

A Note from OLL's Music Director: New Mass Setting

Since coming to Our Lady of the Lake around a year ago, one request I have often heard from parishioners is a different Mass setting. After months of researching different options and praying over them, I am happy to say that we have selected a new setting: the *Heritage Mass* by Owen Alstott, which can be found starting at #225 in our *JourneySongs* hymnals. This uplifting, contemporary setting will provide a nice contrast to the more traditional, chant-based setting we are currently using. The chant setting will return at certain times of the liturgical year, especially during solemn seasons like Advent and Lent. Between these two settings, I believe that we will have fitting music for the entire liturgical year.

I want to make sure that all parishioners have a chance to familiarize themselves with the new Mass setting *before* we start using it the **first weekend of October** (Oct. 6-7). There are three different opportunities for everyone in the parish to become acquainted with the Heritage Mass:

- 1) **During August**, the time reserved for choir rehearsals will instead be open to the whole parish to learn the new Mass setting. This will be a no-pressure environment as even the choir will be learning the setting for the first time! These rehearsals will take place August 8, 15, and 22 from 7:00 – 8:00 PM in St. Ignatius Hall.
- 2) **During September**, the cantors and I will be introducing the different section of the new setting in the ten minutes before Mass starts. This will take place the weekends of Sept. 9, 16, 23, and 30 before each Mass.
- 3) The Mass setting can be found on YouTube for your own listening and practice. I have created a playlist with all of the sections we will be using. The link to that playlist is included in this email. Note that the Kyrie (“Lord Have Mercy”) is not included in the playlist; this is because we will be retaining the current Kyrie.

Hopefully, you are able to take advantage of at least one of these three opportunities. I want to make sure that every parishioner has at least some familiarity with this new setting, so that no one is totally caught off guard by the change. I understand that switching to a new Mass setting can be one of the biggest changes to the liturgy. Please know that I am here to listen to your thoughts. Don't hesitate to reach out to me!

God bless you!

Louie H.

