

## Saint James Parish

### *The Ministry of the Cantor*



#### **Role of the Cantor**

The Cantor uses their God-given voice offering it back as an instrument of praise. By your voice you will be expressing your faith. You will be helping others to pray in song during times of distress and sorrow. The cantor leads and sustains the people's singing.

Your ministry is an essential part of the Church's worship. It will enliven the words that express belief and immerse those who sing them and hear them into the mystery of God.

As Cantor you may be called upon to be the song leader and the psalmist.

#### **Skills Needed to be a Cantor**

You will need to have the skill to sing independently and have the desire to lead the people in worship. The cantor needs to be comfortable singing in front of people. The cantor will need to have some musical skills at the service of the Liturgy. The cantor will have knowledge about the Liturgy, be attentive and participate in the Liturgy. The cantor will also receive instruction on how to activate the sound system.

#### **Time Commitment**

The cantor will need to rehearse with the musician until they are comfortable and ready to lead song in Liturgy and Worship for their specific Mass. Specifics regarding practicing to be well prepared to cantor will be worked out with the scheduled musician.

The cantor will arrive 20 minutes early and sign their name in the Liturgy registry book in the Sacristy. The cantor will put up the hymn numbers for the Mass as well as read the introduction to the Liturgy.

The cantor as a part of the music ministry team will be committed to attending Liturgy update meetings and any planned opportunities for spiritual reflection gatherings with the music ministry team.