

Ministry of the Month

Once a month we take some time to focus on a specific ministry in our parish. We have so many thriving, life-giving, ministries that we want to highlight, each in its own way, in order to share the vibrant growth of our parish community.



Music Ministry

The Church teaches that music is essential and inseparable to the liturgy - not merely decorative or devotional. Its purpose is "the glory of God and the sanctification of the faithful" (*The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, ¶112).

Singing, in particular, is an action not reserved only for the skilled, but is the liturgical responsibility of the gathered assembly. All are called to sing the parts of the Mass which belong to them, as we worship the truly present Lord!

Music ministers perform a distinct role in the liturgy by providing a level of beautiful music made possible by diligent practice and special skill. They are practicing, faithful Catholics who serve humbly, with joy. **The music ministry program at Christ the King** strives to operate and serve according to the teachings of the Church.

We have parish choirs and a school choir, cantors, handbell choir, organ and piano, and various instruments. Aside from regular weekend Masses, we also offer our community musical prayer services, recitals, and more.

What Volunteers Have to Say...

"Joining the choir was a bit of a personal stretch for me, especially starting later in life in my 50s, having no formal musical training or much background. Nevertheless, I found as I got older that I enjoyed more fully participating in Mass through singing liturgical music and became less hesitant to sing in public. Jessica joined the parish and encouraged me to join the choir in 2016. Over the last 5 years, I think I have learned and grown in my ability and confidence in the choir loft. My faith life has also been deeply enriched by adding this new dimension in which I can contribute to worship at Christ the King, as we are all called to use the gifts God gave us in praise to the Lord and in service to His people."

-Tim Flanagan, choir, Pastoral Council

"I enjoy being in the Bell Choir because it is a beautiful way to add variety to the music we hear at Mass and special services. Bells, to me, just bring an added sense of joy to our prayerfulness. If someone was interested in joining Bell Choir, I would reassure them that it is not difficult and we have a great group of people having fun and ringing our hearts out. In just a few sessions, you too can get into the "swing" of it!"

-Chris Germann, handbells and choir

"I have often told Jessica of my low self-esteem as a singer. Jessica always bucks me up and provides the encouragement I need to learn and sing new music. If the congregation joins in, then they have prayed that verse. It is a special moment to me that we have all joined in that prayer. The music adds emphasis and feeling. If I can sing the song so others understand its prayer, I don't have to be such a good musician or vocalist. The hymn really does it all."

-Tim McBride, cantor and choir

"I play the violin and sing, most recently on Easter Sunday. Instruments bring so much joy to the Mass. Instrumental music has always allowed me to introduce myself to new friends, and the same is true for anyone singing together in the balcony or the pews. Playing each section of music in the Mass keeps me focused on our important, prayerful purpose as members of the Church Militant."

-Aaron Glynn, violinist

"I have learned how to play the pedals on the organ with my feet. It was fun playing the organ in a huge space. In choir, we could sing different harmonies and learned how to enunciate!"

-Johnny Morin, organ student and school choir

"My primary music ministry at CTK has been cantoring for the 12:15pm Mass. God's love for us is so immense, and the beauty of music helps us to show our gratitude for this love. I think the CTK community demonstrates a deep love for celebrating the Mass well and beautifully through care and reverence for the various forms of ministry, but also through a distinct joy that comes from praying together as the Body of Christ."

Carolyn Pirtle, cantor and liturgist

We would love for you to join us!

Musicians of every skill level are welcome, and training is provided. Participation can be ongoing or seasonal based on your availability and experience level. For singers, the ability to read music is helpful and preferred, but not required.

Please contact Jessica Roberts, Director of Liturgy & Music and visit our website for more info.