

# *The Musician's Monthly*

Volume 1- Issue 4: May 2019

## **INTRODUCTION**

At the time of writing this newsletter we are in the middle of Holy Week, with all sorts of final preparations going on. By the time you read this newsletter we will be into the Easter Season.

Being a leader of any group requires much time, effort, preparation and an ability to hold everyone in the group together. Choirs are no different, and I have definitely tried to be patient with everyone in my choir group. We need to remember the different musical abilities of the people in our music groups.

I thought I would draw your attention to the upcoming workshops. Registration details are available in the 'News' section on page 3.

The Centre for Liturgy will be offering the following workshops:

- Music for Small Choirs (Thursday 16 May)
- Psalmist Training Course (Wednesday 5, 12, 19 June and 3 July) and
- Music Reading Course (Thursday 27 June, 4 July, 25 July and 1 August).

The Music Reading course is a program we would like to trial so that we can improve it and run it again next year. We won't be teaching people how to play an instrument, but we will be teaching them how to follow the names of the notes in a piece of music and the different rhythm values (and why some notes are black and others are white) amongst other bits and pieces of musical notation. I've been part of pilot programs before, so please register for this workshop. We will arm you with plenty of resources.

I hope you continue to experience the peace and joy of the Risen Christ during these Easter Days and may 'Alleluia' be our song of joy as well!

Alessio Loiacono  
Music Field Officer- Centre for Liturgy

## PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

May is the month of Our Lady and the *Regina Caeli* is the Marian Antiphon prayed during Easter Time. The chant setting in English and Latin is in CWBII #405.

Let our prayer during the month of May be:

**Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.  
For He whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia.  
Has risen as He said, alleluia.  
Pray for us to God, alleluia.**

**Leader:** Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia.

**All:** For the Lord has truly risen, Alleluia.

**Leader:** Let us pray.

**All:** O God, who gave joy to the world  
through the resurrection of Your Son  
our Lord Jesus Christ,  
grant, we beseech You,  
that through the intercession  
of the Virgin Mary, His Mother.  
We may obtain the joys of everlasting life,  
through the same Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



You can pray this prayer as the closing prayer for your choir rehearsals during the month of May.

## HYMN SUGGESTIONS FOR THE EASTER SEASON AND PENTECOST

Since we are into the Easter Season, I would like to repeat what I mentioned in the April Newsletter about the Memorial Acclamation for Easter Time.

It would be appropriate to sing the first chant Memorial Acclamation for the entire Easter Season:

“We proclaim Your death, O Lord...”

The melody of the chant setting (which is in *The Roman Missal*) is very simple and will not take long for members of the gathered assembly to pick it up.

If you don't have the music you can access it on the ICEL website:

<http://icelweb.org/musicfolder/openpdf.php?file=MemorialAcclamation.pdf>

Looking ahead to Pentecost, the Sequence should be sung. There are three settings in CWBII:

- 378a (Chant setting)
- 379 (Metrical hymn setting) and
- 380 (adaptation of the chant melody),

and two settings in *Gather Australia*:

- 373 (Chant setting) and
- 374 (Metrical hymn setting).

You can also find a setting to the tune of 'Ode to Joy' on the OneLicense website. Titled 'Come, O Holy Spirit, Come', the text is by Owen Alstott and the tune is very familiar to people. Familiarity with a tune is an enormous help especially when texts are used once a year.

## NEWS

As I mentioned in my introduction, we have three upcoming workshops.

You can register for them by the following this link to our website

<http://liturgy.perthcatholic.org.au/liturgical-music-workshops/>

Each of these workshops will have a different focus. The Reading Music course is on a trial run and we will be seeking feedback from participants who attend that

course so that we can better serve the needs of the parish musicians in our Archdiocese.

## REFLECTION

Following on from last month, I am looking at the second part of the ninth paragraph of *Sacrosanctum Concilium*.

“Therefore the Church announces the good tidings of salvation to those who do not believe, so that all men may know the true God and Jesus Christ whom He has sent, and may be converted from their ways, doing penance. To believers also the Church must ever preach faith and penance, she must prepare them for the sacraments, teach them to observe all that Christ has commanded, and invite them to all the works of charity, piety, and the apostolate.”

### **What does the preceding paragraph from *Sacrosanctum Concilium* mean?**

What an awesome responsibility liturgical musicians have been given to evangelise those who have never practiced the faith or who for some reason have stopped doing so. Likewise, we have a responsibility to those who regularly worship in our communities to teach them about the faith through music. You will notice it says in the paragraph ‘prepare them for the sacraments’. Part of that preparation includes that the musicians must know the music well before they attempt to lead the members of the gathered assembly in it. Liturgies for First Penance, First Holy Communion and Confirmation are not the best time or place to introduce a whole lot of new hymns. If a new hymn is to be introduced during these liturgies, stick to one only and make sure it has been sung at Masses for at least a couple of weeks beforehand leading up to it.

## ABBREVIATION, WEBSITE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CWBII- Catholic Worship Book II.

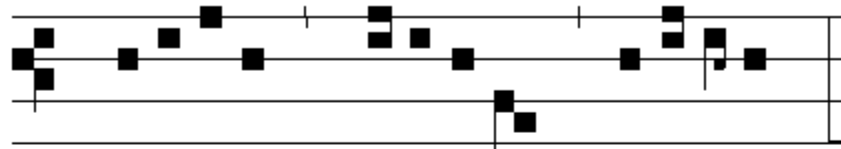
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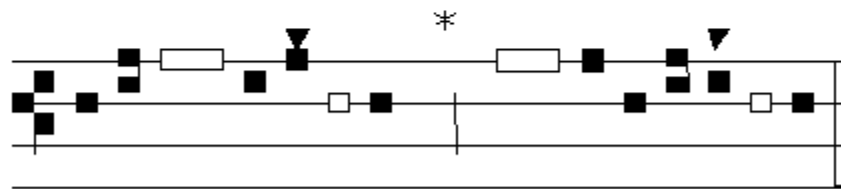
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Allelúia, Allelúia, Allelúia.



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