

2025-2026 **TREBLE CHOIR** (grades 4-8) OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH

Paul French, Director

*Weekly rehearsals for the new season begin on **Wednesday, September 10** from **3:30-4:45pm** following the conclusion of the Junior Choir rehearsal.

Liturgical Calendar 2025-2026: (In addition to participation in OLMCA School Masses)

<u>Saturday</u> , October 4	3:45 pm Rehearsal-Casey/4:30 pm Mass* <i>*with the JUNIOR Choir</i>	(27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
	A MANDATORY PARENT MEETING (5:30-6:00pm) follows in Church.	
Sunday, October 19	10:15 am Rehearsal/11:00 am Mass <i>*with the MORNING Choir</i>	(29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Sunday, November 16	8:55 am Rehearsal/9:30 am Mass	(33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Sunday, December 14	8:55 am Rehearsal/9:30 am Mass	(3 rd Sunday of Advent)
Thursday, December 18	Little Sisters of the Poor caroling** (after school – return at 4:45pm) <i>**Drivers (approved chaperones) needed</i>	
Wednesday, December 24	*3:30 pm Rehearsal/4pm Carols/4:30 pm Mass	(Christmas Eve)
<u>Friday</u> , January 2	**2:00-3:30pm Rehearsal in CHURCH for Epiphany Concert	
<u>Saturday</u> , January 3	*7:00 pm Concert (All Parish Choirs) – 5:30pm arrival	
Sunday, January 25	8:45 am Rehearsal-Casey Hall/9:30 am Mass <i>*Catholic Schools Week, with the JUNIOR Choir</i>	(3 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)
<u>Saturday</u> , February 28	Pueri Cantores Festival – Holy Name Cathedral, Chicago (11:30am-6:45 pm) Mass @ 5:30 pm	(2 nd Sunday of Lent)
Sunday, March 8	10:15 am Rehearsal/11:00 am Mass <i>*with the men of the MORNING Choir</i>	(3 rd Sunday of Lent)
Sunday, March 29	8:55 Rehearsal/9:30 Mass* <i>* with the HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGIATE Schola</i>	(Palm Sunday)
<u>Thursday</u> , April 2	5:45 Rehearsal/6:30 Service* <i>* with the HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGIATE Schola/MORNING CHOIR</i>	(Holy Thursday)
Sunday, April 5	8:55 Rehearsal/9:30 Mass* <i>*with the HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGIATE Schola</i>	(Easter Sunday)
Sunday, May	9:30 Rehearsal/10:00am Mass	(First Communion / Easter 3)
Sunday, May 10	8:45 Rehearsal – *Casey/9:30 Mass <i>*with the JUNIOR Choir</i>	(4 th Sunday of Easter)
<u>Saturday</u> , June 6	10:15am Rehearsal/11:00 Baccalaureate	(Graduation)

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

November 26 (*Thanksgiving break*)

December 31 (*Christmas break*)

April 8 (*Spring break*)

***Final rehearsal of the season: June 3*

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 at this link: <https://ppay.co/Dy8Z9eNxIJc> or scan the QR code here:



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 at Holy Name Cathedral on February 28, 2026. 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.

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) 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 10th.**

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 the 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.