

Director of Music Ministry

The Parishes of Sts. Peter and Paul and Immaculate Conception

The Parishes

The parishes of Sts. Peter and Paul and Immaculate Conception are located in Austin County, TX., approximately mid-way between Houston and Austin, and are part of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. Austin County is a rural county, blessed with verdant rolling hills and a profusion of wildflowers in the spring.

Sts. Peter and Paul (400+ families) is situated in Bellville, the county seat (pop. 4,100). The first masses were celebrated in Bellville in the 1860s and the parish was formally established in 1905. The current church was built in 1968, renovated and expanded in 2010. Immaculate Conception (200 families) is situated in Industry, 15 miles west of Bellville (pop. 275). Industry was the first permanent German settlement in Texas in 1831. The current church was built in the 1970's and renovated in 2022.

The main parish offices for both parishes are located in Bellville with limited office facilities in Industry. There is currently one Sunday mass at Immaculate Conception and another at Sts. Peter and Paul. There is a Saturday vigil mass at Sts. Peter and Paul.

A Vision of this Ministry

The Director of Music Ministry is a professional who holds specialized credentials in music and who has a thorough understanding of Roman Catholic liturgy. This person of faith is responsible for the effective planning, coordination, and execution of music within the liturgical celebrations of the parish. He or she is gifted with a vision of how a local Church can develop its potential.

“Music should assist the assembled believers to express and share the gift of faith that is within them, and strengthen their interior commitment of faith” (*Music in Catholic Worship*, #23).

Responsibilities and Tasks

Ministry of Administration

The Director of Music Ministry:

- 1) Collaborates with the Pastor, under his supervision, and with other members of the parish staff, integrating his or her own area of responsibility with the overall parish endeavor.
- 2) Directs the parish music program, selects and plans music in cooperation with the liturgy teams for use in parish liturgies.
- 3) Provides leadership in areas related to liturgical music, e.g., selects and develops participation aids for the congregation, selects and maintains musical instruments, coordinates services and schedules of parish musicians, assures copyright permission, etc.
- 4) Prepares and manages the budget for the parish music program in collaboration with the Pastor and the Finance Council.
- 5) Collaborates with other staff members, e.g., DRE, Youth Minister, etc., to coordinate and ensure appropriate music for all parish sacramental celebrations, and provides them with consultation and needed assistance.

Ministry of Worship

The Director of Music Ministry:

- 1) Provides music and musicians for all Sunday and other major celebrations, including weddings, funerals, etc.
- 2) Builds repertoire and encourages participation of parish community in singing at various liturgies.
- 3) Acts as consultant to parishioners for planning sacramental liturgies, e.g., weddings, funerals, baptisms, etc.

Ministry of Education

The Director of Music Ministry:

- 1) Invites, motivates, and trains all parish ministers of music (whether volunteer, stipended, or salaried).
- 2) Provides liturgical formation, music education, and practical preparation for liturgical celebration for cantors/leaders of song, choral, and instrumental groups.
- 3) Serves as a resource consultant for parish concerns regarding music, helping to educate staff, ministers of music, and congregation in developing their potentials to understand the role of music in worship and to celebrate liturgies of musical quality.
- 4) Keeps abreast of current developments in liturgy and in music, and directs music ministers to available training workshops, and formational opportunities.

Ministry of Pastoral Services

The Director of Music Ministry:

- 1) Is visibly present at principal parish events, keeping attuned to the living faith and real concerns of parishioners.
- 2) Assists in recruiting needed musicians, and attempts to involve newcomers and a broad spectrum of parishioners.
- 3) Works to foster unity among all parish musicians, and to create a spirit of harmony with the presider and other liturgical ministers.
- 4) Promotes good public relations both within and beyond the parish, and is involved in ecumenical, cluster, Deanery, and Archdiocesan networks of professional peers.

Qualities, Competencies, and Skills

Effective functioning of this ministry requires that the Director of Music Ministry be a person of prayer, be sensitive to the cultural experience of parishioners, and understand their spirituality and worship life.

The Director of Music Ministry: s knowledgeable of and comfortable with Church music literature in all forms and styles for the congregation, choirs, vocalists, and instrumentalists.

- 1) Is proficient in liturgical principles.
- 2) Has a thorough understanding of the musical, liturgical, and pastoral judgments which must be made in selecting music for liturgy.
- 3) Is proficient in at least one performance area (e.g., keyboard, choral, voice).

Preparation for this ministry demands professional training in music and liturgy. Minimally, a Bachelor's Degree or equivalent professional experience is required.

Preference will given to bilingual (English/Spanish) candidates with piano and/or organ skills.

This is a full-time position with commensurate salary and benefits. Consideration can be given to reduced or flexible hours. Please send a resume to musicsearch@stspic.org or call 979-865-2368 for more information.