

Psalms

This week I'd like to talk to you about psalms. The psalm is the piece of music that is sung immediately after the first reading. Psalms is the book in the Bible in which composers specifically developed sacred music to praise God. As you read a psalm you can almost hear a melodic phrasing and encourages the faithful to sing and join their hearts to God's. Did you know that there are 150 psalms in the Bible? According to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the greatest number of psalms are usually of lament. Lament is defined as, "...to mourn or express great sorrow." However, most of the psalms that speak of lamenting end on notes of understanding, grace, and acceptance of the will of God. Depending on the preference of the church, the psalm can be sung from the main ambo or lectern, which is to the right of the pastor chair or left of the altar, if you are looking at the altar from the congregation's view. From here, this is where the readings are read and the psalm is exclaimed. At our church, we sing the psalm from the ambo next to the piano, but the same concept remains – we must exclaim the good news and sing God's words with our lips.

We are in our 3rd week of rehearsals for the St. Colette adult choir. There is still time to sign up and join us for all the celebratory masses coming up. If you're interested, please reach out to me at stcolettemusic@comcast.net No experience is necessary. Additionally, if you're interested in becoming a psalmist or joining our cantor ministry, please let me know that as well. Training will be provided!

God Bless,

Michael Myers