Mass Appeal

By Bill C. Davis
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Time: It’s Autumn

Location: Father Tim Farley’s Office and St. Francis Church

Scene Breakdown

ACT ONE

Scene 1: Sunday Morning, 10:15 Mass
Scene 2: Wednesday Afternoon
Scene 3: Friday, One Week Later
Scene 4: Sunday, One Week Later, 10:15 Mass
Scene 5: That Afternoon

ACT TWO

Scene 1: Immediately After the 5:20 Mass
Scene 2: Sunday, Next Week, 5:20 Mass
Scene 3: Monday Morning
Scene 4: 10:15 Mass, That Sunday
Scene 5: That Afternoon
Scene 6: 5:20 Mass

Presented with a ten-minute intermission

“Mass Appeal” is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York, NY.
Director’s Note

As we frequently say, “Our goal at Oil Lamp Theater is that you feel better when you leave than you did when you came in.” We seek to achieve this goal through our signature five-step process which includes the following:

Step 1  Warm Welcome

Step 2   Freshly-Baked Cookies

Step 3   Nuts and M&M’s

Step 4   BYOB

Step 5   Artistic Vision of Redemption

Throughout our history we have stayed true to a philosophy that believes in the inherent goodness and strength of the human spirit - a resiliency. We believe that when an individual is faced with a challenge that makes them question their beliefs, values and way in which they live their life - that this human resiliency will lift their spirit and strengthen their resolve to live a more fulfilled life. This then is central to every story that we tell on our stage - a belief in the redemptive quality of the human spirit. From our annual holiday show about George Bailey to this story of Father Farley - we explore characters that are faced with challenges to their ways of thinking and living. Through our telling of these stories, we strive to lift your spirit - to encourage you to take these stories and make them part of your daily journey. As Walt Disney once said, “I would rather entertain and hope that people learned something than educate people and hope they were entertained.” Once again tonight we gather around the flame, as man has done since the beginning of time, to explore what it is to be human and to once again affirm our belief in the goodness and strength of the human spirit. We thank you for taking this journey with us and for allowing us this opportunity to entertain you.

Keith Gerth - Director and Founder - Oil Lamp Theater
Meet the Cast and Crew!

**Tim Kough [Father Tim Farley]** is thrilled to be making his Oil Lamp Theater debut. Other Chicago credits include *The Heavens Are Hung in Black* (Shattered Globe), *Macbeth* (Understudy) and *Taming of the Shrew* (Oak Park Festival Theatre), *Childish Things* (Midnight Summit Ensemble), *The Maid’s Tragedy, Agamemnon* and *Scenes From an Execution* (European Repertory Company) and *Master Class, Firebugs and Prin* (Wild Life Theatre). Tim is a proud graduate of Illinois State University.

**RJ Cecott [Mark Dolson]** is a proud graduate of Illinois State University ('17) with a B.S. in Acting. He last appeared on the Oil Lamp stage as Mark Taggert in *Par for the Corpse*. RJ has portrayed such roles as Eric Harris in *columbinus*, March Hare in *Alice in Wonderland*, Leaf Coneybear in *25th... Spelling Bee*, Dennis in *This Is Our Youth* (Illinois State University), Zachary in *Roomies* (Stage 773), Prior Walter in *Angels in America* (Moraine Valley Community College) and Justin Hammond in *After Ashley* (Irene Ryan Nomination). RJ was recently seen in an episode of “Chicago Med”. Thank you to Keith for inviting him back to Oil Lamp, and trusting him with the role of Mark Dolson!

**Edward Voci [Understudy Father Farley]** recently acted in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* (Dale Harding), Shakespeare’s *Pericles, Prince of Tyre* (King Simonides), Shakespeare’s *Julius Caesar* (Julius Caesar), *The Fantasticks!* (Henry), *Don’t Talk to the Actors* (Curt Logan), Youngs’ adaptation of *The Christmas Carol* (adult Tiny Tim), *Third* (Jack Jameson) and *The Butler Did It* (Robert Lattimore/Raymond Butler). Since 2010 he has been a Regular Supernumerary at Lyric Opera of Chicago (this season’s *Rigoletto, The Pearl Fishers and I Puritani*) and acted in Joffrey Ballet’s 2014 production of *Romeo and Juliet*. Upcoming is James Baldwin’s *Blues for Mr. Charlie* (Parnell James).
Kyle Quinlivan (Understudy Mark Dolson) is elated to be making his Oil Lamp Theater debut. Recent credits include Tom Sawyer in *Big River* at Theater at the Center, Jesus in *Godspell*, Danny in *Baby*, Owen in *The Foreigner*, and Piero in *Big Love* at the Theatre Festival of Havana. He is a member of Improv Playhouse, has a BFA in Acting from Webster University and thanks his family and friends for all of their continual love and support. More about Kyle Quinlivan at kylequin.com.

Brontë DeShong (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be making her Oil Lamp Theater debut with such an amazing cast! Previous SM credits include: *Once Upon A Mattress* at The School of Performing Arts at Metropolis, *Gidion’s Knot* at Eclectic Full Contact Theatre. Thank you Keith for such a great opportunity!

David Miller (Lighting Designer) David was the founding Technical Director for CenterStage in Lake Forest, where he designed *Brigadoon* this past summer. At Oil Lamp Theatre, he has designed several productions, most recently *Motherhood Out Loud*, *Faculty Lounge*, *A Love Affair*, *Par for the Corpse*, *It’s A Wonderful Life* and *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*. He has designed at Bowen Park Theatre Company, Clockwise, PM & L, City Lit, the Christensen Theatre at Victory Gardens and The John and Nancy Hughes Theatre. David lives in Lake Bluff with his wife, actress June Entwisle Miller.

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Past Presidents Tribute

Paul Schabinger
March 2012
(Oil Lamp Founding Member)
Through March 2014

Paul led Oil Lamp Theater through our formation process and the establishment of our first Board of Directors. Paul and Patti Schabinger have been actively involved in Oil Lamp Theater since our very first days in Chicago.

Jessica Young
April 2014 Through December 2017

Jessica led Oil Lamp Theater through the greatest growth period in our history. During her tenure we welcomed over 21,000 patrons to Oil Lamp Theater. Her leadership led to OLT’s awards for Best Suburban Theater in 2016 and 2017.

We thank Paul and Jessica for the enduring leadership and vision that has helped to make Oil Lamp Theater an everlasting treasure of the community.
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As a not-for-profit cultural institution, Oil Lamp Theater relies on the support of individuals like you to produce unforgettable theatrical experiences. Oil Lamp does not rely on governmental funding. Donations make up more than 25% of our operating income. Please consider making a gift today - for $100 you can join one of our lobby donor tree.

Please visit: oillamptheater.org/support-us

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There are many benefits to investing your DAF with Oil Lamp:

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- Over 30% of every dollar goes directly to support our artists.
- Oil Lamp Theater is a recognized 501(c)(3) charitable organization - so all contributions are tax deductible.
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*(in alphabetical order)*

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