



National Association of Pastoral Musicians

Governing Policy (*Section 1*): Ends

Approved: 10/8/18

Revised: 8/4/20

1.0: Global Ends (Why Does NPM Exist)

The Catholic Church in the United States sings the praise of God through divinely inspired musical worship.

1.1: Skills and Knowledge for Leadership

Persons entrusted to lead the faithful in musical worship are equipped with the musical, liturgical and pastoral skills and knowledge necessary to provide excellent leadership in service to the Church. (see *Sing to the Lord* 48-51)

1.1.1: Roles in Ministry

Directors in Music Ministry and those responsible for choirs and ensembles, as well as clergy, vocalists, instrumentalists, and all involved in music ministry are well served by NPM programming.

1.1.2: Places of Ministry

NPM members serve the Church in parishes and cathedrals, schools, seminaries, religious houses, and other Catholic institutions.

1.1.3: Three Judgments

NPM members are musically proficient, knowledgeable of liturgical documents and tradition, and demonstrate pastoral judgment that is rooted in their baptismal call to discipleship. (see *Sing To the Lord* 50)

1.2: Liturgical Song

Liturgical song holds a preeminent place among the liturgical arts. (see *Sacramentum Caritatis* 42)

1.2.1: Active Participation Shown in Singing

"One cannot find anything more religious and more joyful in sacred celebrations than a whole congregation expressing its faith and devotion in song. Therefore, the active participation of the whole people, which is shown in singing, is to be carefully promoted." (*Musicam Sacram* 16)

1.3: Sunday Eucharist

The faithful encounter the mystery of the triune God through their participation in the Sacred Liturgy, most especially the sung celebration of the Sunday Eucharist.