

Matthew Loucks (Director of Sacred Music) began his musical career 1989 and has had the tremendous JOY to have founded/directed several Choral and “period instrument” ensembles including the Magnolia Chamber Orchestra, The Baroque Music Academy, the St. Mary Baroque Orchestra & Chamber Choir and the Blessed Sacrament Baroque Orchestra, Schola Cantorum and Sackbut Ensemble. Some “highlights” (thus far) in Matthew's career have been directing the U.S. Premier of G.P. Telemann's *Christmas Oratorio*, J.S. Bach's Passion of St. John (on period instruments) as well as over 25 annual performances of G. F. Handel's oratorio *MESSIAH*.

Matthew has been a Director of Sacred Music for the Catholic Church since 1994 in both the Archdiocese of Denver and Seattle and was blessed to be the Director of Sacred Music at Liturgies celebrated by Cardinal Arinze, Cardinal Stafford and Archbishop Chaput.

Mr. Loucks is a “champion” of “early” Sacred Music and makes it his mission to help faithful Catholics “pray the Mass” through the singing of ALL the various parts of the Mass Ordinary, the prescribed Antiphons/Psalms and a wealth of “sturdy” Hymns. Mr. Loucks also esteems our church's rich tradition of Sacred Polyphony (Motets and Mass Ordinaries) as well as solo works for the Pipe Organ and instrumental ensembles.

Mr. Loucks holds music degrees in Music Theory/Literature and Composition as well as a Masters Degree in Conducting. Mr. Loucks was blessed to be the recipient of the “Outstanding Musicianship Award” and the “Academic Achievement Award” in musicology by the *National Musical Honor Society* for his numerous “period performances of Sacred Music”.

Matthew could not be more thrilled to be joining the faith community at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish and is grateful for the opportunity to serve and pray with such excellent and dedicated Music Minsters.

Contact Mr. Loucks if you are interested in joining our Music Ministry in our *Schola Cantorum*, Chancel Choir, Men's Schola, Women's Schola or an instrumental ensemble.

Matthew Loucks
Director of Sacred Music

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish
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