

# Children's Choir Program

## Our Singing Church of Tomorrow and Today

The St. John the Evangelist Children's Choir program is open to all children of the parish who are in the **3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th** grade. The first rehearsal of the 2025-26 season will take place on **Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>** from **4:10 p.m. until 4:55 p.m.** in the **Church**. New members are also welcomed to join us at any time throughout the choir season.

### **ABOUT THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR:**

The goal of the Children's Choir program is to teach children the language of music and artistic expression within the context of a Catholic Christian community of faith, which includes active and regular participation in church liturgies. Participants in the Children's Choir program are actively involved in the spiritual and liturgical life of the church. They serve as ministers of music at selected liturgies throughout the year.

It is expected that your child be present at scheduled rehearsals and liturgies in which they are to sing. It is completely understandable when your child is sick, on vacation, or other circumstances arise that will prevent them from attending. An e-mail to the Music Office at **Edward@sjecc.com** is **expected** regarding your child's absence.

The Choir sings on the **FIRST SUNDAY of the month** from October through May at the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Sunday morning warm-up in the Choir Room begins at 10:30 a.m. A reminder e-mail will be sent to you before the liturgy in which the children are to sing.

The Children's Choir will have the opportunity to perform in a Christmas Musical in December. The choir also sings at the First Holy Communion Liturgies and the May Crowning Liturgy. Additional liturgies or practices may be scheduled as needed during the season. Your child will receive a complete calendar of dates at the first rehearsal.

### **AS A MEMBER OF THE CHOIR, YOUR CHILD WILL...**

- Learn about different types of singing voices
- Receive practice tracks and music for at-home rehearsing
- Develop his or her vocal range
- Gain music theory knowledge and experience
- Learn how to apply correct vowel formation and diction in singing
- Be exposed to various styles of liturgical music
- Learn how to prepare themselves for performance-readiness
- Make new friends in a team-like, Christ-centered environment

The Children's Choir program is committed to fostering excellent musicianship, knowledgeable participation in the liturgy and an active prayer life.

*PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR MORE IMPORTANT INFORMATION*

## **ATTIRE AT LITURGIES**

Children's Choir members **must** wear appropriate Church attire when singing at Mass. *Jeans, shorts, tennis shoes, and sandals* are **not** considered appropriate Church attire. Parents, **please** discourage the wearing of bracelets, necklaces, and other accessories when the Children's Choir sings. It encourages unnecessary fidgeting and creates distractions.

## **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

Parents are a vital part of the Children's Choir program. You are welcome to observe rehearsals but are asked to be seated in the church and not be a visible distraction to the choir. If your child is attending Faith Formation class after choir practice, they will be escorted to their classroom building at the end of rehearsal.

## **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR:**

The Children's Choir program is under the direction of Mr. Edward Persin. Mr. Persin has served as Director of Music and Organist/Pianist at St. John the Evangelist Church since 2021. He began his career in Catholic Music Ministry in 1983 at the age of ten serving as Organist and Pianist at Catholic parishes in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He has continued to serve in Catholic Music Ministry for the past forty-two years, including St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Coral Springs, Florida for eighteen years. Before coming to St. John the Evangelist, he served as Diocesan Director of Music for the Diocese of Palm Beach, and Director of Music for the Cathedral of St. Ignatius in Palm Beach Gardens. Mr. Persin is also a piano instructor to many students from St. John the Evangelist as well as students throughout Southeast and Southwest Florida virtually through FaceTime and Zoom where his students range in age from 5 to 75.

## **AND FINALLY...**

Your child's role in our parish music ministry does not require them to have a strong background in music. A love of music, the desire to praise the Lord in song, and a **commitment** from you and your child are the key elements to a fruitful ministry. Thank you for your decision in becoming part of our parish Music Ministry.