

The Ministry of Music



As a member of the Ministry of Music, yours is a share in the work of the Lord's Spirit. It is the Spirit who draws us together into one, who makes harmony out of discord, who sings in our hearts the lyric of all that is holy. It is your presence and voice that sounds the first note of which brings the assembly to its feet, ready to praise God. It is yours to impart a quality of joy and enthusiasm that cannot be gained in any other way. Yours is a ministry that reaches the deepest recesses of the human heart; your work is soul stirring. You sing the Lord's song and draw us to respond into the canticle of divine praise sung throughout the ages in the halls of heaven. You help us respond to God's Word, to acclaim the Gospel, to sing of our salvation in Christ. It is your ministry that gathers our many voices into one grand choir of praise.

Come to your work from your personal prayer. Let your rehearsals allow some moments for prayer in common. Let your practice be marked by unanimity in spirit and ideals. Be gentle in correcting one another: the kingdom will not fall because of a flatted note. Those with the talent of musical gifts are welcome. Those who are not so gifted need to discern the talents that *are* theirs. Rehearse the Lord's song with the reverence it is due.

Study the Scriptures for the liturgy you will serve. Know well the Word that calls forth our praise. Let the lyrics of the songs be strong, true, and rooted in the Scriptures. Our song is always the song of God's people. That can never be lost.

It is more important that God's people are led to an experience of prayer than to an appreciation of *what we did*. Their thanks, their praise should be for the deepened prayer they have experienced and received from God. You are merely the instrument God is using to bring them and us to Himself.

Everyone is invited to join one of our Choirs. Our common prayer of worship is always enhanced by the voices and talent God has vastly and generously given us for His praise.

At St. Mary of the Pines you have the opportunity of ministering in two different choirs:

4:30 PM - Anticipation Mass

The choir at the 4:30 P.M. Anticipation Mass is a more traditional ensemble. The hymns are more familiar and known by heart by many Catholics.

9:00 AM - Eagles Wings

The Eagles Wings Choir has had a home at St. Mary of the Pines for many years. Their music and hymns are a mix of traditional and very contemporary settings.

The members of Eagles Wings Choir gather in the church foyer for prayer before the 9:00 A.M. Mass. They practice weekly in the church, usually on Wednesday evening after Parish Supper, and many of them socialize together.

Each choir welcomes new members with open arms. We hope you will consider this as a form of your ministry to the Lord Jesus and to His Body, the Church.

For information about joining the choir, please contact Frances Gauthier, Choir Director by phoning the Church Office 318 687 5121.

St. Augustine assures us that: "Singing is praying twice!"