

Children's Choir Policies and Information 2026-2027

Dear Parent of a Chorister,

Laura Holderman is returning to serve as the director of the Liturgy Choir. Unfortunately, Alex Murphy will not be returning as school accompanist. We are currently searching for a new accompanist to play for school masses and to help run the rehearsals.

Our Liturgy Choir will be the resident choir for all school Liturgies. Students enrolled in the Liturgy Choir in 4th-8th grades are eligible to be cantor/psalmists at these Liturgies.

Continuing the strategic plan for the entire Music Ministry, our children's choirs will sing on various weekend Masses throughout the school year. This is in an effort to share our gifts and labors with a greater portion of our congregation.

Rebecca Harding is the director of Little Light Choir. Students in Kindergarten through 2nd grade will be focussing on learning the fundamentals of singing in a choir, music and leadership in Liturgy. In addition to various weekend Liturgies, they will sing at two morning school masses scheduled throughout the school year.

We understand travel and family commitments may prevent your chorister from participating in some scheduled Liturgies. Please let us know in advance if your chorister cannot attend so we can prepare accordingly.

Thank you for your support and involvement in this ministry.

Rebecca Harding
Director of Music Ministries
(615) 550-5108
rharding@stmatthewtn.org

Laura Holderman
Liturgy Choir Director
(931) 223-7957
lholderman@stmatthewtn.org

Rehearsal Information

School Dismissal: Choristers will go directly from their classrooms to rehearsal. Parents do not need to be present at this time. Please arrive promptly to pick up your chorister at the end of rehearsal.

School students who are in the Little Light Choir will meet Mrs. Harding at the bathrooms by the library at dismissal time. Children who are not students will meet Mrs. Harding in the narthex of the church.

Pickup: The pickup point for **Liturgy Choir** is the front doors of the school. Parents should park in the lot and wait for the students to walk to the car. This will ensure the safety of all our choristers. Please do not drive up to the steps or stop in the driveway. Choristers will NOT be allowed to enter a vehicle at this point. The pickup point for the **Little Light Choir** will be the church portico.

Extended Care: Choristers that participate in Extended Care will remain with the director until all riders have been picked up. They will then be escorted to and signed in at Extended Care.

Weather: Typically we follow the Saint Matthew School schedule. If school is canceled or dismissed early, there will be no rehearsal that day. You can always check out our webpage at

[Saint Matthew Church Music Ministry](#)

Attendance

Parents are asked to call or email their chorister's director when their child needs to miss a rehearsal or Liturgy. An aspect of children's choir is to foster liturgical leadership abilities in our choristers, and we function as a corporate body. Therefore, we ask if your child cannot participate in a Liturgy, you provide notice

as far in advance as possible. Failure to communicate about missing Liturgy is detrimental to the success of the group and can be grounds for dismissal from the ensemble.

Liturgy Choir Cantors

To be eligible to be a Liturgy Choir Cantor, choristers need to be enrolled in Liturgy Choir, be in grades 4-8, and attend Liturgy Choir rehearsals. Call time for all cantors (**whether they are scheduled or not**) at school Liturgies is 7:35 a.m. Any scheduled cantor who has not arrived by 7:45 may be swapped out with a cantor that is present. The cantor who was scheduled and replaced may receive alternate opportunities in the future.

Rehearsal Time Conflicts with other Extra-Curricular Clubs

There are many great opportunities offered both by Saint Matthew School and other worthy organizations. Please thoughtfully consider what other activities may be scheduled during Choir rehearsal times. This is especially important for Cantors and Psalmists. All Cantors and Psalmists must attend both the Liturgy Choir practices AND the Cantor practices. If you find your chorister has a conflict with the Tuesday rehearsal times, consider stepping away from leadership for a time and rejoining when able to participate again.

Children's Choir Schedules

Little Light Choir (K, 1st & 2nd)
Thursdays 3:00-3:45 p.m.

Liturgy Choir (3rd-8th)
Tuesdays 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Liturgy Choir Cantors/Psalmists (4th-8th)
(must be part of Liturgy Choir)
Tuesdays 4:00-4:30 p.m.