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epiphany studio productions

BEFORE HE WAS POPE
LOLEK

THE PLAY

- **Type of Play:** One-man drama in Two Acts
(A variety of other characters are incorporated into the play by means of recorded voiceovers.)
- **Runtime** = approx. 1hr 30min (an optional 15 minute intermission may be included between acts)
- **Primary Audience** = Adults / Young Adults
(Although suitable for the whole family, this play is primarily intended for an adult audience. A condensed 60 minute one-act version of this play is available for high school performances.)
- **About the Production:**
LOLEK takes the audience on a beautiful and compelling journey through the inspiring young adulthood of Saint John Paul II (Karol Wojtyla) growing up in Nazi Occupied Poland during WWII. Combining the light-hearted with the tragic, this play offers profound insight into the heart and soul of the man who would revolutionize the papacy and would play an enormous part on the world stage, becoming one of the longest reigning and most beloved popes ever. Act I presents Karol in Krakow during his time at the University, reflecting back upon his childhood growing up in Wadowice. We are introduced to his family along with other key figures and experiences during his years of primary and secondary school, which helped form him both intellectually and spiritually. The difficult loss of two family members in Act I are preparation for even greater tragedies to come. During the second half of the drama we are led by Karol through his life under Nazi Occupation, witnessing how the hand of God was protecting him and preparing him for his future vocation in the midst of near hopeless circumstances. The play ends with a moving depiction of Karol's ordination to the priesthood. A beautiful yet simple set combined with period costumes, an authentic polish dialect, and a masterful original musical score make for an artistic and impactful performance filled with educational and spiritual value! The story of "Lolek" reminds young and old alike that God has a plan for our lives even if we don't see it at the time.