

Sacred Music
2019 Cardinals' Forum
Talking points

Integral to the Sung Mass

- 1stly called to Sing the Mass
 - Prescribed Prayers - Mass Propers and Ordinary
 - Psalms, Sacred Scripture and Writings of the Saints

True purpose of Sacred Music

- Glorification of God
- Sanctification/Edification of Faithful

3 Necessary Qualities of Sacred Music

- Holiness
- True Art/Goodness of Form
- Universality

Not new ideas – written on profusely, yet one of the least catechized elements

Even to this day – tend to think Sacred music is an opinion, tack on, sing something, anything

Watering down of faith/music/liturgy has directly impacted the emptying of pews

- Fix/Try to please the people with creativity (creativity of moral relativism)
- Firstly, change the prayers themselves – throw them out, use rarely
- Replacing prescribed prayers with secular, sometimes questionable texts and popular melodies
- Downgrade the music itself - Rolling chords, beat-driven, upbeat, happy-clappy entertainment

Changes mentality of PRAYER/SUPPLICATION/SACRIFICE to Celebration of self, personal tastes, entertain

Choirs have little purpose, role of cantor becomes operatic soloist, should be elevated role

Future

- Obedience – Mostly Sung Psalms and Scripture
- Respect of tradition (big and small t)
- Respect of true art over “novelty of entertainment/new”
- Sing real art – respected and skilled Composers
- Not just sing at Mass, but Sing the Mass