

OLA Teen Choir

Welcome to Teen Choir!

St. Augustine once proclaimed that singing is praying twice. In the Teen Choir, we demonstrate our love of God by sharing our gifts of music through song, voice, and instruments! Music enhances our worship experience – whether it's contemporary or traditional liturgical music – bringing joy and feeding minds, spirits, and hearts.

Program Structure

The age range of Teen Choir is students from 6th grade and up. The OLA Teen Choir typically serves at two Sunday 5:30 PM Masses per month. The dates are based around the school calendars and other parish events. The calendar is announced at the beginning of the school year. Rehearsals take place in the Choir Room (2nd floor of the church) and start at 4 PM on the day the Teen Choir is singing at Mass. Rehearsal usually lasts an hour to an hour and fifteen minutes; choristers then have a few minutes to prepare themselves for Mass.

The music for each Sunday is made available online and is emailed out to the Teen Choir. Both sound files and sheet music are provided so choristers can familiarize themselves with the tunes and words. The Mass parts (such as the Alleluia, Lamb of God, and the Gloria) are also available online.

At rehearsal, everyone is provided with a folder of sheet music (you do not need to print your own). We rehearse each song and address any tricky parts, melodies, etc. We also go over the Mass parts and practice the different ones for different liturgical seasons (for example, there is a different Alleluia for Advent than Ordinary Time, and the Alleluia is not sung during Lent so there is a different piece sung at the time).

The choristers are accompanied by musicians, both paid and volunteer. Teens who play an instrument are welcome to join the ensemble but must demonstrate the ability to play as part of the group.

At each Teen Choir Mass, one teen will be the cantor. The cantor will lead the psalm and other Mass parts that necessitate a single voice. Anyone interesting in being a cantor should talk to the Youth Minister about it. Cantors must familiarize themselves with the psalm before rehearsals. Cantors are scheduled in advance.

Expectations

It is very important that members of the Teen Choir commit to regular attendance. The faithful and regular commitment to the rehearsal and liturgy schedule is integral to the success of the choir's ministry. Every person in the choir is very important, and each absence affects the choir's ability to perform its ministry at the highest musical and spiritual level. If you're not able to make a rehearsal, please let the Youth Minister know as soon as possible.

During rehearsals, choristers and musicians are expected to be devoted to the task at hand. At some points, there may be a break while the cantor works with the musicians on his or her part. Quiet conversations are allowed but please be mindful not to distract the people who are rehearsing. Phones should be silenced at the beginning of rehearsal and should not be out while the group is rehearsing.

Since members of the Teen Choir are ministering at Mass, they are expected to dress in a way that glorifies God. This means wearing garments that are not overly casual, sleeveless, tight fitting, or otherwise immodest or provocative. Examples of overly casual clothes include jeans with rips or tears, t-shirts, shorts, flip flops, and sneakers. Please ask the Youth Minister if you have questions about the dress code.

OLA Teen Choir Calendar 2019-2020

Date	Rehearsals	Liturgical Day
Sunday, August 25th, 2019	Meet & Greet + Rehearsal	N/A
Sunday, September 8th, 2019	Rehearsal + Mass	23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, September 22nd, 2019	Rehearsal + Mass	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, October 20th, 2019	Rehearsal + Mass	29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, October 27th, 2019	Rehearsal + Mass	30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wednesday, November 6th, 2019	Rehearsal + Mass	Confirmation
Sunday, November 17th, 2019	Rehearsal + Mass	33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
<i>Due to days off and Thanksgiving break, we'll only be singing one Sunday in November, but we'll also be singing at the Confirmation Mass.</i>		
Sunday, December 1st, 2019	Rehearsal + Mass	1 st Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 8th, 2019	Rehearsal + Mass	2 nd Sunday of Advent
Sunday, January 12th, 2020	Rehearsal + Mass	The Baptism of the Lord
Sunday, January 26th, 2020	Rehearsal + Mass	3 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, February 9th, 2020	Rehearsal + Mass	5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, February 23rd, 2020	Rehearsal + Mass	7 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, March 22nd, 2020	Rehearsal + Mass	4 th Sunday of Lent
Sunday, March 29th, 2020	Rehearsal + Mass	5 th Sunday of Lent
Sunday, April 19th, 2020	Rehearsal + Mass	2 nd Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 26th, 2020	Rehearsal + Mass	3 rd Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 3rd, 2020	Rehearsal + Mass	4 th Sunday of Easter