

LITURGICAL MUSIC FORMATION

For the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana
Presented by Melva Villard
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List of Resources:

1. *Let the People Sing! A Keyboardist's Creative and Practical Guide to Engaging God's People in Meaningful Song*, by David M. Cherwien. Published in 1997 by Concordia Publishing House, \$19.95
2. *The Ministry of Music: Singing the Paschal Mystery*, by Kathleen Harmon. Liturgical Press, 2004. \$3.95 www.litpress.org
3. *A Primer for the Catholic Choir Member*, by Lawrence J. Johnson, 1996. OCP, \$2.00. This small booklet makes an excellent gift for each choir member. Contains a musical glossary, music theory, tips on Latin pronunciation and choral singing hints.
4. *Sourcebook for Sundays and Seasons; An Almanac of Parish Liturgy*. Published yearly by LTP. There are also many resources listed in the back of this.
5. *Preparing Music for Celebration*, by Heather Reid, 1996, Liturgical Press. \$1.00
6. *Visions of Liturgy and Music for a New Century*, by Lucien Deiss, 1996, Liturgical Press. \$24.95
7. *Full, Conscious and Active Participation: Celebrating Twenty-Five Years of Today's Liturgy*, ed. Michael R. Prendergast, OCP, 2003. Contains some of the best articles of the first 25 years of *Today's Liturgy*.
8. *Today's Liturgy*, a quarterly publication for liturgy preparation, OCP. Single subscription \$18 yearly. Check out the Advent/Christmas 2007 issue for an article by our own Bishop Herzog on the evolution of ministry.
9. www.liturgy.com, a liturgical resource for planning. Subscription prices vary; \$99 yearly for up to 5 users. Part of the OCP family of web sites.
10. www.liturgyhelp.com, a GIA liturgical resource for planning. Subscription varies from \$120 to \$365 yearly.
11. *GIA Quarterly*, GIA, contains many relevant articles concerning liturgy planning. Single subscription \$18 yearly. The Fall 2007 edition has an article by Anthony Ruff, OSB, on Gregorian Chant books and resources.

12. *Parish Liturgy Basics*, Revised Edition, by Msgr. William J. Belford, Dr. Glenn CJ Byer, and Michael R. Prendergast, 2005, OCP. Question-answer format.
13. *Cantor Basics*, by James Hansen with Melanie Coddington and Joe Simmons, 2002, OCP. Question-answer format.
14. *Successful Sight Singing, A Creative, Step by Step Approach*, by Nancy Telfer, Kjos, 1992. Conductor's edition \$19.95; singer's edition \$6.95.
15. www.canticanova.com is a site billing itself "traditional music for the contemporary Church," and has an online catalog, articles on liturgy and music, and a planning section.
16. www.musicasacra.com is hosted by the Church Music Association of America and has many resources concerning chant music.
17. www.reason.mu/churchmusic Although Australian-based, it is an excellent and extensive site with much practical advice and training resources for all church musicians.
18. *Respond & Acclaim*, Responsorial Psalms and Gospel Acclamations for use with the Second Typical Edition of the Lectionary for Mass, Musical settings by Owen Alstott, OCP.
19. www.npm.org, the site for National Pastoral Musicians, has a tab on the left, "Resources." Click on that to go to the planning calendar for each year. Free.
20. www.giaplanner.net, a service offered through GIA. Various pricing, but the basic planner is free.
21. *Music Ministry Series*, www.foundationforliturgicalmusic.org is held in Birmingham, Alabama each summer. Next year's date is June 26 – 28, 2008. Features various workshop leaders such as Jaime Cortez, Jeanne Cotter, John Angotti, Gary Daigle, Tony Alonso, Paul Tate, Bobby Fisher, Janet Vogt, and our own Bishop Ron Herzog.
22. www.fdlc.org, Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions
23. www.theliturgyplanner.org, sponsored by The Liturgy Planner Online. Yearly subscriptions are \$69 and include the Liturgy Planner Magazine.
24. <http://liturgy.slu.edu>, sponsored by The Center For Liturgy at St. Louis University. The Sunday Web Site allows you to select the Sunday and research the music selections other parishes are making, along with links to planning resources. Free.
25. Entertainer's Secret Throat Relief, a glycerin spray. www.entertainers-secret.com About \$7.50 per bottle. 1-800-308-7452

SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S MUSIC RESOURCES:

26. *Music for Children's Liturgy of the Word, Cycles A, B, and C*, by Christopher Walker, OCP, 1990.

27. *Enter the Journey, Volumes 1 and 2: Music for Liturgy, Ritual and Worship for the Liturgical School Year*, OCP, 2001 & 2006.

Helpful hints gleaned from Jeanne Cotter:

- ♪ Always warm up before singing.
- ♪ Don't eat a large amount before singing; no eating 90 minutes before.
- ♪ Don't eat dairy products before singing.
- ♪ Drink warm water (not hot, not cold) before singing.
- ♪ Cut phlegm with lemon juice.
- ♪ Decongestants are preferable to antihistamines that will dry your throat.
- ♪ Use Ocean Spray to hydrate sinus cavities and thin mucus.
- ♪ If you drink caffeine, also drink lots of water to offset the effect.
- ♪ A "lip buzz" is the best of all warm ups.
- ♪ For greater pitch consistency, try for more *legato* (smoothness).
- ♪ Part of being a good minister is having good performance skills; being prepared for the liturgy. A good performance takes the space, sound system, etc., into consideration. Then we have to get our own need and value out of the way. How present are we? That is the heart of music ministry.

ON *cantoring*:

- ♪ Gestures should communicate presence and hospitality: "I'm one of you...we're doing this together."
- ♪ Keep arms out to the side, *not* in front of your body. Fingers out, not closed; an open palm is needed. Stiff and angular indicates being uncomfortable, so your elbow should be soft.
- ♪ The gesture is a cuing; we are "*saying*" "Get ready, get ready and SING!" It needs a landing spot. If there is a pick-up beat, give a slight motion, but still "land" on beat one.
- ♪ Your facial expression is even more important than the gesturing. Do NOT close your eyes. Cantoring is a ministry of presence; your primary role is to connect with people.
- ♪ See p. 48 in *Cantor Basics* for further thoughts on gesturing.