

## *A Coffee with Alessio*



### **Copyright? What does it have to with me?**

The topic of copyright, is not the most interesting topic I have to say. It has become a very complex issue, not only in our Church, but in the secular world as well. Churches and their institutions are not exempt from copyright, and so as far as possible we need to try to understand the law, and follow it.

The internet, and its capabilities, along with the ever changing and growing possibilities in the cyber world have added much complexity to the issue of copyright. This is because, we can download a piece of music at the click of a button.

In years gone by, parishes used hymnals, and so this avoided the need to be concerned about copyright. Nowadays, this is not the case, and there are various copyright licenses, depending on what material is being reproduced for use in the liturgy. Some people think it is unfair that Church music is copyright. We have to remember this fact through. For people who are alive today and composing music now, **their music is their living.** Just as we are entitled to a just wage in whatever honest work we do, so too are composers. To this end, tomorrow, at Infant Jesus Parish Hall, the Centre for Liturgy will facilitate a workshop on copyright. We hope to answer questions and provide information to the best of our knowledge.

Enjoy your coffee!

Alessio Loiacono  
Music Field Officer

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