



The mission of the St. Ann Youth Choir is to foster a love of sacred music in the youth of the Catholic Church through the vehicle of choral music; to help its members grow musically through wide-ranging performance opportunities, spiritually through the participatory sensory experience of Catholic sacraments and rituals, and culturally through exposure to diverse faith communities and seminal sites of Christendom both local and abroad. Ultimately, the SAYC aims to help shape the future generation of music ministry in the St. Ann Church community, the Diocese of Palm Beach, and beyond.

SAYC is initially open to all St. Ann parishioners and school students between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Upon entrance to 9<sup>th</sup> grade, any individual who is a SAYC member of at least one full year is eligible to remain a participating member through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Established in 2014 under the direction of recognized sacred music composer Christopher Hogan, SAYC maintains a consistent membership of approximately 75 children.

SAYC provides music for many weekend liturgies at St. Ann and St. Ann school members musically support weekly in-school masses. In an effort to share their love of sacred music, SAYC tours the Palm Beach Diocese regularly providing music for other Parishes; supports St. Ann Parish ministries such as the Lourdes Noreen McKeen Catholic Retirement Community and the St. Ann Place Homeless Outreach Center by sharing music at events; and participates in Catholic musical festivals including those of the American Federation of Pueri Cantores. The children have recorded three albums of original music: *O' Bless the Lord, My Soul* (2017); *Follow Me* (2019) and *Water of the Soul* (2023) and their music is regularly accessed by fans and others who love sacred music through platforms such as Apple Music, Spotify and YouTube. Members of SAYC traveled to Rome in 2018/2019 and to Ireland in 2022 providing music for masses and concerts at Holy Sites and churches. In celebration of SAYC's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the children are preparing for a pilgrimage through Austria and Germany during the 24/25 Christmas season. SAYC has been featured twice on SiriusXM Catholic Channel's *Sounds from the Spires* with Jennifer Pascual, Director of Music at St. Patrick Cathedral in New York City.