



Our adult Choir sings at the Sunday 11 a.m. Mass and is made up of a small number of dedicated choristers.

We also have the Chancel Youth Choir made up of eager young choristers learning the great traditions of our proud church. They sing periodically throughout the year.

All choirs are led by our choirmaster, Ms. Bridget Scott, who can be reached by email at smchoirs@yahoo.com.



A dedicated core of cantors also sing at various liturgies throughout the year, and musicians who would like to volunteer can do so by contacting our pastor or the parish.

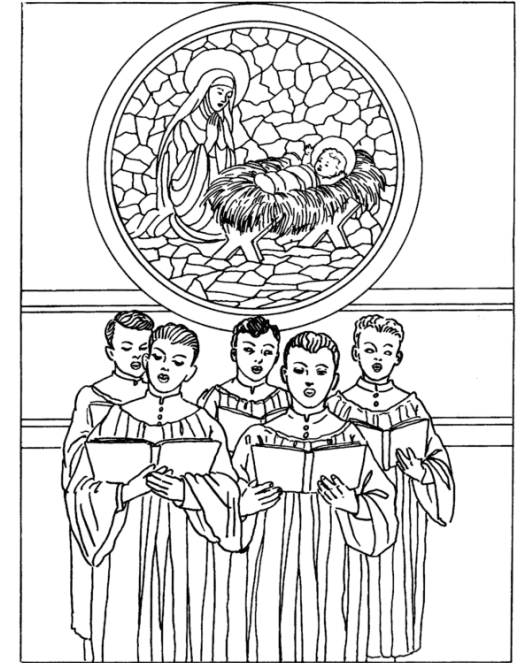
Come be a part of a great tradition that has only just begun!

THE TREASURE OF SACRED MUSIC
IS TO BE PRESERVED AND
FOSTERED WITH GREAT CARE,
AND CHOIRS MUST BE
DILIGENTLY PROMOTED.

VATICAN II

The Choir is one of the oldest ministries in our Church. When one visits Rome, we see the chancel or choir area usually directly in front of the high altars, because music is an essential part of the Roman Rite. Most of the psalms we sing were written by King David himself and are a part of the scriptures, so we are proclaiming the word of God when we sing them. Our chants echo the music of the apostles, and the best of our polyphony keeps alive the highest zeniths of our culture. Catholic choristers should be justifiably proud of our rich heritage from Gregorian chant to the great Catholic composers throughout the ages. We pray through the intercession of St. Hildegard von Bingen, St. Cecilia, and St. Gregory the Great, that our worship may join the choirs of angels and saints!

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS SACRED MUSIC MINISTRY



In the earthly liturgy, we share in a foretaste of that heavenly liturgy which is celebrated in the Holy City of Jerusalem toward which we journey as pilgrims... With all the warriors of the heavenly army, we sing a hymn of glory to the Lord.

Catechism of the Catholic Church 1090

The music program here at Our Lady of the Mountains strives to follow the directives of the Second Vatican Council, the Popes, and the U.S. Bishops' Conference to present an authentic expression of our ancient Roman rite. We take seriously our responsibility to pass along the treasures of the distant and not so distant past, and to celebrate a liturgy that is also accessible to our people. We are committed

to keeping alive the Latin chants that *all Catholics are supposed to know*, but we also enjoy new

music and include vernacular hymnody in our mix of worship. We take seriously our charge to *sing the Mass*, and not just *sing at the Mass*, and we are committed to employing the proper chants at the proper times throughout the year. We understand that we are responsible for conveying a sense of prayer, dignity, and beauty, and that our music is not meant to be faddish or popular entertainment, but is to be primarily prayer.



MUSIC IS CAPABLE OF OPENING
OUR MINDS AND HEARTS TO THE
DIMENSION OF THE SPIRIT AND OF
LEADING PERSONS TO RAISE THEIR
GAZE ON HIGH, TO BE OPEN TO
ABSOLUTE GOODNESS AND
BEAUTY, WHICH HAVE THEIR
ULTIMATE SOURCE IN GOD.

POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI

Our Church teaches that the liturgy is primarily the action of God working through His people, teaching us how to adore Him and offer Him fitting praise. The phrase *lex orandi, lex credendi* means the law of *how we worship* influences or rules the law of *what we believe*. And so, the words of our worship and the *way* we worship, prescribed by the Church, are *essential* to teach us to be better Catholics. As such, Music Ministry is an *essential* ministry, because by our musicians' conformity to authentic choices, by their actions, and by their worship, they are not only musicians, but teachers of prayer and praise.

We're often told, through both compliments and complaints, that the music here at Our Lady of the Mountains is unique. Ours is a small parish, but we prove that quality does not depend upon numbers but upon our working together to find a more and more authentic voice as worshipping Catholics. The more we study and learn, the more we conclude that the Mass and its music aren't things we "make up," but are a part of the treasury of revelation and proclamation that should be kept alive and heard. With our voices, the voices of the saints are heard, and the great composers and poets of our tradition are heard again.

If being a part of our troubadours is something that interests you, we invite you to come join us. We work hard, but we also have fun, and above all we do this *not* for ourselves, but for the Lord. Together we hope to continue to make our parish a place with exceptional music in hopes that this will draw ourselves and others closer to our Lord and God.

