

ENSEMBLE CHOIR DIRECTOR & PRINCIPAL ACCOMPANIST

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Germantown is looking for a choir director & principal accompanist to lead their **Ensemble Choir (formerly Contemporary Choir)** for 9:00am Sunday liturgies, with oversight of the 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass. This is a part-time position expected to take 10 - 20 hours per week depending on obligations.

Parish Mission

“St. Vincent de Paul is a faith community striving to live Jesus’ gospel message of love, peace, and justice for all peoples. In the spirit of St. Vincent de Paul, we will serve those in need in our world throughout ministries. The celebration of the liturgy is central to us. Through the Eucharist and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will continue to nurture the gifts of all our members. Our parish family, while remembering our past, will draw strength and unity from our diversity. We will foster an atmosphere of warmth, hospitality and prayerfulness. We pray that our commitment to these efforts will further the mission of being one with our God and one with each other.”

You can read more at <https://www.saint-vincent-church.org/>.

St. Vincent’s Ensemble Choir

The Ensemble Choir leads music at the Sunday 9am liturgies. The Director also oversees a more streamlined music ministry for the 4:00 Saturday vigil Mass, supplementing volunteer accompanists as needed. The Ensemble Choir leads music for many of the parish’s special liturgies, including the Triduum, Christmas, holy days of obligation, etc., alternating or collaborating with St. Vincent’s Gospel Choir, which sings for the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. The ensemble choir’s repertoire ranges from traditional Catholic hymns to contemporary compositions. The choir is committed to repertoire written in the spirit of Vatican II, prioritizing accessible music that foregrounds St. Vincent’s core values of social justice, mercy, compassion, zeal, and faith.

Primary Duties

- Lead music & accompany the Ensemble Choir for 9am Sunday liturgies and other key dates and holy days in the liturgical year.
- Oversee music for 4:00 Vigil Mass on Saturdays, ensuring it is regularly served by cantor and accompanist. Participate 1-2 times per month as available.
- Direct weekday evening rehearsal during the choir season (September - May)
- Support St. Vincent’s through musical offerings at retreats, prayer services, etc.
- Attend monthly Liturgy Council meetings on behalf of music ministry

Secondary Duties

- Accompany funerals, weddings, and other special Masses for additional compensation as available.
- Hire professional musicians to supplement the Ensemble Choir for special liturgies when necessary and coordinate payment
- Coordinate with the Gospel Choir Director for combined performances and occasional sharing of duties.
- Maintain Ensemble Choir music files, preset binders, and other music
- Produce worship aids for congregational use when necessary, using OneLicense account

Preferred Qualifications

- 3-5+ years of experience leading music in a liturgical setting
- Background in Catholic Liturgics
- Proficiency in piano, percussion, and conducting
- Strong music reading skills, including sight-reading and improvisation
- Proven ability to mentor singers of varying skill levels, helping all to grow in their ministry.
- Knowledge of GIA music publications including *Gather Comprehensive (1st edition)*, *Lead Me*, *Guide Me*, and *African-American Heritage Hymnal*

Application Process

Interested applicants should submit the following via email to secretary@saint-vincent-church.org with the subject line "ENSEMBLE CHOIR DIRECTOR":

- Cover letter outlining reason for interest in music ministry at St. Vincent's, relevant prior experience, and approach to music ministry leadership
- C.V. or résumé