

August 13, 2014

Dear Parents,

I am writing to inform you that the Children's Choir will begin a new season in the fall. They will rehearse after school on **Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 – 4:30 pm**. It is Fr. Petta's and my wish that the Children's Choir sing for the 5:30 pm Mass on Saturday evenings. We will aim to sing at least once a month for this Mass. Please find enclosed a sign-up sheet, a tentative schedule for the year, and some guidelines for your child's participation in the Children's Choir.

I hope that you had an opportunity to hear them last year during Mass or other events at which they sang. I hope that you will consider allowing your children to participate again this year. This is an exciting opportunity for your children to grow in their Catholic faith in addition to gaining some practical knowledge of music. Below are some benefits of singing in Children's Choir.

- Supplements their religious education and gives greater formation as a Catholic
- Helps children to better understand and actively participate in Mass
- Kids will learn, in a fun and social environment, how to sing and read music with their peers.
- Builds confidence by regularly singing at Mass
- Children's Choir is essentially **free** music lessons for an entire school year!

St. Augustine is famously quoted as saying "He who sings, prays twice." What does this mean? Singing is one of the most natural things that man does. When words seem to fail, we find that singing expresses the words or emotions we wish to communicate. How much more so are our prayers when sung to our Heavenly Father whether at Mass or in private devotions? In short, we can offer a fuller expression of love and praise to our Lord as we unite mind and body when we sing.

Sincerely,

Andrew Kenney

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR 2014 REGISTRATION

*Please fill out the information below and return to the parish office or bring to choir rehearsal.*

### Children's Choir Guidelines

- The Children's Choir will rehearse on **Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 – 4:30 pm in Conrad Hall**. It is Fr. Petta's and my wish that the Children's Choir sing for the **5:30 pm Vigil Mass on Saturday once a month**. In addition, they will also sing for the **7:40 am daily Mass on Tuesdays and Fridays throughout the school year**.
- In order to maintain diocesan *Keeping Children Safe* policies, I will need two parent volunteers to help out each week with rehearsals and on Saturdays during Mass. As 'Choir Parents' you will help maintain order and keep an eye on the children during rehearsals and Mass☺. **This is also a requirement and I will have a sign-up sheet available for everyone to sign up for a time.**
- It is of the utmost importance that your child attends **every** rehearsal because each rehearsal will contain some music instruction. I understand family life very well so if something happens that prevents your child from attending, no worries, **but please let me know** via email or at the Parish Office in advance if possible.

*I understand that my child \_\_\_\_\_ will be participating in Children's Choir this year and will be available to sing for the 5:30 pm Vigil Mass at least once a month and for daily Masses throughout the School Year.*

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Info:** *(Please include email address and two cell phone numbers)*

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If you have any questions, concerns, or wish to volunteer as a Choir Parent, please feel free to contact me at 940-668-7609 or my cell 940-368-9946. Thank you again for allowing your child to sing in Children's' Choir!!

## Children's Choir Schedule

Fall 2014

All rehearsals will be held in Conrad Hall on Wednesdays from 3:30 – 4:30 pm unless other stated here or elsewhere. This schedule is tentative and subject to change.

### August

27: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

### September

3: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

10: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

**13: 5:30 pm Vigil Mass – Warm-up: 4:30 pm in Conrad Hall**

17: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

24: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

### October

1: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

8: *No Rehearsal* – Early Release Day

**11: 5:30 pm Vigil Mass – Warm-up: 4:30 pm in Conrad Hall**

15: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

22: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

29: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

### November

5: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

**8: 5:30 pm Vigil Mass – Warm-up: 4:30 pm in Conrad Hall**

12: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

19: Rehearsal 3:30 - 4:30 pm

26: *No Rehearsal – Happy Thanksgiving!!*

### December

3: Rehearsal – 3:30 - 4:30 pm

10: Rehearsal – 3:30 - 4:30 pm

**13: 5:30 pm Vigil Mass – Warm-up: 4:30 pm in Conrad Hall**

17: Rehearsal – 3:30 - 4:30 pm

23: *Early Rehearsal for Christmas* – 10:00 – 11:00 am

**24: 4:00 pm Vigil Mass – Warm-up: 3:00 pm in Conrad Hall**

## January 2015

### January

7: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

10: **5:30 pm Vigil Mass –Warm-up: 4:30 pm in Conrad Hall**

14: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

21: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

28: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

### February

4: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

7: **5:30 pm Vigil Mass –Warm-up: 4:30 pm in Conrad Hall**

11: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

18: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

25: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

### March

4: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

7: **5:30 pm Vigil Mass –Warm-up: 4:30 pm in Conrad Hall**

11: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

18: *No Rehearsal – Spring Break*

25: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

### April

1: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

**5: 9:00 am Mass – Easter Sunday**

8: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

11: **5:30 pm Vigil Mass –Warm-up: 4:30 pm in Conrad Hall**

15: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

22: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

29: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

### May

6: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

9: **5:30 pm Vigil Mass –Warm-up: 4:30 pm in Conrad Hall**

13: Rehearsal – 3:30 – 4:30 pm

**20: End of the Year Party and Concert**