Children's Music Classes & Choirs Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Savannah

Sacred Heart Church is proud to extend the mission of Chant Camp through the formation of a comprehensive **singing program for children** under the direction of Sharon Mays.

There are few gifts for our children greater than singing the truths of our faith as revealed in Scripture and the prayers of the Church. The music classes and choirs complement and extend formal religious education by providing regular opportunities to contemplate these rich texts and come to know them by heart, preparing children for an eternity in the knowledge and love of God.

Sharon Mays serves as a Director of the Schola Stella Maris, which sings for the Latin Mass at Sacred Heart. She holds degrees in Sacred Music (BM, Samford University) and Choral Conducting (MMus, University of Cambridge) and directed a school choral program for five years before assuming her current role as Artistic Manager of the Savannah Philharmonic. At Sacred Heart, Sharon founded Chant Camp, a summer camp for children and teenagers which welcomed over 70 singers in 2025. Additionally, she is one of nine singers in the professional Choral Scholars of the Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist.

• A weekly **music class** establishing a foundation in singing and musicianship is offered for beginning vocalists, ages 5-7. Instruction is based in the Ward Method, a time-tested Catholic curriculum which prioritizes musical literacy. This class is designed the develop the skills of the boys and girls so that they might progress into Schola Saint Benedict. Thursdays, 3:30-4:00pm, beginning September 18.

Register here for music class.

• Schola Saint Benedict is a children's choir for boys and girls ages 8-13 which sings foundational and ancient songs of our Catholic faith. Hearkening back to Sacred Heart's Benedictine roots, the Schola sings Vespers (evening prayer) each week, thus cultivating a life of prayer. The choir will sing a wide variety of music, all rooted in the tradition of Gregorian chant and the singing of the Psalms. The Schola gathers Thursdays, 4:00-5:45pm, for rehearsal and Vespers beginning September 18.

Register here for Schola Saint Benedict.

• Singers of high school age and above with previous choral experience are invited to audition for the **Schola Stella Maris**, which sings for the Traditional Latin Mass. The Schola is deeply rooted in the tradition of singing the Gregorian chant ordinary and propers each Sunday, as well as the rich polyphonic corpus of music that arose in the Renaissance and beyond. The choir rehearses on Thursdays, 7:00-8:15pm, and immediately before the 1pm Sunday Mass.

Email shc.schola@gmail.com to audition for Schola Stella Maris.

To learn more about participating or volunteering in these programs, please email Sharon Mays at shc.schola@gmail.com.