# Basic Cantor Certificate

The NPM Cantor Certificate Committee has developed a certificate process for Cantors to recognize the progression of acquired skills of Cantors serving Roman Catholic parishes.
The Basic Cantor Certificate is the first stage in the NPM Cantor Certificate program, recognizing the achievement of the *fundamental* skills expected of cantors.
All certificate levels presume an understanding of the spirituality of this important ministry.
NPM Certificates are available to NPM members only.

Application Date: _____

**NPM Basic Cantor Certificate (BCC) Application**

_____

Title (Mr., Ms., Rev., etc.) First Middle Last Suffix

_____

Name as you would like for it to appear on the completed certificate

_____

Mailing Address City State/Province Zip

_____

Preferred Phone, Home or Cell (include area code) Preferred e-mail address

_____

Parish/Organization Name

_____

Parish/Organization Mailing Address City State/Province Zip

**BCC Repertoire Choices**

Responsorial Psalm, List A: _____ Composer _____

Responsorial Psalm, List B: _____ Composer _____

*(Responsorial Psalm choices from List A and List B should <u>not</u> be the same Psalm number/text.)*

*Kyrie* Setting: _____

*Lamb of God* Setting: _____

## Payment:

☐ Member **$25** ☐ Non-member **$74** (Includes a one-year NPM Select-level membership)

☐ Check # _____ enclosed. Make payable to **NPM** in US Dollars.

☐ I authorize NPM to charge my Credit Card.

Credit Card Number Expiration Date

Name on Card (Please print clearly)

Cardholder Signature Date of Signature

Security Code (*3 digits located on back, or 4 digits on front for AMEX)* Billing Zip Code

# NPM Basic Cantor Certificate Requirements

## Test Process

The test for the Basic Cantor Certificate has two components (vocal and written). *Each* component must have a passing score of 70%.

1. Vocal Adjudication
   - Two responsorial psalms **from the approved list** (below)—one setting chosen from List A (Chant) and one chosen from List B (Melodic);
   - A setting of the *Kyrie*
   - A setting of the *Lamb of God*
   - Pitch Matching and Intervals - The candidate will be asked to sing three series of three pitches played on the piano.
2. Musical and Liturgical Knowledge: By written exam, the candidate will demonstrate familiarity with:
   - Basic musical notation
   - The *Order of Mass*
   - Multiple choice questions based on paragraphs 8-40 of *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship*
   - How a cantor is expected to prepare to proclaim the psalm.

See http://npm.org/cantor-certificate-programs/ for Study Guides and Scope and Sequence.

## Application Process

**Eligibility**

All members of NPM are eligible to apply for the NPM Basic Cantor Certificate. Non-members may apply for membership when applying for the certificate.

**Procedures**

1. Complete the application form and return it with a non-refundable $25 (members) or $64 (non-members) processing fee to NPM-BCC, P.O. Box 224121, Chantilly, VA 20153-4121.
2. Upon receipt of your application and payment of fee, you will be contacted by a member of the Cantor Certificate Committee who will provide further instructions.
3. All adjudications (live or recorded) and exams must be completed within one year of the date on which your application is received.

## Examination Repertoire List

**Responsorial Psalm—List A (Chant)**

Psalm 4: Lord, Let Your Face Shine On Us – Pishner [GIA, Cry Out With Joy (Year B)]
Psalm 23: El Señor Es Mi Pastor – Krisman [GIA, Oramos Cantando Hymnal]
Psalm 42/43: Like A Deer That Longs ***(Refrain 1)***- Bridge [OCP, 30131641, Breaking Bread, Journey, Unidos en Cristo, Choral Praise 3 & 4]
Psalm 51: Be Merciful, O Lord – Louis [GIA, Lectionary Psalms for Lead Me, Guide Me]
Psalm 85: Lord, Let Us See Your Kindness- Alstott [OCP, Respond & Acclaim]
Psalm 102/103: El Señor Es Compasivo- Schiavone [OCP, Responde y Aclama]
Psalm 115: Alzaré La Copa de la Salvación- Martinez [OCP, Responde & Aclama]

**[Publisher Codes]**
GIA—GIA Publications
OCP—Oregon Catholic Press

**Responsorial Psalm—List B (Melodic)**

Psalm 16: Protégeme, Dios Mío/Keep Me Safe – Alonso [GIA, Oramos Cantando Hymnal]
Psalm 22/23: El Señor Es Mi Pastor – Reza [OCP, 93691, Choral Praise 3, Unidos en Cristo]
Psalm 34: Taste and See ***(The psalm version)*** - Moore [GIA, Lectionary Psalms for Lead Me Guide Me]
Psalm 40: Here I Am, Lord ***(Refrain 1)*** – Cooney [OCP, 92367, Choral Praise 3, Gather 3(GIA)]
Psalm 41/42: Like A Deer/Como Busca La Cierva – Peña [OCP, 30106115, Flor y Canto 3, Unidos en Cristo]
Psalm 47: God Mounts his Throne – Inwood [OCP, 10287, Choral Praise 3 & 4, Unidos en Cristo, Breaking Bread, Journey]
Psalm 128: Blest Are Those/Dichosos Los Que Te Aman – Haugen [GIA, D-326110 (Eng.), Gather 3 & 4 (Eng.), Oramos Cantando Hymnal (Bilingual)

***Availability in a specific hymnal or missal is subject to change at the discretion of the publisher. Please consult the publishers' websites or contact them directly with questions regarding availability.**

**Mass Settings** (For *Kyrie* and *Lamb of God* selections)

BCC applicants may use a Mass setting of their choice, under these conditions:

- The Mass setting must conform to the text of the *Roman Missal*, third edition, or its Spanish equivalent
- The Mass setting must be published and easily accessible through a major publisher of liturgical music. Selections are subject to approval of the Certificate Administrator.

*Revised January 2022*