, throw their heads back, open their wings and.....
SING!

Song **Another Busy Day** *(CD tracks 1 & 12, lyrics p14)*
(Angels, supported by the whole cast)

(The angels return to their conversations.)

Narrator 1 Now, even though God doesn't like to over-exert His workforce, every so often He needs certain 'extra special' jobs doing. However, He only ever gives these to His most trusted angels and those He thinks can handle the responsibility.

Narrator 2 This story is about one of those extra special jobs, probably the most important which God had ever given. After thinking long and hard about whom to give it to, He chose an angel who was a dependable and hard worker; her name was Ariel.

(Ariel enters with a scroll in one hand...and a tissue in the other!)

Ariel Achoo! Hey you lot, you'll never guess what. I've just been put in charge of a really important job! Achoo! In fact it's not just one important job, it's a whole *list* of them! *(unrolling the scroll)* Look!

(The other angels gather round and read the scroll in amazement!)

- Angel 1** Wow! This is *the big one!* There have been rumours about this but no-one was sure it would ever happen.
- Angel 2** God’s been planning this lot for quite a while! The time’s obviously arrived to put that plan into action!
- Angel 3** Hey Ariel, you’ve got your work cut out! That’s a heck of a lot of overtime!
- Ariel** Achoo! Do you think I don’t know that? The problem is I’m coming down with something. I feel rotten! Achoo! God’s chosen me above every other angel, but I really don’t think I’m up to the job. A...A...A...Achoo!

Song **Achoo! Bless You!** *(CD tracks 2 & 13, lyrics p15)*
(Ariel, supported by the whole cast)

- Narrator 3** So Ariel reluctantly went to tell God that she was feeling a bit under the weather and that perhaps another angel instead of her should be given this list of important jobs to do.

(Ariel exits, sneezing!)

- Narrator 4** Now, there was one young angel who was very keen to earn God’s trust and to prove himself worthy of the special jobs. His name was Gabriel and he’d waited a long time to be noticed. Maybe this would be his chance to shine?

- Gabriel** *(stepping forward)* I do feel sorry for Ariel, really I do, but this could be my one opportunity to show God that He can count on me! This could be my big break!

- Narrator 1** Gabriel was indeed a popular and very capable angel. However, there were others who, because they were older and had more experience, thought they should be asked first. One of these was an angel called Raphael.

- Raphael** *(stepping forward)* Hang on just one minute, Gabriel! I’ve been waiting a lot longer than you to show God what I’m made of! Also, with my experience, I’d be less likely than you to mess things up!

- Angel 4** He has got a point. If any angel should get the job, it’s Raphael! He’s the obvious choice now Ariel’s out of the running.

- Angel 5** Try to be patient, Gabriel. God knows how talented you are and what potential you have. Your chance will come in time, just wait and see.....