

National Association of Pastoral Musicians

Governing Policy (Section 1): Ends

1.0: Global Ends

Approved: 10/8/18

Revised: 11/4/2019

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

1.1: Skills and Knowledge for Leadership

Approved 4/16/2020

Persons entrusted to lead the faithful in musical worship in dioceses of the United States 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

Approved 7/30/2020

Directors of 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

Approved 7/30/2020

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

1.1.3: Three Judgments

Approved 7/30/2020

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

1.2: Liturgical Song

Approved 4/16/2020

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

1.2.1: Active Participation Shown in Singing

Approved 7/30/2020

“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

Approved 4/16/2020

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.

1.3.1: Beauty as Evangelization

Approved 7/30/2020

“The Church evangelizes and is herself evangelized through the beauty of the liturgy, which is both a celebration of the task of evangelization and the source of her renewed self-giving.” (*Evangelii Gaudium* 24)

1.3.2: Diversity of Gifts

Approved 5/24/2021

“To be Catholic is to be universal. To be universal is not to be uniform. It does mean however that the gifts of individuals and of particular groups become the common heritage shared by all.” (*What We Have Seen and Heard*, 4) Those gifts, including songs, rhythms, instrumentation, and movements, form the fabric of Sunday celebrations throughout the universal Church.