

# 2023-2024 **TREBLE CHOIR** (grades 4-8) OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH

Paul French, Director

\*Weekly rehearsals for the new season begin on **Wednesday, September 6** from **3:30-4:45pm** following the conclusion of the Junior Choir rehearsal.

## **Liturgical Calendar 2023-2024:** (In addition to participation in OLMCA School Masses)

<u>Saturday</u> , October 14	3:45 pm Rehearsal- <b>Casey</b> /4:30 pm Mass* (28 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time) *with the JUNIOR Choir A <b>MANDATORY PARENT MEETING (5:30-6:00pm)</b> follows in Church.
Sunday, October 22	10:15 am Rehearsal/11:00 am Mass (29 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time) *with the MORNING Choir
Saturday, November 11	3:45 pm Rehearsal/4:30 pm Mass (32 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary)
Sunday, December 10	8:55 am Rehearsal/9:30 am Mass (2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent)
Sunday, December 24	*3:30 pm Rehearsal/4pm Carols/4:30 pm Mass ( <i>Christmas Eve</i> )
<u>Thursday</u> , January 4	**2:00-3:30pm Rehearsal in CHURCH for Epiphany Concert
<u>Saturday</u> , January 6	*7:00 pm Concert (All Parish Choirs) – 5:30pm arrival
Sunday, January 28	8:45 am Reh.- <b>Casey Hall</b> /9:30 am Mass (4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time) *Catholic Schools Week, with the JUNIOR Choir
Sunday, February 4	10:15 am Rehearsal/11:00 am Mass (5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time) *with the men of the MORNING Choir
<u>Saturday</u> , February 24	<i>Pueri Cantores</i> Festival – Holy Name Cathedral, Chicago (11:30am-6:45 pm) Mass @ 5:30 pm (2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent)
Sunday, March 17	8:55 am Rehearsal/9:30 am Mass (5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent)
<u>Saturday</u> , March 23	3:55 Rehearsal/4:30 Mass* (Palm Sunday) * with the HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGIATE Schola
Sunday, March 31	8:55 Rehearsal/9:30 Mass* (Easter Sunday) *with the HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGIATE Schola
<u>Saturday</u> , May 4	9:30 Rehearsal/ 10:00am Mass (First Communion)
Sunday, May 12	8:45 Rehearsal – * <b>Casey</b> /9:30 Mass (The Ascension of Our Lord) *with the JUNIOR Choir
<u>Saturday</u> , June 1	3:55 Rehearsal/4:30 Mass (Graduation / Corpus Christi)

There will be **no Wednesday choir rehearsal** on the following dates:

November 22 (*Thanksgiving break*)

December 27 + January 3 (*Christmas break*)

April 3 (*Spring break*)

\*\**Final rehearsal of the season: May 29*

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** Music has always played an important role in the liturgical life of *Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church*. The development of our Treble Choir (grades 4-8) and Junior Choir (grades 1-3) are a part of the history of the commitment of this parish to fine sacred music. We are an affiliate of the *American Federation Pueri Cantores*, the official student choral organization in the Roman Catholic Church which seeks to build up the Church by promoting for high standards in sacred music. The Treble choral experience encourages growth in vocal technique, an introduction to music theory and sight reading, provides a continuing catechetical foundation and fosters an appreciation for the Church's rituals and traditions. The choir will focus on learning a repertoire of music from the immense treasury of sacred music which belongs to the Catholic Church.

**Chorister Fee: (\$125 - annual fee).** Please make your check payable to *Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church* or via *Give Central* at this link: <https://www.givecentral.org/location/161/event/34489>

The fee helps support the parish music program and covers the costs of choral music binders, new choral music, some treats, and the end of season party, as well as your child's \$25 registration fee for the annual *Pueri Cantores* Festival on February 24, 2024. Financial challenges should *never* impact your child's participation. If the Chorister Fee needs to be modified or waived, please be in touch with Mr. French at [pfrench@ourlmc.org](mailto:pfrench@ourlmc.org).

**Parent Permission form:** A signed parental permission form (**signed by both parent and chorister**) must be received by Mr. French for your child to participate in the choir's activities.

## EXPECTATIONS

**Attendance:** Attendance at all rehearsals and liturgies is *expected*. If any choir member will be absent or tardy, a parent should inform Mr. French via email ([pfrench@ourlmc.org](mailto:pfrench@ourlmc.org)) or telephone call (773-249-7080 x 127) prior to the expected absence.

It is understood that young people have very full schedules, and it is nearly impossible to expect a 100% attendance policy. A choir, however, functions just like a sports team and rehearsal time is critical to realize the full potential of the ensemble. In addition, the experience of singing in the liturgy is as formative and valuable as are the weeks of rehearsal. All our efforts are directed toward the singing for Mass. Frequent absences will be reviewed by Mr. French.

**Treble Choir (grades 4-8) rehearsals:** All rehearsals are held in Casey Hall each Wednesday of the school year (note exceptions in the Calendar) from **3:30-4:45 pm, beginning September 6th.**

All choristers in the Treble Choir will receive a "Free Vocal Assessment" in the days leading up to that initial rehearsal.

At the end of rehearsal, choristers who will be picked up by their parents should be met by them at the door to Casey Hall. No chorister will be allowed to exit the building without adult supervision. Those staying on for the Extended Day Program will be led there by an adult. In the case of inclement weather, we will cancel rehearsal if OLMCA has cancelled school for the day.

## Dress Policy for Mass:

Students in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Academy: Formal School uniforms (with sweaters and ties).

All other students: (Boys) button down collared shirts, tie, and dress pants with dark dress shoes.

(Girls) Appropriate dress or blouse with a modest neckline and skirt (at the knee or below) combination with dress shoes. No sneakers, sandals, high heels, or flip-flops, please.