

## The Role of Liturgical Music

Since its founding, *Liturgical Music* has played an essential role in the Church's highest form of prayer: The Sacrifice of Holy Mass.

*“By itself, the question of the liturgy's essence and the standards of the reform has brought us back to the question of music and its position in the liturgy. And as a matter of fact, one cannot speak about worship at all without also speaking of the music of worship.”* — Pope Benedict XVI

Saint Rocco's Parish is blest with an ever-growing, esteemed group of individuals who together form a respected ensemble and essential ministry within the parish. Under the direction of Mr. Christopher A. Caramello, the Adult Choir can be heard each Sunday at the 10:00 AM Mass (September through June) as well as Holy Days, Holy Week, the Feast Triduum, and other events. The other masses are cantored by Miss Marissa R. DiBiase, Parish Cantor; at the 8:00 AM Bilingual Mass she is joined by an Italian Soloist, Mr. Vittorio Lauro. Those who wish to join the music ministry are urged to inquire. **The Music Department of St. Rocco Church provides the music for all Weekend and Weekday Liturgies, Funerals, and Weddings – effective September 18, 2021 outside musicians may not be requested and will not be permitted to replace the parish music staff.**

In addition to providing music for weekly and special parish liturgies, The Music Department is responsible for planning and providing music for all **Funerals** and **Weddings**. Each liturgy can be enhanced through the selection of proper and meaningful music. Although secular music is not allowed before, during, or after any mass, an eclectic array of options can ensure your musical expectations are met. Families are encouraged to review the informational packets (as found on the website) and their options. The standard personnel for funerals and weddings include the parish cantor and the organist. The music for all **Parish Liturgies** is selected in accordance to the Mass of the Day and Liturgical Season by the Music Director in collaboration with the Pastor. **It is in this respect, music requests for parish-wide liturgies (not Funerals or Weddings) will not be honored.**