**N. TOWN PLAYS 2025, AUDITION PIECE 1: CONTEMPLATION**

CONTEMPLATION

 Christ conserve this congregation

from perils past and future,

and the persons here playing, that the presentation

of their sentence to be said might be steadfast and sure.

This matter here made is of the Mother of mercy:

How our Lady was conceived and how she was born,

 and how in her age tender and young

 into the temple was offered and how she did fare,

we pass over that, briefness of time considering,

 And we beseech you of your patience

 that we pass these matters so lightly away;

 if they should be done with good providence

 each one would suffice for a whole day.

 Now shall we proceed to her disponsation:

how she wedded to Joseph should be,

and so, following the Salutation,

meeting with Elizabeth, as here ye shall see.

 Have patience with us, now beseech we,

 and in short space,

 how God’s son become man shall ye see,

 by God’s holy grace.