

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

From September to approximately June, the Family Choir sings about twice a month at one of the three weekend masses.

In addition, the choir sings for special liturgies at Christmas and Easter and for Confirmation.

Dates and times are posted at the beginning of each semester.

SPECIAL ROLES

Choristers are asked to volunteer for special roles, such as Choir Librarian, Sunshine Fund Coordinator, Cantors at liturgy, etc.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

The Family Choir is under the direction of Mary Ament, Director of Music at St. Francis Xavier Parish. Mary received her bachelors of music education degree at the University of Stevens Point and has served as a church musician, organist, accompanist and choir director for over 30 years. (Contact information is on the front of this brochure.)



IS THAT A CHOIR I HEAR?

*Is that a choir I hear?
Obeying the call to serve God above
Knowing His worthiness, knowing His love
Using their voices with a deliberate choice
To sing in one spirit, one heart, one voice.*

*Is that a choir I hear?
Obeying the call to gather together
No matter the sacrifice, no matter the weather
And reaping the blessings of fellowship sweet
Growing closer together each time they meet.*

*Is that a choir I hear?
Leading in worship so all might know
A taste of heaven in this life below
Creating sweet harmony to truly inspire
Paving the way for that Holy Ghost fire.*

*Yes, that's a choir I hear!
A choir with talent and spirit and grace
Shining forth a reflection of God's own face
Lend them an ear and it will not be long
Until you burst forth in jubilant song!*



FAMILY CHOIR PROGRAM

St. Francis Xavier Parish
1708 E. Tenth St.
Merrill, WI 54452

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

FAMILY CHOIR REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Voice Part: Soprano/Alto/Tenor/Bass/Unknown (circle one)

Email Address: _____ Instrument(s) Played: _____

ABOUT FAMILY CHOIR

The goal of the Family Choir program is to enhance the music at our Catholic liturgies, encourage singing by the assembly, and provide an outlet for the musical talent that our parish has been blessed with.

Participants in the Family Choir program are actively involved in the spiritual and liturgical life of the church. In addition to singing in the choir, many of our members serve as Eucharistic ministers, readers, ushers, etc.

THE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

The Family Choir rehearses in the church on Tuesdays from 6:45 – 8:00 p.m., with most of the summer off.

Weekly rehearsals begin the second Tuesday after Labor Day and continue through Christmas. Regular rehearsals resume after New Year's Day and conclude in late May or early June.

A detailed schedule is posted on our website and includes dates and times of the choir's expected attendance at liturgies.

ABOUT THE MUSIC

The Family Choir program is committed to fostering excellent musicianship, knowledgeable participation in liturgy and an active prayer life. These include ongoing music theory, ear training and sight singing, and fundamentals of liturgy.

Prior musical knowledge and/or skill is *not* a prerequisite. All singers are welcome and are encouraged to try out the choir to see if it fills your needs. As many long-time members will tell you, it can be a full-filling, spiritual experience.

EXPECTATIONS

Choir members are expected to attend as many rehearsals and liturgies as possible. The rehearsals are important in preparing music for liturgies. If you cannot attend a rehearsal or liturgy, please inform the director as soon as possible.

