

Career Opportunity Director of Music Ministry

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church
Lake Ozark, Missouri
Diocese of Jefferson City

Our Lady of the Lake is a Roman Catholic Parish located in central Missouri at the beautiful Lake of the Ozarks. In the 75 years since our founding, our community has grown from a chapel of ease for those on vacation to a vibrant parish of 550 families who gather in worship along with the thousands who visit "The Lake" each year.

Our parish envisions a place where all Catholics and others of good will who live at the Lake or visit may find a welcome in the midst of our community as brothers and sisters in the Lord. We envision our worship as the greatest encounter with the Living God we can experience and by it God makes us His people. The parish leadership considers the director of music ministry as essential in guiding the community into full, active, and conscious participation in the mystery of our redemption in our worship and in our daily life.

Why We Need You

The seasonal fluctuations in mass attendance offer a unique opportunity and challenge in providing for a Sunday worship worthy of the Lord. Our parish is relatively small, and yet must provide ministers for masses with up to 1000 people in attendance. While there are generous volunteers who are faithful ministers of the Word, the Eucharist and of liturgical music, we recognize that the needs of the community and their expectation of excellence require paid staff persons to maximize our potential. The pastor is full time at Our Lady of the Lake, with no other parishes or missions to manage. We have a full time director of religious education and a half time director of youth ministry, along with other staff positions.

Until the past three years, the parish has employed a full-time director of music. Change of pastoral leadership and the need to upgrade the sound system and organ in our church had put on hold the process to hire a new director of music. Many capable musicians, both parishioners and non-parishioners, have stepped up to ensure that there is a pianist or organist at every weekend liturgy. A small choir has faithfully led the singing at the 10:00 AM Sunday mass, and we often have cantors at the other masses.

Many studies have shown that parishes which strive for excellence in liturgical song and music experience positive growth and become centers of evangelization. The bar is set high in our parish since as we evaluate our own worship, we must compare ourselves not only to neighboring Catholic and Christian congregations; we must meet and exceed the expectations of Catholics who come from parishes all over the Midwest and beyond, many much larger than ours.

This role is written for someone with a four-year degree and several years of experience in parish liturgical music. If you are great in what you do and excited about the prospect of reaching out to thousands each week to lead them in praise and right worship, we want to talk to you—whether you are just beginning a career or a veteran of decades.

Here's what you will be doing

- First of all performing any task that assists our congregation in full, active and conscious participation in the sacramental life of the church—which will include stretching your musical gifts and affirming and growing the gifts of others.
- Collaborating with the pastor, the religious education director, the youth minister and the worship commission along with the volunteers and contracted musicians in inviting all the grace of the Church's liturgical calendar into our worship and daily lives.
- Making the rich tradition of Catholic music, both ancient and contemporary, become the heart and soul of our congregation's spirituality.
- Leading the community in adopting the best practices for great worship that the Catholic Church in the U.S., the Diocese of Jefferson City and pastoral leadership have recognized as essential to excellence.
- Engaging the youth with programs of musical development and service so that their gifts and talents find a home among us and enrich God's people, especially in collaboration with the parish school of religion.
- Providing rock solid accompaniment for the cantors, choir, and congregation on the organ or piano or other suitable instruments in the liturgical and prayer life of the parish.
- Taking advantage of the extraordinary talent in the community around us as an opportunity to foster mutual enrichment in regards to God's precious gift of music

You need these qualifications

- You demonstrate mastery of the organ and piano especially as an accompanist, with the ability to regularly inspire our worship with solo playing.
- You are wise and experienced in leading choral and ensemble musicians in liturgical music.
- You are a Roman Catholic whose faith and moral life can be an inspiration to others in their journey to holiness.
- You are passionate about building up a community in which every member actively participates in liturgical music, making St. Augustine's dictum, "the one who sings prays twice" become a reality.
- You are thoughtful and creative in gathering the personnel and material resources necessary for excellent liturgy.
- You have the communication skills necessary to work with others, both professional staff and the lay faithful, so that our worship takes place with confident joy.
- You have a heart and mind open to the varied ways that God has inspired musicians and the people in praising God in song and on instruments.
- You deeply respect and put into practice Catholic teaching in regard to how music and song are essential components of the liturgy and the celebration of all the sacraments.

It would be a big plus if...

- You are well-versed in music theory and composition.
- You are proficient in using desk top publishing programs and music engraving software
- You have proficiency in instruments other than keyboard instruments.
- You have been a student of voice, comfortable in solo and ensemble singing.
- You are a member of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians.
- You have a solid foundation in the study of the Scriptures, Catholic theology, the liturgy and the sacraments.
- You can assist our growing Hispanic community in worship with the rich heritage of Spanish liturgical music.

What we can give you...

- A salary commensurate with your education and abilities and in keeping with prevailing wages for music directors and educators in the Midwest (\$55-65,000)
- Health care and retirement benefits as an employee in the Diocese of Jefferson City, Missouri.
- A community with a vibrant and growing economy.
- An excellent school district for a family with children.
- An incomparable location in the beautiful Missouri Ozarks.
- A real estate market that can fit any budget.
- A new Allen Bravura L-332 draw knob package digital organ.
- A newly installed sound system designed to accommodate future growth.
- A congregation of hundreds eager to make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

Email your resumé to marmak3261@att.net and don't forget to include an informative cover letter that gives us insights into your special gifts and talents. Especially helpful will be recordings of your work as a musician. To catch a glimpse of our parish life, visit **Our Lady of the Lake, Lake Ozark Missouri** on Facebook.

Precis

Our Lady of the Lake is a Roman Catholic Parish located in central Missouri at the beautiful Lake of the Ozarks. Our community has grown from a chapel of ease for those on vacation to a vibrant parish of 550 families who gather in worship along with the thousands who visit "The Lake" each year. We are growing and we need a leader for our liturgical music.

The director of music ministry's primary work is to lead our community's efforts to get the people to sing, empower the musicians to lead, unite the assembly through song, and welcome the gifts of parishioners of every age. Full Job Description