

Dear Middle School Choir Parent,

Welcome to Middle School Choir! Your child joined Middle School Choir today. We rehearse **every Friday (that there is a full day of school) from 3:00 – 4:15 p.m.** Additionally, we have mini-camp scheduled on October 26 from 11:15 – 3:00 p.m. The choir will sing at 1 – 3 school masses each month, Sunday mass on 10/7, the Christmas Eve 6:00 p.m. mass, 2 masses Hopes & Dreams Weekend (2/3) and the Graduation Mass. We also sing at the Living Nativity (12/16), Christmas Program (12/18), the Tri-Arts Concert (3/14), 1<sup>st</sup> Communion (5/18) and at various community events (including on WLBY radio in December, and a stations of the cross during lent. A complete calendar of our events can be found at:

[stfrancisaa.org\\_3dpjkb65k9876h28ul0annmfs@group.calendar.google.com](http://stfrancisaa.org_3dpjkb65k9876h28ul0annmfs@group.calendar.google.com)

or at

<http://stfrancisschoolfinearts.weebly.com/>

Please take a look at this Google Calendar and add the dates to your family calendar. I know it seems like a long way away but the dates in June are important and can be put on your calendar now.

Each student was given a binder to hold his/her music. It is a **black 1" view binder**. Your student is responsible for this binder. If it is damaged during the year it will be his/her responsibility to replace it. A note will come home if this occurs.

A **Choir Contract** was passed out to all choir members. This needs to be signed and returned by Friday, Sept.15th. Attached to this form is an application to become a choir officer. If your child is interested in holding a choir office, this form needs to be filled out and returned by Sept.14<sup>th</sup>.

I will be placing a **Choir T-shirt** order in late September. All choir members need a Choir T-shirt. We wear them under our robes and when we are rehearsing in the community. The choir t-shirt forms need to be returned by Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>.

Working with a group this large has it challenges and will require help from our parents. On Friday, August 31<sup>st</sup> there is a parent meeting in the church immediately following rehearsal (at 4:15) where we will discuss several of these needs. Some of these follow:

**Robes:** 2-4 parents who can help the kids get into and put away their robes on Sundays or special events. These parents will also help with fitting the students in robes at the beginning of the year.

**All parents:** Prior to rehearsals, the Middle School Choir has a snack/social time in the gathering space. This occurs from 3:00 – 3:15 on Fridays before choir rehearsal. Choir parents host these parties by setting up, cleaning up, and providing food and drink. Every family will be given a date to be the host. If the date you are given does not work for you please trade with someone else on the list. Also, if your work schedule is such that you are unable to host a snack, please consider coordinating with another parent by providing the money for the food and drink while they contribute the time. Some ideas for food from last year include pizza and pop, cider and donuts, fruit and cheese, and even ice cream. The food and drinks are up to you but please remember our allergy guidelines. We do have members with peanut/nut allergies so **no nuts please!** We have around 75 choir members and it is best to begin setting up around 2:45 p.m. We began this practice 18 years ago and found it really gave the kids added encouragement. The kids are pretty hungry at that time of day anyway. Please plan to stay (or find a parent who will stay for you) to distribute the snacks and clean-up (this may include vacuuming.) **Sign-up on Sign-up Genius:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/tabs/83c74d904a6c9e59-fine>

**Monitors:** 1-2 parents. For the safety of our singers we need one parent to remain during rehearsal to monitor the gathering space so that choir members may use the bathrooms. This is a public area and an adult needs to be present when our children are using the space. **Again, please sign-up on Sign-up Genius:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/tabs/83c74d904a6c9e59-fine>

We are always in need of parents to help with serving our hot lunches and you can grow your fine arts account (which you can then use pay for choir trips, fine arts camps, instruments, lessons and other fine arts expenses. You can sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/tabs/83c74d904a6c9e59-fine>

Additionally this year we are looking for a new pasta lunch coordinator. Please let me know directly if you are interested in this position.

As always, thank you for your support!

Mrs. Opaleski  
734-821-2294

lopaleski@stfrancisaa.org