



# The Principles of Selecting Music for the Sunday Eucharist



## Part III – Common Repertoire

The establishment of a common repertoire of liturgical music within a parish community, and indeed, within a diocese is most desirable. Full, conscious and active participation of all the faithful in liturgical celebrations is fostered when all members of the assembly, including visitors and strangers, are able to sing familiar music. With the mobility of people in our society and their varied schedules, it is helpful to sing common settings of acclamations and familiar hymns.

The development of common repertoire is not easy:

- It may take a considerable amount of time for a community to learn a set of acclamations or some familiar hymns for each Liturgical Season.
- At times, musicians may have to forego their desire to learn new music in order to help the assembly become familiar with some common pieces.
- In communities which celebrate several Masses on Sunday, musicians who serve at different celebrations and who may prefer particular styles of music will have to work together to determine what common repertoire they develop.

The benefits of developing common repertoire will become evident especially when the community gathers for liturgies when many visitors are present (e.g., celebrations of Baptism, Confirmation, First Communion, Weddings and Funerals), for common celebrations such as the liturgies of the Paschal Triduum; and for diocesan celebrations of the Rite of Election and the Chrism Mass.

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