

Liturgical Music in Catholic Schools: *Singing Our Catholic Identity*

Fiona Dyball - Marist Life Formation Team, Melbourne

Thanks to our musicians:

*Damian Whelan (Keyboard) from Loreto Mandeville Hall, Melbourne,
Dan Nguyen (Flute) and Jack Stammers (Cajon) from Marist Youth Ministry, Melbourne,
Jane Schleiger (Violin), Patrick Shannon (Violin), from Immaculate Conception Catholic Parish, Melbourne.*

Pope Francis
Evangelii Gaudium

24

“The Church evangelises and is herself evangelised through the beauty of the liturgy, which is both a celebration of the task of evangelisation and the source of her self giving.”



Sacrosanctum Concilium (1963)
Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, 112

*“...the purpose of sacred music,
which is the glory of God and the sanctification of the faithful...”*

Christ is the foundational principle, person and relationship that structures, centres and informs decisions in the Church.

Christ is the great Tradition.

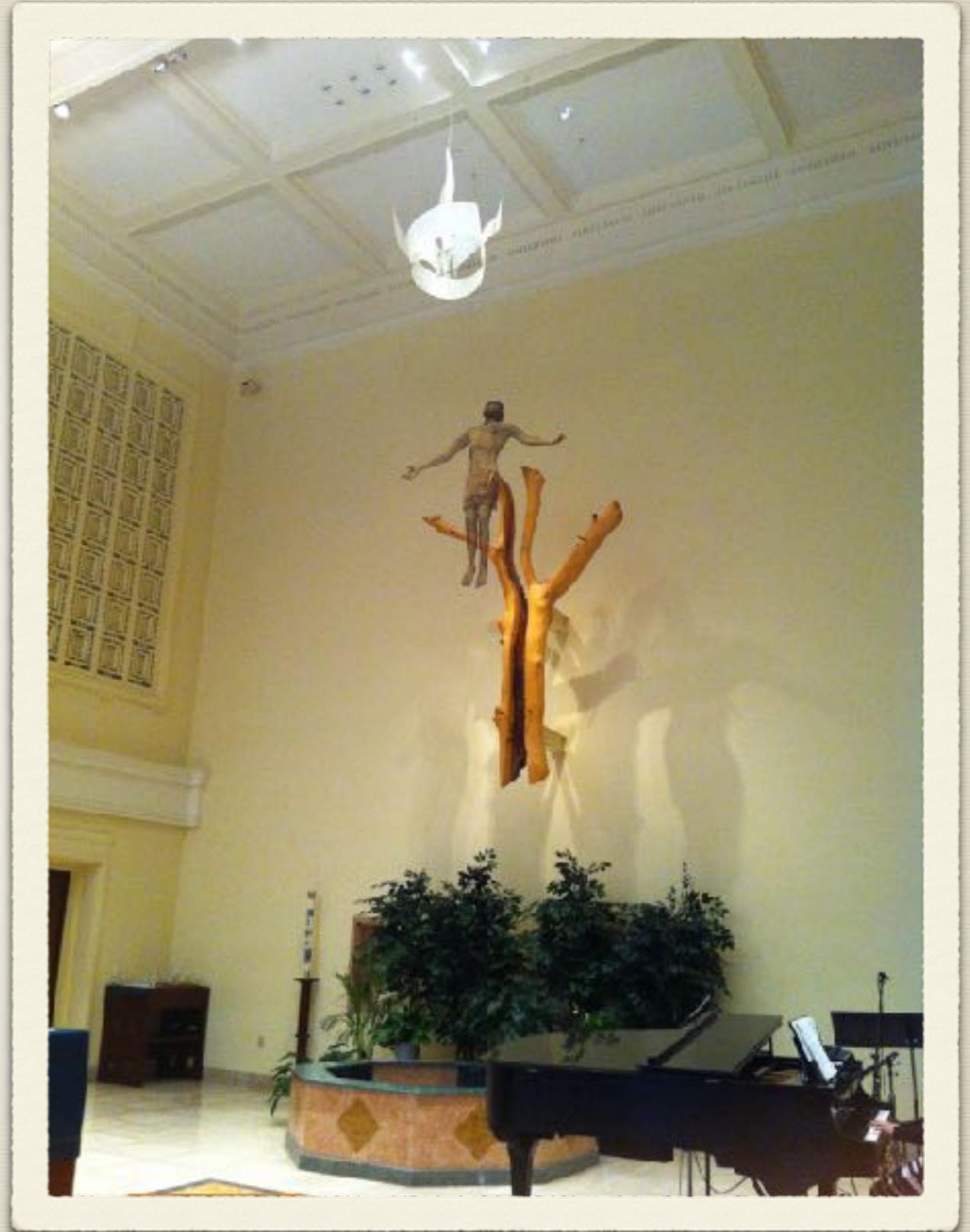
How we express that Tradition will vary from age to age and among different cultures and groups.

Music is a servant to the larger liturgical rite, and therefore to the purposes of the rite.

Our music making should seek to draw people into a dynamic and transformative encounter with Christ in the power of the Spirit.

The Paulist Centre

Boston, Massachusetts, USA



*Musicam Sacram (1967),
Instruction on Music in the Liturgy, 10*

*“.....so that the faithful may actively participate and more willingly and with greater benefit,
it is fitting that the format of the celebration and the degree of participation in it should be varied as much as possible,
according to the solemnity of the day and the nature of the congregation present.”*

MS 5

We are part of a community with the same goal of bringing Christ-life.

“The practical preparation for each liturgical celebration should be done in a spirit of cooperation by all parties concerned, under the guidance of the rector of the church, whether it be in
ritual, pastoral or musical matters.”



SC 120

*“Other instruments other than the pipe organ may be admitted for use in divine worship, and composers are encouraged to write works for choirs, small choirs, and **music for the active participation of the faithful.**”*



MS 15

*“The faithful fulfil their liturgical role by making that **full, conscious and active participation** which is demanded by the nature of the liturgy itself and which is, by reason of baptism, the right and duty of the Christian people. This participation*

- (a) Should be above all **internal**, in the sense that by it the faithful join their mind to what they pronounce or hear, and cooperate with heavenly grace.*
- (b) Must be, on the other hand, **external** also, that is, such as to show the internal participation by gestures and bodily attitudes, by the acclamations, responses and singing.”*



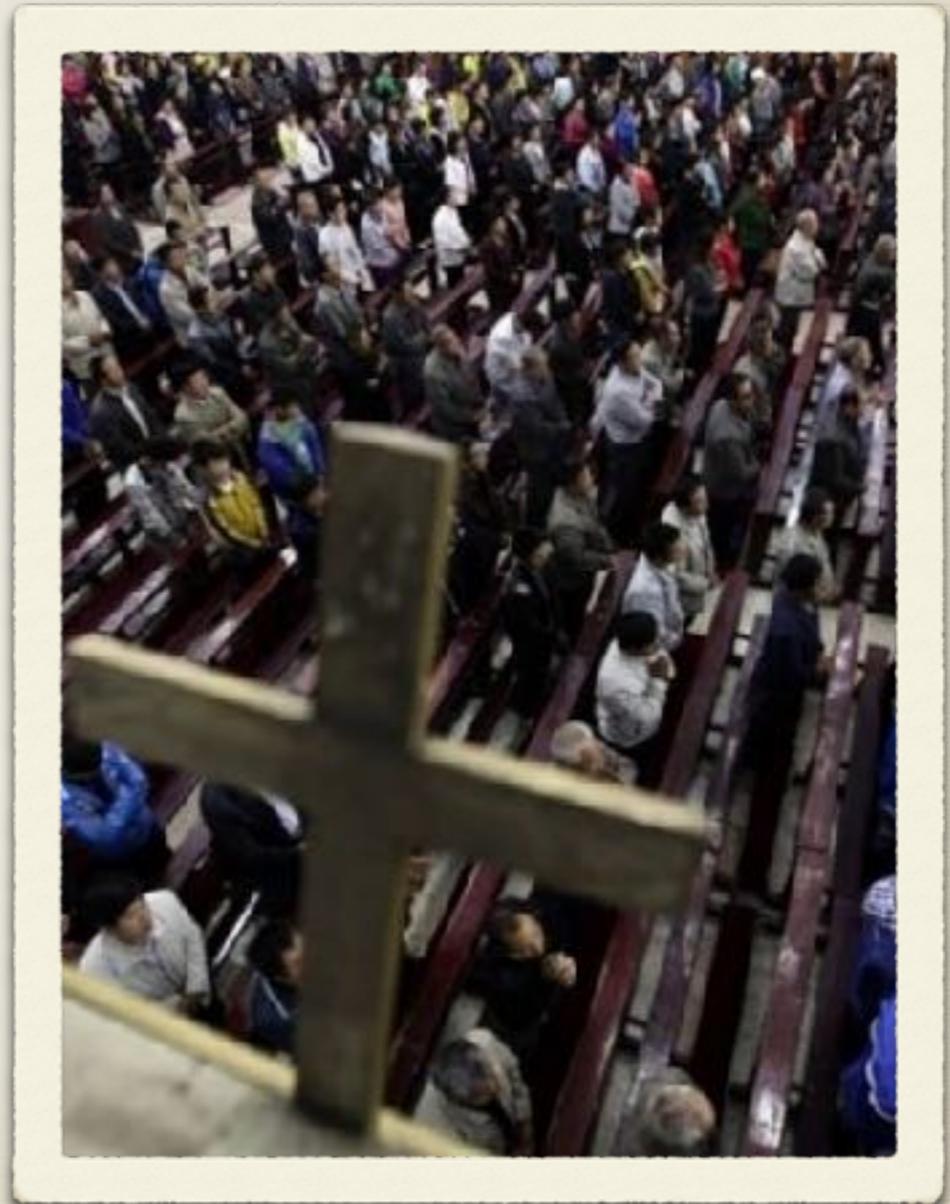
MS 9

*“In selecting the kind of sacred music to be used, whether it be for the choir or for the people, the **capacities of those who are to sing the music must be taken into account. No kind of sacred music is prohibited from liturgical actions by the Church** as long as it corresponds to the **spirit of the liturgical celebration** itself and the **nature of its individual parts**, and does not hinder the active participation of the people.”*



MS 16c

*“Some of the people's song, however, especially if the faithful have not yet been sufficiently instructed, or if musical settings for several voices are used, can be handed over to the choir alone, provided that the **people are not excluded from those parts that concern them.** But the usage of entrusting to the choir alone the entire singing of the whole Proper and of the whole Ordinary, to the **complete exclusion of the people's participation in the singing, is to be deprecated.**”*



MS 24 Music Ministry

*“Besides **musical formation**, suitable **liturgical and spiritual formation** must also be given to the members of the choir, in such a way that the proper performance of their liturgical role will not only enhance the **beauty of the celebration** and be an excellent example for the faithful, but will bring **spiritual benefit to the choir-members themselves.**”*



MS 12

- * *“It is for the Holy See alone to determine the more important general principles which are, as it were, the basis of sacred music, according to the norms handed down, but **especially according to the Constitution on the Liturgy. Direction** in this matter, within the limits laid down, also belongs to the competent territorial **Episcopal Conferences** of various kinds, which have been legitimately constituted, and to the **individual bishop.**”*
- * What do the **Aussies** say? See *Music in the Order of the Mass* in CWBll, xxii and xxiii: **Liturgical & Musical Priorities** (see handout in *Repertoire* list).

Pope Francis

Evangelii Gaudium I

*“The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives
of all who encounter Jesus.*

*Those who accept his offer of salvation are
set free from sin, sorrow,
inner emptiness and loneliness.*

***With Christ, joy is constantly
born anew.”***





Road-Tested Repertoire

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