



Orin E. Johnson

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PROFILE

I seek positions in Catholic Christian communities and organizations where my gifts of music, speaking, writing, organization, and leadership can be used to their fullest potential to build a strong faith community committed to vibrant worship and active participation in our call to be both evangelists and missionaries.

EXPERIENCE

Director of Music Ministries, Sts. Joachim and Ann Parish, St. Charles, MO — 2012-Present

Direct leadership of a contemporary ensemble and choir, the children's choir, funeral choir, and cantors; supervision of two other "adult" choirs and all aspects of liturgical music at the parish; responsibility for masses with the parochial school as well (5-6 each month). Also coordinate a few concerts of sacred/secular music each year. Sits as member of the parish liturgy committee. OCP parish grant recipient in 2014. Recorded CDs of parish music ministries in 2013 and 2015. Current projects include the musical aspects of a Church completion initiative, including bringing a pipe/hybrid organ to the building.

Staff for Instrumental Music, One Bread One Cup, St. Meinrad, IN — 2019

Working closely with staff for cantors and vocal music, prepared instrumental music for liturgy with teens of various skill levels in a catechetical, educational environment. Also responsible for certain liturgical music directly, and working with guest speakers/musicians.

Liturgical Music Minister, Drama Musical Director, Chaminade College Preparatory, Creve Coeur, MO — 2012-Present

Plan and implement music for monthly masses and assist with various musical needs of the retreat program. Musical director for drama department musicals, with both high school and middle school students. Occasional composition for both as needed.

Worship Aid and Program Designer, Archdiocese of St. Louis, MO — 2011-Present

Design and update various programs and worship aids for the Archdiocese on an as-needed basis, principally with Adobe InDesign.

Coordinator of Music and Liturgy, National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows; Belleville, Illinois — 1998-2012

Duties included coordination of all aspects of Shrine liturgical life; chairing Shrine liturgy committee; supervising team of sacristans and paid musical staff; serving as principle organist and pianist; training liturgical ministers; coordinating annual novena, music and liturgy workshops, musical aspects of the holiday Way of Lights and annual concerts; assisting with youth camp Youth Sing Praise in either theatrical or retreat roles; preparing and managing music and liturgy budget.

Oddwalk Ministries — 2004-Present

With Shannon Cerneka, Oddwalk Ministries is a Catholic duo with a charism of "Jesus, Justice, Joy" that provides keynotes, gives concerts, leads prayer, offers workshops, and guides retreats for youth and adults through engaging music, storytelling, engaging and fun activities, and faith-sharing. Our several hundred appearances have included many National Catholic Youth Conferences, National Conferences on Catholic Youth Ministry, and National Catholic Education Association conventions, as well as an appearances at the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress, The Hofinger Religious Education Congress in New Orleans, and several diocesan, parish, and school events and programs. We have recorded two CDs with and have many songs published by GIA and WLP. Visit www.oddwalkministries.com for more information.

Principal Accompanist, Congregation Shaare Emeth; Creve Coeur, Missouri — 2005-Present

Accompany Friday night services and Saturday morning Bar and Bat Mitzvahs on piano and organ; accompany occasional midweek services and High Holy Day services under direction of the Cantor. Shaare Emeth is a Reform Judaism Temple.

Assistant Director, Saint Louis Chamber Chorus; Saint Louis, Missouri — 2004-Present

Assist the artistic director with rehearsals and occasionally direct in performances. For the 2009-2010 season, while the artistic director was away on sabbatical, I and another assistant prepared the chorus for the season's six concerts, shared conducting duties on four, and attended monthly board meetings. I have sung with the chorus since 1998.

Prayer and Music Coordinator / Program Director, Young Neighbors in Action — 2007-2018

"Young Neighbors" is a week-long service, justice, and education camp for teenagers held at several locations around the country each summer, sponsored by the Center for Ministry Development. The youth work at service sites during the day, and in the evenings learn about and pray over Catholic social teaching. My role has been to help lead the youth in planning and implementing the morning and evening prayers and masses, and to integrate their experiences and learnings into them.

EDUCATION

Aquinas Institute of Theology; Saint Louis, Missouri - Master of Arts in Theology Cum Laude, 2008

Liturgical focus; major paper dealt with liturgical postures and the recent expanded use of the Tridentine rite of the Mass.

Radford University; Radford, Virginia - Master of Arts in Music, 1998

Emphasis in choral direction and vocal performance; held two-year teaching assistantship with director of choral activities.

Harvard University; Cambridge, Massachusetts - Bachelor of Arts in Music and Folklore and Mythology Cum Laude, 1996

Honors thesis, an original composition, *The Green Lady*, a fairy tale set to music, received grade *magna cum laude*.

RTR High School; Tyler, Minnesota - Diploma, 1992

Graduated first in class, with honors.

OTHER EXPERIENCES AND SKILLS

Publications and Recordings

I have several sacred pieces, choral and congregational, published by OCP, GIA, and WLP, and others (2008-present). Additionally, GIA has placed several pieces in a songbook titled "Cross Generation" and recorded two collections of the music of Oddwalk Ministries. A full list of musical publications and recordings can be found at my website, at www.orinjohnson.com/publications

Shannon Cerneka and I also have a book of prayer services for teens published with Twenty-third Publications, titled *Let Us Go Forth* (2018). I am also a co-author for the 2021 edition of *Living Liturgy*, published by Liturgical Press and due out Summer of 2020. More information available at www.orinjohnson.com/books

Diocesan Liturgical Leadership

Member of the Diocese of Belleville, Illinois Liturgical Commission, 2008-2012: helped revise and publish diocesan marriage ritual and music guidelines (2012), musical leadership at Chrism Mass 2009-present; on training team in Diocese of Belleville, Illinois for seminars on lay presiding at Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest and at allowed funeral rites, 2007-present; served on task force charged with planning implementation of new English Roman Missal translation in the diocese.

Theater and Dramatics

Over many years, I have had many opportunities to musically, artistically, and technically direct several musicals, plays, and "dramatic prayer services" for various community theater productions, schools, Youth Sing Praise (for which I co-wrote the 2015 musical, *Just Pretend*, based on the biblical story of Queen Esther), and several Shrine and Shaare Emeth pastoral events.

Other Choruses

I have sung with the St. Louis Symphony Chorus (1998-2003) and helped prepare the chorus for one performance (2001); I have sung with and been assistant director of the St. Louis Archdiocesan Choir (2003-2004); I sang one concert (as a substitute) with Pro Arte St. Louis (2016).

Computing and Web Management

- Proficient with Macintosh, iOS, and PC platforms, comfortable with many software packages including MS-Word, Finale, iMovie, Pages, GarageBand, Powerpoint/Keynote, some Excel, and InDesign and Photoshop.
- Experience managing websites powered by WordPress (www.oddwalkministries.com, www.orinjohnson.com) and utilizing social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, LinkedIn, and others.

Organizations and Memberships; Other Skills and Information

- Member of National Pastoral Musicians, Liturgical Composers Forum, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia
- Basic Spanish pronunciation ability, some comprehension of both written and verbal Spanish
- Active as an accompanist for liturgies, choral and instrumental concerts, and more (piano, organ)
- Audio, video, writing, and composition samples available upon request or at www.oddwalkministries.com or www.orinjohnson.com

REFERENCES

Available upon request.