



MUSIC MINISTRY *AT ST ANN*

Best Practices for *Contemporary Liturgical Music*

At Saint Ann Catholic Church, we believe that contemporary music can beautifully serve the liturgy when it is approached with reverence, preparation, and a clear understanding of its purpose: **to help God's people pray and participate more fully in the celebration of the Mass.**

Our music ministry strives to choose music that is liturgically appropriate, rooted in Scripture and sound Catholic theology, and accessible to the assembly. Whether contemporary or traditional, familiar or new, music should always support the particular moment of the liturgy rather than draw attention to itself.

How we perform the music is just as important as what we choose. **Thoughtful arrangements, appropriate tempos, dynamics, orchestration, and even silence can help shape the prayer of the assembly.** Not every instrument needs to play all the time, and louder does not necessarily mean more effective. Our goal is to create music that is expressive and engaging while always remaining in service to the liturgy. **The assembly is our most important choir.**



Audio and visual technology share this same mission. Clear and balanced sound, carefully presented lyrics, appropriate imagery, cameras, and livestreaming can help people participate more fully and allow important liturgical moments to be seen and heard. Technology is most effective when it supports worship without becoming the focus.



Ultimately, every musician, singer, and audio/visual minister shares the same responsibility. Through preparation, humility, collaboration, and excellence, we seek to remove distractions and create an environment in which the assembly can pray.



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EVERY INSTRUMENT
WE PLAY, AND EVERY
TECHNOLOGY WE USE
SHOULD ULTIMATELY
POINT BEYOND
OURSELVES—TO
CHRIST, WHO IS AT
THE CENTER OF
EVERY LITURGY WE
CELEBRATE.*





Discipleship

LIVE THE CALL