

Music in Catholic Worship at Our Lady of the Lake Parish



Let my soul be stirred
Let my morning be brighter
or my evening complete.
Let my body move and respond
to rhythm and melody;
wasn't that a beautiful melody?
Let me quietly thank God
for the beautiful singer I hear,
for the violin and flute that many times amaze me,
and also for the big brass excitement
and the harmonies that shake the heavens
when the choir sings.
My toe is tapping with the conga player,
Is that rejoicing I experience
in the combination of sounds
that make up that song?



Piano, fingers moving on a keyboard.
Why does it affect me so?
Add the organ, guitar and the voices, ah the voices!
I sing out from the pew.
I want to join this assembly of sound
in praise of God,
the assembly of sound,
so many of us singing together,
in community, in prayer,
with or without inhibition.
Was I ever told not to sing?
Banish that thought! Who will deny me this chance
to express my love for God?
I am part of the great assembly of sound!



Let me sit a little closer to the music making
Let me sit with the music makers
Let me be a music maker
to praise you O Lord,
to do something creative, for the sake of creativity.
When I sing, I create.
When I sing, I join,
when I sing I express,
when I sing, I feel good,
I feel better.
I believe I am in your holy Presence.



Music for worship, yes
but music can be just for the sake of music.

Music to separate all the spoken word,
to infuse God's word,
to blend rhythm, melody, harmony
and many timbres of instruments
so that I will dwell on
bigger truths and deeper meanings,
and maybe be surprised to find out that someone else also
feels and thinks and wants and struggles as I do.

Music is for God, yes
but God gave music to me
and to you,
to us all.

Why?

Because music: hearing music,
turning my awareness to the sound,
or making music, creating the sound,
singing and playing music,
immersing myself in music
is a connection
to the Divine,
and God so wants
us to be connected.



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