

Children's & Youth Music Ministry

OUR LADY QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC CHURCH



The Youth of our parish play an important part in our faith and community. This opportunity allows them to participate in Mass in a special way. It also builds a community of believers in our youth. This is why we take every opportunity for them to rehearse and serve at Mass. It is also important that each student know how important it is for them to participate. We serve as a group, helping each other to serve God in the best way.

August 1, 2026

Dear Students and Parents,

Thank you for choosing to participate in the OLQU Children's Music Program.

Please note the following:

1. St. Cecilia's Children Choir and St. Francis Ensemble students will attend all Sunday rehearsals according to the attached schedule. We will gather in the St. Cecilia (music) room for rehearsal. If your child or youth needs to miss a rehearsal, please email Mark Blackburn at mark@olqu.org or Maria Roos at roosranch@yahoo.com. These students (3rd – 12th grade) will lead Music for the 10:00 am Sunday Mass (9:15 am rehearsal) on the fourth Sunday of the month beginning in September. Full participation is required.
2. The Cherub Choir, St Cecilia Choir, St Francis Ensemble, and Mystic Rose Ringers are required to participate in the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass and Easter Sunday Mass.
3. Hand bell students (Mystic Rose Ringers) should attend all rehearsals according to the developing schedule. We will gather in the St. Cecilia (music) room for rehearsal. If your child needs to miss a rehearsal, please email Mark Blackburn at mark@olqu.org or Maria Roos at roosranch@yahoo.com. These students (3rd – 12th grade) will participate in the 10:00 am Sunday Mass (9:00 am rehearsal) on a TBD Sunday of the month beginning in September. Full participation is required.
4. Attached, you will find a schedule for the music year and a commitment letter. Commitment letters should be signed by each child and returned to Mark Blackburn no later than the first week of October.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns. I am available via email at mark@olqu.org or by phone at 256.852.0788. Thank you for your support and encouragement and for making the commitment to support beautiful music at Our Lady, Queen of the Universe Parish.

Sincerely,

Mark Blackburn SDS
Director of Music
Our Lady, Queen of the Universe

Our Lady, Queen of the Universe
Children's Choirs
Commitment Letter
2026-27 Choir Year

I, _____ have read the attached letter with my parents,
(student's name)
and I understand and agree:

1. to attend weekly rehearsal, as scheduled, whenever possible.
2. **to notify Mr. Blackburn or Mrs. Roos when I cannot attend rehearsal or Mass.**
3. to participate in the 10:00 am Sunday Mass (9:15 am rehearsal) or Youth Mass (St Francis) when scheduled.
4. to participate in the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass, Easter Sunday Mass, and special programs.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

one for each child

Please return forms to the Parish Office or Music Office

Youth Choir Schedule 2026-2027

September 2026

09/06 SUN	NO REHEARSAL – Labor Day		
09/13 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
09/20 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	Church
09/27 SUN	9:15 am	Sts. Cecilia/Francis @ 10:00 Mass	St Cecilia Room

October 2026

10/04 SUN	11:15 – 12:30*	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
10/11 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
10/18 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	Church
10/25 SUN	9:15 am	Sts. Cecilia/Francis @ 10:00 Mass	St Cecilia Room

November 2026

11/01 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
11/08 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
11/15 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	Church
11/22 SUN	9:15 am	Sts. Cecilia/Francis @ 10:00 Mass	St Cecilia Room
11/29 SUN	11:15 – 12:30*	St. Francis	St Cecilia Room

December 2026

12/06 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
12/13 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
12/20 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	Church
12/24 WED	3:00 pm	Sts. Cecilia/Francis & Cherub @ 4:00 Prelude then 4:30 Mass	St Cecilia Room
12/27 SUN	NO REHEARSAL – CHRISTMAS BREAK		

*TIME CHANGE IN REGULAR REHEARSALS

Youth Choir Schedule 2026-2027 (cont.)

January 2027

01/03 SUN	11:15 – 12:30	St. Francis	St Cecilia Room
01/10 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
01/17 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	Church
01/24 SUN	9:15 am	Sts. Cecilia/Francis @ 10:00 Mass	St Cecilia Room
01/31 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room

February 2027

02/07 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
02/14 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
02/21 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	Church
02/28 SUN	9:15 am	Sts. Cecilia/Francis @ 10:00 Mass	St Cecilia Room

March 2027

03/07 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
03/14 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
03/21 SUN	11:15 – 12:30*	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	Church
03/28 SUN	9:15 am	Sts Cecilia/Francis @ 10:00 Mass	St Cecilia Room

April 2027

04/04 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
04/11 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	St Cecilia Room
04/18 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	Church
04/25 SUN	9:15 am	Sts Cecilia/Francis @ 10:00 Mass	St Cecilia Room
04/25 SUN	12:00 – 2:00	End of the year party	Joy Hall

May 2027

05/02 SUN	12:15 – 1:30	Sts. Cecilia/Francis	Church
05/09 SUN	9:15 am	Sts. Cecilia/Francis at 10:00 Mass	St Cecilia Room

August 2027

08/21	10:00 am—3:00 pm	Music Camp	St. Cecilia Room
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*TIME CHANGE IN REGULAR REHEARSALS