

Training in music has been proven to increase performance in scholastics, and participation in team building activities creates a well-rounded individual.

Our music program uses graded materials which provide children with progressive multi-level lessons and opportunities to achieve awards of excellence.

Our vision is that participation in the Children's Choir will lead to singing in the Teen Choir, with continued development into a responsible person and fine Adult Singer - all the while increasing their knowledge about the Mass, their role in the liturgy, thereby achieving a greater understanding of their faith and spirituality.

Under the gentle guidance and expertise of Ewa Fair your child will receive a first-rate musical education and continued spiritual foundation.



Ewa Fair is passionate about music and leading children singers to better themselves and learn new skills. She received her music training at the Krakow Music Conservatory where she earned her master's degree in vocal performance. Previously, Mrs. Fair has led children's choirs at The Lira Ensemble and St. Thecla church, among others. At St. John Brebeuf, Mrs. Fair will help choristers to better their singing and listening skills, their music reading skills, and to enjoy camaraderie and teamwork in rehearsals as we prepare for Mass. Choir members will find that these improved music skills are transferrable to any genre of music. We work on proper breathing, singing on pitch, and good ensemble singing. We have fun! Mrs. Fair often appears in singing roles in opera and oratorio and has a private teaching studio in the Norwood Park area of Chicago where she lives with her husband, son and one cat.

SJB Music Ministry invites

the children of the parish to join the 2019-20

Children's Choir

Open enrollment with no audition!

FIRST REHEARSAL SJB Grades 3-4

2:00 PM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

FIRST REHEARSAL All Students Grades 5-8

Including All Parish Children and RE Students:

5:00 PM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

All Rehearsals

➔ TUESDAYS 2:00 to 3:00 pm for SJB Grades 3-4 in school

➔ TUESDAY 5:00 to 6:00 pm for All Students Grades 5-8

Including All Parish Children and RE Students

in Church Music Rehearsal Room



Rehearsals prepare us for

➔ Singing at Family Mass
(see schedule) Sept-May

Our Warm-up for Mass is in the

➔ Church Music Rehearsal Room
at the East Parking Lot Entrance

Call or Text SJB Children's Choir Director Ewa Fair at (773) 551-0284 for more information!

SJB Music Ministry • Director of Music: Marek Rachelski

Adult Chorale • Niles Metropolitan Chorus • Cantate Deo Women's Ensemble

LifeTeen Choir • Children's Choir • Cantor Ministr

Become a Member of St. John Brebeuf Children's Choir!

Dear Parents,

Please review this letter carefully as information has changed from previous years.

General Information: Music has always played an important role in the liturgical life of *St. John Brebeuf Church*. The development of our Laudate Choir (grades 5-8) and Gloria Choir (grades 3-4) are a part of the history of this parish's commitment to fine sacred music. We are an affiliate of the American Federation Pueri Cantores, the official student choral organization in the Roman Catholic Church which seeks to build up the Church by promoting for high standards in sacred music. The Laudate choral experience encourages growth in vocal technique, an introduction to music theory and sight reading, provides a continuing catechetical foundation and fosters an appreciation for the Church's rituals and traditions. The choir will focus on learning a repertoire of music from the immense treasury of sacred music which belongs to the Catholic Church.

Chorister Fee: (\$75 - annual fee) Please make your check payable to *St. John Brebeuf Church*. The fee helps support the parish music program and covers the costs of choral music binders, new choral music, some treats and the end of the year party.

Parental Permission Form: A signed parental permission form, signed by both parents and the chorister, must be received by Ms. Fair for your children to participate in the choir's activities.

SPECIAL NOTE: A Parent Volunteer is required at each rehearsal *as part of the Archdiocesan Protecting God's Children Program*. Please sign up for this rotation so that we have enough parents to cover each rehearsal time. This is a very important role for you to fill as we keep our children safe and secure.

EXPECTATIONS

Attendance: Attendance at all rehearsals and liturgies *is expected*. If any choir member will be absent or tardy, a parent should inform Ms. Fair via email (halka7@yahoo.com) or telephone call (773-551-0284) prior to the expected absence. It is understood that young people have very full schedules and it is nearly impossible to expect 100% attendance. A choir, however, functions just like a sports team and rehearsal time is critical to realize the full potential of the ensemble. Additionally, the experience of singing in the liturgy is as formative and valuable as are the weeks of rehearsal. Attendance is essential for the choir to be at its best and guarantees that the choristers will grow their skills. Our efforts are entirely directed toward singing for Mass. Frequent absences will be reviewed by Ms. Fair.

Tuesdays 2:00 PM: At the Tuesday rehearsal between 2:00 and 2:10 the children will have a supervised break in the rehearsal room. Eating snacks and a bathroom break should take place then. Please prepare a snack for your child.

Tuesdays 3:00 PM - at the end of rehearsal: choristers who will be picked up by their parents should be met by them at the gym school door. No chorister will be allowed to exit the building without

adult supervision. Those remaining for Extended Day Program will be led there by an adult. In the case of inclement weather, we will cancel rehearsal if SJB school has cancelled school for the day.

Tuesdays 5:00 PM: Drop your children at the East door of the Church to enter the building, turn right and enter the Music Rehearsal Room.

Tuesdays 6:00 PM - at the end of rehearsal: Pick up your children at the same east door of the Church. Instruct your children to wait indoors in the vestibule until they are certain that you are in the parking lot. In the case of inclement weather, we will cancel rehearsal if SJB school has cancelled school for the day.

Children's Choir is open to all students in grades 3-8.

All rehearsals are held in School Room 22/24 beginning

2:00 – 3:00 PM TUESDAY, Sept. 3 for SJB Students Grades 3-4

5:00 – 6:00 PM TUESDAY, Sept. 3 for all Parish Students Grades 5-8 including Religious Education Students

The SJB Children's Choir has a **9:55 AM CALL time** in the Church Music Rehearsal Room for the **10:45 Mass** (8:00 AM CALL time for the 9:00 Mass) and sings at the **Family Mass** (*see schedule*), Christmas Eve 3:00 PM Family Mass, the *Pueri Cantores* Choral Festival in February, and First Communion Masses in May.

Dress Code for Mass: (Boys) Collared shirt and dress pants with dark dress shoes. (Girls) Appropriate dress or blouse with a modest neckline and skirt (at the knee or below) combination with dress shoe. No sneakers, sandals, high heels or flip-flops, please.

Questions?

Call or text Ms. Ewa Fair (773) 551-0284 or eMail: halka7@yahoo.com

Please complete, sign and return the attached consent form with the \$75 annual membership fee to the Parish Ministry Center Office or the SJB School Main Office.

SJB CHILDREN'S CHOIR

2019-20

Consent and Information Form

Please fill out and return with \$75 (checks made to SJB) to the Parish Ministry Center (PMC)
or the SJB School Main Office by **Tuesday, September 3**

Student Information: Please print clearly ☺

Student's Name: _____ Preferred nickname: _____

Grade: _____ Birthday: _____ Allergies: _____

Does student have prior singing experience? No _____ Yes _____ How long? _____

If "yes" please briefly describe: _____

Does student play an instrument? No _____ Yes (please list instrument) _____

Name of school your child attends: _____

Parent Contact Information:

Mother's Name: _____ Mother's Cell Phone: _____

Mother's eMail: _____

Father's Name: _____ Father's Cell Phone: _____

Father's eMail: _____

House Address: _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

_____ I would like to be part of the Parent Volunteer Group and be present for rehearsals and warm-ups.

Indicate form of payment for the \$75 annual membership fee: Check _____ Cash _____

Turn in the fee with this Consent form. **Checks written to: St. John Brebeuf**

Consent:

I/We, _____ give my permission for my child,

_____ to join the SJB Children's Choir for the 2019-20 school year. I understand that to ensure a positive and musically rewarding experience for all, my child will:

* Be prompt for all rehearsals and calls/warm-ups for Family Masses.

*Dress in proper dress code for Family Masses.

If my child is unable to attend a rehearsal, Family Mass, or any other SJB Children's Choir event, I will notify Mrs. Fair (text/email) in advance.

Signed: Parent 1 _____

Date: _____

Signed: Parent 2 _____

Date: _____

Signed: Chorister _____

Date: _____

SAINT JOHN BREBEUF CATHOLIC CHURCH • NILES, ILLINOIS

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE: CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Please place this information into your calendar now!

REHEARSALS begin on **Tuesday, September 3** from **2:00 – 3:00 PM**

for SJB School Students Grades 3-4

Tuesday, September 3 from **5:00 – 6:00 PM**

for All Parish Children including SJB Religious Education Students Grades 5-8

In addition to every 8:30 AM Thursday School Masses, **ALL children (including RE Students) sing at Family Mass.**
All call times (for warm-up rehearsals) before Family Mass are in the church Music Rehearsal Room at the east door.

2019

Sunday, September 15	10:45 AM (9:55 AM Call)	(24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
A MANDATORY PARENT MEETING FOLLOWS IN CHURCH 11:45 AM - 12:05		
Sunday, October 27	10:45 AM (9:55 AM Call)	(30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Sunday, November 17	10:45 AM (9:55 AM Call)	(33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Tuesday, December 3	6:30 - 7:15 PM (5:00 PM Call)	Dress Rehearsal Attendance MANDATORY
Thursday, December 5	7:00 PM (6:00 PM Call)	7 th Annual D-I-Y Handel's Messiah
Children open the Concert with <i>A Little Jazz Mass</i> by Bob Chilcott		
Sunday, December 24	3:00 PM (2:00 PM Call)	CONCERT Attendance MANDATORY (Christmas Eve)

2020

Sunday, January 26	9:00 AM (8:00 AM Call)	School Open House
Sunday, February 9	10:45 AM (9:55 AM Call)	with Scouts (5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Saturday, February 29	Pueri Cantores Festival at St. Vincent DePaul Church (1 st Sunday of Lent) (11:00 AM – 6:15 PM) Mass at 5:00 PM	Attendance MANDATORY
Sunday, March 15	10:45 AM (9:55 AM Call)	(3 rd Sunday of Lent)
Sunday, April 26	10:45 AM (9:55 AM Call)	with Scouts (3 rd Sunday of Easter)
Saturday, May 9	10:30 AM (9:30 AM Call)	First Communion Masses
Sunday, May 17	10:45 AM (9:55 AM Call)	Ice Cream Party (6 th Sunday of Easter)
Wednesday, May 27	7:00 PM (6:00 PM Call)	Graduation

There will be no TUESDAY rehearsals on the following dates: Nov. 26, Dec. 31, Apr. 7, Apr. 14

Last School Choir Rehearsal is TUESDAY, June 2