



## A ♪ FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

During Lent, I spoke with you about some new changes that we would be making in our Music Ministry. One of the changes that was made was the launch of the brand new Community Choir in the spring of 2016. Although there was initially lots of support from our parish for this new choir, attendance has waned and it has become apparent that it just isn't practical for our community.

After some deliberation between myself and Fr. John, we have decided that the Community Choir will be ending this month. We felt like the members of this choir could better serve our parish as members of already existing groups. I'd like to thank the leaders and members of the Community Choir for sharing their musical talents with the congregation and look forward to hearing your voices singing throughout our weekend masses.

With this change at the 11am Mass, I felt like it was a good opportunity to reassess our existing liturgical music, and see how we could improve our worship. Taking a note from Fr. John, I am trying not to focus on "the way we have always done things" but instead imagine the possibility of what our music ministry COULD be at St. Chris.

That being said, I am excited to announce a new Liturgical Musician's schedule at St. Chris. The 5pm Saturday and 6pm Sunday night Masses will largely remain the same, but there are some exciting changes coming to our 9am and 11am Masses.

The first is that our Contemporary Group, which played on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month will now be at 9am Mass on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. The 9am Chorale will be moving to 11am and will be singing on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month.

This leaves a couple of open spots at the beginning of the month for some new ensembles. The first of which will be a Children's Choir that will be singing at 11am on the first Sunday every month. All children in grades 4-8 are invited to sing with us. You will be hearing more about this in the upcoming weeks through the GIFT program and through music classes at the school. If you have a child that is not a part of the GIFT program and does not attend the school, please contact me to get more information about joining the Children's Choir.

The second is a new Jazz-influenced Mass at the first 9am mass of every month. It will feature a small group of musicians playing church hymns in the tradition of New Orleans Jazz. With influences from ragtime and blues music, jazz music is energetic and may even cause you to tap your toes or clap your hands. What a wonderful way to praise and glorify our God in song!

I hope you are as excited about these upcoming changes to our Music Ministry program as I am! As always, we are continually looking for new singers and musicians to enhance our liturgy with their talents. If you sing, play piano, guitar, or any other solo instrument, we would love to have you play and sing with us

here at Mass. Regardless of your age, musical experience, or time constraints, our Music Ministry here at St. Chris has a place for you!

Sincerely,



Alex Bonner

Director of Music Ministry

P.S. – Fr. John would really like to have violin, viola, cello, and bass for Christmas! If you know of someone, please let me know!

### **NEW MUSIC MINISTRY SCHEDULE – as of October 2016**

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday (As Needed)</b>
<b>5:00pm – Sat.</b>	Praise Group	Praise Group	Praise Group	Praise Group	Praise Group
<b>9:00am – Sun.</b>	Jazz Mass	Contemporary Group	Contemporary Group	Contemporary Group	Contemporary Group
<b>11:00am – Sun.</b>	Children’s Choir	Chorale	Chorale	Chorale	Chorale
<b>6:00pm - Sun</b>	Worship Ensemble	Worship Ensemble	Worship Ensemble	Worship Ensemble	Worship Ensemble

