

Connecting Music to Mass July 3, 2016

I want to begin this week by giving a shout-out to all of my readers! I've received several comments over the past week from people who find this information helpful – thank you, and please pass it on to your friends! These articles are archived on our website at www.stclarechurch.org/musictomass

Aside from connecting the lectionary readings to my hymn selections, I want to provide a glimpse into the selection process. We heard a requirement for discipleship a few weeks ago – “If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.” Dying to self is also a part of the music selection process since I am a slave to the readings that the Church has chosen on any given day. Selecting *my* favorite hymns would be wonderful and easy! Indeed, there is an element of “dying to self” in the music selection process as I *must* consider what the scriptures say, what’s happening in the world, the nature of the liturgical season, and the capabilities and traditions of our parish.

Speaking of new music and dying to self, how about that new service music, Mass for the City? There were many factors involved in selecting this mass setting. While no setting is perfect, I thought Mass for the City provided contrast from Mass of Wisdom in many ways - and that’s a good thing! The harmonies in Mass for the City are fresh, impressionistic, and even jazzy at times. The structure and flow of the melodies are very different between the two settings. As we continue to work this setting into our repertoire, I ask you to be patient and always give 100% in your participation. As the weeks go by, Fr. Jim, the cantors, and I will continually think of ways to help everyone grasp this music. Using the assembly card is the **best** way to aid your participation. Many are accustomed to singing Mass of Wisdom from memory, so this will require developing a new habit. I have also uploaded recordings of this setting on our website if anyone is interested in “listening homework” – www.stclarechurch.org/mass

Now to briefly hit on this Sunday’s music. Our theme of discipleship continues with a very mission-oriented tone. The first reading concludes with the powerful statement, “When you see this, your heart shall rejoice and your bodies flourish like the grass; the Lord's power shall be known to his servants.” In the gospel, Jesus gives instructions for how to spread the Kingdom of God. Times won’t always be easy, but as chosen, baptized, and Holy Spirit-filled disciples, we too can “go make of all disciples” as the processional hymn (#769) says. The first reading’s conclusion and Jesus’ words in the gospel clearly reveal that **our relationship with the persons of the Holy Trinity** empowers us to conquer obstacles to bring to others the Kingdom of God.

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[Click here - Sunday Readings for July 3, 2016](#)

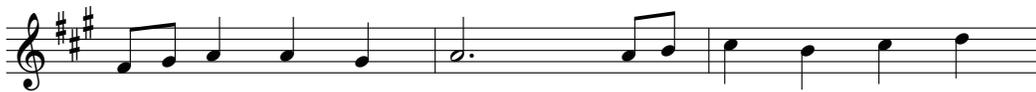
Go Make of All Disciples



1. "Go make of all dis - ci - ples." We hear the call, O
2. "Go make of all dis - ci - ples," Bap - tiz - ing in the
3. "Go make of all dis - ci - ples." We at your feet would
4. "Go make of all dis - ci - ples." We wel - come your com -



Lord, That comes from you, our Fa - ther, In
 name Of Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it— From
 stay Un - til each life's vo - ca - tion Shows
 mand. "Lo, I am with you al - ways." We



your e - ter - nal Word. In - spire our ways of
 age to age the same. We call each new dis -
 forth your ho - ly way. We cul - ti - vate the
 take your guid - ing hand. The task looms large be -



learn - ing Through earn - est, fer - vent prayer, And
 ci - ple To fol - low you, O Lord, Re -
 na - ture God plants in ev - 'ry heart, Re -
 fore us— We fol - low with - out fear. In



let our dai - ly liv - ing Re - veal you ev - 'ry - where.
 deem - ing soul and bod - y By wa - ter and the Word.
 veal - ing in our wit - ness The Mas - ter Teach - er's art.
 heav'n and earth your pow - er Shall bring God's king - dom here.

