



Liturgical Music Curriculum Overview

KINDERGARTEN, GRADE 1 AND 2

Mass preparation – we learn most of our music for Mass without using books/music.

At the end of first grade and for all of second grade, we use the following books: *Gather, Breaking Bread, Spirit & Song*. We learn about the Liturgical year, colors, celebrations, Sacraments, and what to expect at Mass. We hear many stories of Jesus' life and sing songs about it. Occasionally, we get to use instruments to supplement our music.

GRADES 3, 4, AND 5

Mass preparation – we use three books: *Gather, Breaking Bread, Spirit & Song*, plus additional sheet music for special songs we may be using at Mass.

We learn about the Liturgical year, colors, celebrations, Sacraments, and what to expect at Mass. We focus on Mass planning and how to be present as a leader at Mass.

We learn how the music ties in with the specific readings for the day and how it is appropriate for the time of year. We learn music theory and the boys (whose voices are beginning to change) get extra help in finding their note in the lower range when they are singing.

MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6, 7, AND 8)

The Middle School students do what is included above, but in further depth. We learn more about Mass planning and what is appropriate for each Mass. We learn more about the structure of the Mass and why we celebrate the different parts of it.

With our longer class period, we are able to do different activities during classes where we are not specifically working on our Mass music. These include:

- Musically-based DVDs (history of music, different forms of music, computerized music production, choosing music tracks for different movie scenes)
- Music games (“Stump the Band”, Saints Charades, Music Symbol Bingo)
- Musical production (“Stomp”, “Barrage”)