



WEST FORK CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church-Moville
St. Michael Catholic Church-Kingsley

CANTOR INSTRUCTIONS

As a CANTOR you have chosen to help lead our community in prayer song as we celebrate God's blessings.

Before Mass

- The best CANTOR is one who is prepared and knows well the ministry he or she is to carry out and participates in the celebration of the Eucharist (singing, responding, etc.)
- Find a substitute if you are unable to serve when you are scheduled.
- Be rested and dress well.
- Arrive 15-20 minutes before Mass (20-30 minutes before Funerals and other special Masses such as Holy Week).
- Practice with the accompanist earlier in the week or before Mass. [At Immaculate Conception-Moville: please use the library to rehearse immediately before Mass in order to maintain a prayerful environment in our worship space.] You will find the Gloria, Psalm, Gospel Acclamation, the Eucharist Acclamations, and other seasonal music in the Cantors' Binder.

During Mass

- Invite the people to join you in signing by your confident posture and welcoming gestures.
- Most of your song leading will be done from the Cantor's microphone.
- Your role is to assist the congregation to help sing the songs and responses at the proper time. The responses including any sung responses to prayers sung by the Presider.
- The Opening Song should be sung and completed after the Presider reaches his chair.
- Immediately after the Penitential Rite the Gloria is sung.
- The Responsorial Psalm, because it is Scripture, is lead from the Ambo. After the Reader of God's Word has left the Ambo, wait for him/her to return to their seat. Then proceed slowly from our place to the Ambo. As you approach the Ambo, a profound bow [bow at the waist] is made to the Altar and then proceed to the Ambo. When inviting the congregation to sing the refrain, raise both arms/hands [if possible]. When the congregation has completed singing the final time, proceed back to your place, bowing to the Altar as depart from the Ambo and Sanctuary.
- Wait for the Presider to stand to introduce the Gospel Acclamation from the Cantor's microphone.
- After the Universal Prayers [General Intercessions or Petitions] please announce the Preparation of the Gifts song.
- During the Eucharist Prayer, please remain standing at the Cantor's microphone and face the Altar. When the Presider genuflects towards the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar, bow at the waist.
- At Communion time, proceed to the Communion Minister closest to you, receive Communion and return to your place. When you and the accompanist are ready and about

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half of the people have received Holy Communion, please announce and lead the Communion song.

- After the Presider announces the dismissal, please announce and lead the Recessional song.

After Mass

- Please leave the Cantors' Binder at the Cantor's Music Stand for the next Mass or to be prepared for the next weekend.
- You are then free to go!

Thank you for serving as a CANTOR!

11 June 2015