

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

During the school year, members of the Children's Choir who also attend St. Francis Catholic School sing every other Wednesday at the 10:00 a.m. school liturgies.

In addition, the choir sings about 3-4 times during the school year at Sunday liturgies and sometimes provides entertainment during hospitality after mass.

Dates and times are posted at the beginning of each semester, as well as being posted on our parish website.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Parents are a vital part of the Children's Choir program. They are always welcome to observe rehearsals, and in fact, it is desired that one parent volunteer attend each rehearsal to assist with miscellaneous tasks. At various times during the year, additional helping hands are needed. If you are able to help in any of these areas, please contact the director.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Although singing for liturgies is primary, as the choir program grows and as choristers become more experienced, Christmas caroling, concerts, additional special liturgies and community events may be added to the schedule.

As choir members progress in musicianship and liturgical knowledge, they are assigned roles of responsibility. Some choristers will help younger children prepare, while others may eventually serve as cantors at liturgy or as assistants to the director.

The Children's Choir serves as a "feeder" program to the Middle and High school music groups.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

The Children's Choir is under the direction of Mary Ament, Director of Music at St. Francis Xavier Parish. Mary received her Bachelors of Music Education degree from the University of Stevens Point and has served as a church musician for over 30 years.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR PROGRAM

St. Francis Xavier Parish
1708 E. Tenth St.
Merrill, Wisconsin

Contact:
Mary Ament, Director of Music
St. Francis Xavier Parish
715-536-2803, ext. 230
mament@stfrancismerrill.org

CHILDREN'S CHOIR REGISTRATION

Child's Name: _____ Address: _____
Zip: _____ Parent/Guardian Name: _____
Phone: _____ Parent/Guardian Email Address: _____
School: _____ Grade: _____ Birthday: _____

ABOUT THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The goal of the Children's Choir program is to teach children in grades 2 – 5 the joy of singing and artistic expression within the context of a Catholic community of faith. Regular participation in church liturgies is an expected component of this choir. Members of the Children's Choir program are actively involved in the spiritual and liturgical life of the church. They serve as ministers of music at selected liturgies throughout the year.

THE SCHEDULE

The Children's Choir rehearses in the school music room on Wednesdays from 3:15 – 4:15 p.m. Weekly rehearsals begin on the second Wednesday after school begins, and continues until the end of the school year.

A detailed schedule is available in late August from the school or parish website and includes dates and times of the choir's expected attendance at liturgies, concerts and other singing events.

OBJECTIVES OF CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The objectives of the Children's Choir program at St. Francis Xavier Parish is best summed up by Ruth Krehbiel Jacobs, founder of the National Choristers Guild:

“Training the worship attitude of our children is like tending a rare plant. The seed must first be planted and the soil kept in a condition that encourages growth. Once the seed has been planted, it requires patient care until it reaches full flower. When it does put forth a bud, fragrant with the richness of true worship, we may be humbly grateful for the privilege of having been the gardeners.”

REGISTRATION/CHOIR CONTRACT

The Children's Choir program is a non-auditioned choir; all singers are welcome. Simply complete the attached registration form, review and sign the choir contract, and return both forms to either the school or parish office.

