BACKGROUND

St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Paddington is a Catholic parish located in the eastern suburbs of Sydney. The parish has been in the care of the Order of Franciscan Friars since the mid-19th Century, and continues under the pastoral leadership of Fr. Peter McGrath (ofm).

The Franciscans have a long tradition of supporting music and liturgy in their three Sydney Parishes. St. Francis of Assisi Paddington is well known for its large liturgical choir, sung liturgies and solemn ceremonial. St. Joseph’s Church, Edgecliff has a fine refurbished two manual pipe organ and supports a Cantor Scholarship for a young person in Years 10-12. The Church of Mary Immaculate, Waverley is widely known for its exceptional Fincham Pipe Organ and long musical tradition.

ORGAN, CHORAL AND LITURGICAL MUSIC TRAINING

St. Francis of Assisi Parish now wishes to take the opportunity of encouraging and developing skills of young lay people for active ministry leadership roles in the church. Specifically, the parish is offering a scholarship to train a young person in the skills necessary for leading music in the tradition of solemn liturgies of the Roman Rite, as celebrated at St. Francis. In offering this scholarship it is envisaged to develop the following:

- Training in Organ playing, vocal development, choral singing and choral directing skills.
- Development of liturgical knowledge and history of Catholic liturgical tradition.
- Development of practical Liturgical skills to facilitate the singing and leading of the worshipping assembly, choir and celebrants.

DUTIES OF THE LITURGICAL MUSIC SCHOLAR

- To assist in accompanying the assembly’s singing of acclamations, hymns and chants at Mass.
- To assist in accompanying the choral music, cantors and psalmists in the liturgy and rehearsals.
- To develop a repertoire of solo organ music suitable for preludes, interludes & postludes.
- To participate in the choir program of sacred music both as singer and assistant to the Choir Director.
- To develop cantor's skills to lead the assembly.
- To develop choral conducting and training skills to assist the Choir Director.
- To liaise with the Parish Priest, Director of Music, parish musicians or appointed delegate of the PP, in determining the music program and commitments in the parish.

THE SCHOLARSHIP

- The scholarship is available to suitable catholic candidates from local catholic, private schools or high schools within the Archdiocese of Sydney, or University or Conservatorium students residing in Sydney.
  - Scholarship to be paid in installments
  - A portion of the scholarship to be paid towards organ tuition and vocal/choral training, e.g. cantor workshop, masterclasses, tutorial sessions etc. Balance paid in cash.
- The scholar must demonstrate satisfactory development and progress in his/her training.
- The appointment will be for a trial period of 6 months with renewal of a further 6 months on demonstration of satisfactory progress.
The Scholarship will be awarded by a panel consisting of the following persons:
The Parish Priest, PP’s Music Representative, A member of the Pastoral Council & or/ teacher.

CRITERIA FOR APPLICANTS

1) The applicant must be a catholic (preferably Latin Rite but members of other rites are welcome to apply e.g. Maronite) in Year 10, 11 or 12 or a University undergraduate.

2) The candidate must have 7th grade or higher AMEB qualification (or equivalent) in piano or organ, and basic vocal skills with a willingness to develop their musicianship to a higher level.

3) The candidate must have a good background knowledge of music and music history.

4) Previous experience with organ or keyboard playing is essential; liturgical singing, either choral or solo at school, or parish is desirable, but not essential.

5) The candidate must demonstrate an interest in pursuing studies in organ, voice and choral leadership to a level appropriate to lead the music in public worship.

6) The candidate must demonstrate an interest in studying and developing skills in liturgy.

7) The candidate must be available for the designated Sundays and Solemnities (tba) and all services of Holy Week, Easter and negotiated Christmas liturgies.

8) Applicants will be required to undertake a basic music audition consisting of aural, sightreading, & practical tests, as well as an interview with the scholarship panel.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Referees
The names and contact details of two referees must be provided

i) a priest, a religious brother or sister or lay Religious Studies teacher
ii) School Principal or senior teacher, or university lecturer or tutor.

REMUNERATION

Based on an average of 3 Sundays per month (excluding January) + 1 mid-week & pre-service rehearsal
30 Sundays per Annum (including midweek evening rehearsal and pre-service)
+ Holy Week services. @ 90.00 per service (including rehearsal)= $2700.00
+ 25 weeks of Tuition at $72.00 per week = $1800.00

Stipend/Tuition $ 4500.00

+ Bonus $ 500.00
(payable on satisfactory completion of the appointment)

TOTAL VALUE $5000.00