Your Story

In order to help me get to know you better, tell me a little about yourself, your musical background and what you would like to contribute and develop in the musical life of Holy Family.

Please return this form to the Parish Office

Holy Family Catholic Church

Music Ministry

Volunteer Information & Registration Form

The purpose of all music used in the Liturgy of the Catholic Church is to develop and foster a sense of the sacred for the whole body of believers. As the Post-Conciliar Instruction on Sacred Music, ***Musicam Sacram,*** paragraph 5, puts it:

"Through this form [music], **prayer is expressed in a more attractive way**, the mystery of the liturgy, with its hierarchical and community nature, is more openly shown, the **unity of hearts** is more profoundly achieved by the **union of voices**, minds are more easily **raised to heavenly things** by the **beauty** of the sacred rites, and the whole celebration more clearly **prefigures that heavenly liturgy** which is enacted in the holy city of Jerusalem [i.e.: heaven].

So what we do as musicians at Mass and other liturgies is primarily about **making the worship of God more beautiful.** Whatever we do, therefore, must be geared to that end. So I invite you to come and join in a range of music-making here at Holy Family to help us all lift out minds and hearts to God and to let heaven's eternal liturgy of praise pierce the veil of our mortal sight and hearing, and burst into our lives here in Mitchell.

Dear Musicians

I would like to develop several different choirs and consolidate all our instrumental players, especially of brass, wind, percussion and strings, so that we can make arrangements that they too can offer their gifts in the worship of God. I would love to hear from all keyboardists who might be interested in learning the pipe organ, and also those who might wish to learn choral conducting. I would like to be able to form the following ensembles:

Women's Choir — 5:00 p.m. Mass (on Saturday Evenings)
Children's Choir — 8:00 a.m. Mass (on Sundays)
Full Choir — 10:00 a.m. Mass (on Sundays)
Men's Choir — 11:30 a.m. Mass (on Sundays)
Funeral Choir (for Occasional Services)
Wedding Choir (for Occasional Services)
A Schola Cantorum (for Solemnities and Feasts)
Deputy Organists, Organ Scholars and Choral Conductors

I want to hear from:

- All **cantors** so we can schedule you in the MSP system
- All **instrumentalists**, so I can create arrangements for you
- Any **Singers** interested in singing at regular Morning or Evening Prayer
- Those **Singers** who attend weekday Mass, who would like to be part of a small choir.

There is huge potential here at Mitchell for all sorts of musical developments. In all that we do, however, we must keep that central purpose of building up the beauty of holiness in God's house. As Jesus reminded us, **"My house shall be a house of prayer among the nations."**

My job is to be here to help you grow and expand your skills and I am more than happy to hear from you about what you would like me to help you develop. So please tell me what you would like to do and a bit about yourself. I will be teaching all singers to read "Gregorian" or "Plainchant" musical notation. If you need assistance reading regular notation, I will be able to help.

Yours in Christ,
Nigel McBain, Director of Music and Adult Faith Formation

Musicians Registration Form

Name: _____

Email: _____@_____

Cellphone: _____ **Other phone:** _____

VOICE TYPE: **Soprano** **Alto** **Boy Treble** **Boy Alto** **Tenor** **Bass**

Instrument(s): _____

_____

_____

I would like to be involved in the following ensemble(s):

_____

_____

_____

_____

My regular Sunday Mass attendance preference is:
5:00 p.m. (Sat) 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:30 p.m.

** Please note that as we develop the choirs, there will be a 15-20 minute choir warm-up, half an hour before each Mass time.*

My best available weekday nights for rehearsal (6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.) are:
Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri

I would be interested in further developing my skills as a:
Conductor Organist Cantor

I would be interested in regularly singing at 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer [MP] or at 5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer [EP] (3:30 p.m. Saturdays) on:

Mon MP / EP **Tue** MP / EP **Wed** MP / EP **Thu** MP / EP

Fri MP / EP **Sat** MP / EP* (*3:30 p.m.) **Sun** MP / EP