

ACMP NEWSLETTER
Excerpts from recent issues

Today's Easter Triduum liturgies overflow in symbolic beauty derived from historic developments. And while they can be emotionally moving, it is important to remember that emotion is of little value unless it expresses true and inner conversion. Liturgy does not take us on a tourist's view of the past. It celebrates simultaneously God's saving acts of the past as they continue into our present and bring us forward to the future: it celebrates in liturgical time.

-Cally Proios Welsh, *Spring, 2009*

The US Bishops' document *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship* emphasizes singing the actual texts of the Sacred Liturgy. At the Winter Workshop, the keynote address, delivered by Father Dennis Gill, Director of the Office of Worship, and the four breakout sessions all addressed this important aspect of the liturgy. The sessions covered singing the actual texts of the Mass and singing all the rites of the Church, including the Sacraments, the Liturgy of the Hours, and the rites of Christian initiation.

-Patricia Gallo-Terrenzio, *Spring, 2009*

Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship gives the reason *why* we sing the Sacred Liturgy. Once we are convinced of why we sing, then it becomes everyone's duty—Bishop, priests, deacons, all of the faithful—to sing the mysteries of our faith. We need and reverence the competent services of the liturgical music ministers to assist all of us in our duty to sing the Sacred Liturgy. We recognize that our singing is but an external expression of our interior communion with the mysteries we sing, the saving event of the death and resurrection of the Lord.

-Rev. G. Dennis Gill, *Summer, 2009*

In forming the role of music minister, three threads intertwine: prayer, education, and preparation. *Prayer* cannot be overemphasized because all ministry overflows from a relationship with God. When they *educate* themselves, music ministers are able to share their learning with both colleagues and those to whom they minister. *Preparation* includes everything from giving out hymnbooks (never in anyone's job description) to caring for your instrument – be it your voice, keyboard, guitar, pipe organ, and everything in between. Professional needs must be met in order for music ministry to be effective.

-Sr. Regina Gormley, SSJ, *Summer, 2009*