



## **Reducing the cast size**

Minimum Cast Number: **25**

Here is our suggestion to reduce the cast size without compromising the plot.

Apart from the Teacher and class children who feature at the beginning of each scene, all of the other characters only appear in a single scene. This allows for the 'doubling-up' of parts played by your cast, thus reducing the number you need to fulfil all the main roles, as below:

| <b>Speaking part</b>       | <b>Also playing part/s</b>                             |
|----------------------------|--|
| Checkout Asst. (sc.1)      | Early-rising child (sc.3)                              |
| Shopper 1 (sc.1)           | Mum (sc.3) <b>and</b> Nativity narrator (sc.5)         |
| Shopper 2 (sc.1)           | Dad (sc.3) <b>and</b> Joseph (sc.5)                    |
| Shopper 3 (sc.1)           | Grandma (sc.3) <b>and</b> Mary (sc.5)                  |
| Shopper 4 (sc.1)           | Grandpa (sc.3) <b>and</b> Innkeeper (sc.5)             |
| Shopper 5 (sc.1)           | Mum (sc.3) <b>and</b> Gabriel (sc.5)                   |
| June Chandler (sc.2)       | Cracker-pulling girl (sc.4) <b>and</b> Shepherd (sc.5) |
| Rich Clifford (sc.2)       | Cracker-pulling boy (sc.4) <b>and</b> Shepherd (sc.5)  |
| Bellafonté Sister 1 (sc.2) | Adult 1 (sc.4) <b>and</b> Wise man (sc.5)              |
| Bellafonté Sister 2 (sc.2) | Adult 2 (sc.4) <b>and</b> Wise man (sc.5)              |
| Bellafonté Sister 3 (sc.2) | Adult 3 (sc.4) <b>and</b> Wise man (sc.5)              |

Numbers can be further reduced by all non-speaking characters in scene 1 (more shoppers) taking on the roles of Rich Clifford fans (scene 2) and carol singers (scene 5). This will require quick costume changes between scenes, but it can be easily achieved with practice.

## **Increasing the cast size**

To **100+**

For this production, you can have **unlimited numbers of non-speaking characters** in the scenes where they appear. They could also feature prominently in the performance of the song associated with their particular scene:

| <b>Non-speaking part</b> | <b>Appearing in scene/s</b> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| More Shoppers            | 1                           |
| Rich Clifford fans       | 2                           |
| More Nativity Characters | 5                           |
| Carol Singers            | 5                           |

You could also have a dedicated choir seated to one side of the stage, to sing all songs – number unlimited.

Please get in touch if you have any further questions about staging this musical – we're always happy to help!