

## “Choir Corner” Week One

This week we explore some answers to the question: ***When is the right time to join the choir?***

Finding the right time to join is very important, as detailed in the words of some of our members:

- “When a choir member first complimented me for my singing and invited me to join, I didn’t feel that I had enough time to commit, but during the next year I realized I wanted to do something and I love to sing. Now, 20 years later, singing and being with good people always energizes me.”
- “I thought about joining the choir for years before making the leap. I always felt I might not be able to keep the commitment or might not be musical enough. Since joining, it brought a new dimension to my life and renews my spirit.”
- “I’ve always loved the music at Christ the King and have sung from the pew with gusto. When a few choir members suggested I join their ranks, I laughed it off because I didn’t think I had the ability. But when I did try, the choir and director could not have been more accepting and helpful. The experience has been joyful and uplifting.
- “Some time in the early '90's I was playing piano after Mass in the Parish Center and singing with some of the children. Mr. Wm. Thomas, our Choir Director, followed me outside and invited me to join the Choir. As my children were quite young, I declined but kept the offer in my mind. By '02 my children were older and my father had recently passed away. He was a long time Choir member in his parish and a 20-year member of the New Jersey Choral Arts Society. I felt it was time to carry on some of the legacy.”

Over the next few weeks, we’ll hear testimonials from other choir members to better understand *why* they joined the choir. Some of the reasons are summarized below:

- value the chance to contribute to a ministry, and gain satisfaction from it;
- experience personal growth by participating in the choir;
- feel a duty to be part of something greater than themselves;
- cherish the chance to be a welcomed member in a devoted community.