



# Worship Band Application Information

Thank you for your interest in the worship band at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Peoria Heights. This application packet is designed to help answer your questions and prepare you for applying to a position with the worship band.

## **Expectations**

Like most volunteer activities and organizations, the worship band requires time outside of your normal daily and weekend activities. However, worship band members consider themselves blessed to have the opportunity to combine their love of music with their Catholic Faith. Performing live music during a Mass is an opportunity for you to present His word in the form of song to the congregation and bring them closer to God.

## **Scheduling**

The worship band prefers to schedule people to perform at two consecutive Masses, although special circumstances may require a single Mass or up to three Masses to be scheduled. Scheduling of performers is done months in advance and depends on the number of people available. The more people available to sing or play an instrument, the more rotations will be required to give people an opportunity or a break. More experienced members of the band are responsible for scheduling and will make every effort to accommodate your schedule and make any necessary last minute adjustments should somebody not be able to perform as planned.

## **Preparation**

The worship band maintains an email mailing list, an Internet based file share, and sheet music. The file share allows band members to see the song catalog, upcoming song lists, singer and musician schedules, and listen to recordings from practice and Mass. Singers and musicians are expected to maintain song notes, create chord sheets, or anything else they feel necessary to prepare. Less experienced members are always welcome to ask for help from more experienced members. It is expected that all members come to rehearsal familiar with the song list, sheet music, and recordings and ready to perform with the group.

## **Rehearsals**

The worship band prefers to practice every other Monday evening from 7pm to 9pm, but depends on special scheduling circumstances and any unanticipated church activities. All singers and musicians are expected to be ready to begin rehearsal at 7pm. The songs are usually performed in order by Mass with more attention given to new songs. Standard Mass parts are not performed during rehearsal unless requested.

## **Mass**

The worship band performs during the Life Teen Mass every Sunday at 5pm. All singers and musicians are expected to be ready to warm up at 4pm. The songs are usually performed in order once with the goal of finishing 15 minutes prior to the beginning of Mass. Standard Mass parts are not performed during warm up unless requested.

## **Equipment**

The church maintains a bass amplifier, mixer board, monitor speakers, cables, drum set, grand piano, digital piano, and microphones. Guitarists are expected to provide guitars, amplification and pedals as necessary. Drummers are expected to provide additional drums, sticks, cymbals and percussion accessories as necessary.

## **The Application Process**

### **What do I do with this application?**

Please return the completed application packet to a member of the worship band or the St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church office located at 904 East Lake Avenue in Peoria Heights. Call (309) 688-3446 for directions and hours.

### **What happens next?**

The application will be shared with the worship band and a mentor will be assigned to contact you about the status of your application, answer any additional questions you may have, prepare you for an audition, and schedule the audition for the earliest possible rehearsal.

### **What happens at the audition?**

The preparation for the audition will include songs scheduled for the upcoming Mass and the standard Mass parts. Your ability to perform with the group will be evaluated and will depend on your skills, preparation and practice. The audition is not meant to intimidate you or make you regret your decision to apply, it is meant to provide an honest evaluation of your skills and how prepared you are to perform during an actual Mass. Most of all, it is meant to be fun and allow you to experience the joy of using your talents to perform live music for the glorification of God.

### **What happens next?**

Although we reserve the right to decline your application at any time, the worship band includes singers and musicians of all ages and skill levels. If we decide together you are ready, we will schedule you for one additional practice and then your first Mass. If we decide together you need more time, we will continue to mentor you until you are ready. If you decide you would rather participate in the ministry in other ways, we will respect your decision. Performing live music in front of a large congregation is not as easy as it may look and is not for everybody.

# St. Thomas the Apostle Worship Band Application

## Personal Information

Name	
Address	
Home Phone	
Cell Phone	
Email	
Age	

## I am interested in auditioning for (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Guitar - Acoustic	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piano
<input type="checkbox"/>	Guitar - Rhythm	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vocals - Soprano
<input type="checkbox"/>	Guitar - Lead	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vocals - Alto
<input type="checkbox"/>	Guitar - Bass	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vocals - Tenor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Drums	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vocals - Bass
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other -	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other -

Please note only instruments appropriate for the style of music performed will be considered.

## Please provide an honest evaluation of your skills (check one for all that apply)

	None	Okay	Great
Reading sheet music	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sight reading music	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reading chord charts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improvisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Singing harmony	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Performing solo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Additional Information (circle yes or no)**

Do you currently attend St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Peoria Heights, IL? Yes No

Have you ever had formal music lessons or training? Yes No

Have you performed as a member of a live music band before? Yes No

**Worship Band Commitment**

As a member of the St. Thomas the Apostle Worship Band you commit to the following

- Excellence - Going above and beyond
- Cooperation - Working as a team
- Collaboration - Working together to achieve a goal
- Learning from mistakes - Analyzing what went wrong and improving
- Continuous improvement - Never stop improving your skills
- Accepting criticism - Turning a negative into a positive opportunity for improvement
- Creative thinking - Always thinking how to do something better
- Sacrifice - Playing as a band, not as an individual
- Preparation - Being ready to rehearse or perform
- Practice - Improving your skills
- Participation - Sharing thoughts and feelings with the rest of the group

I have read and clearly understand the information presented in the St. Thomas the Apostle Worship Band application packet and I am ready to begin the application process.

Signature		Date	
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For more information about the St. Thomas the Apostle worship band, visit the church website

<http://www.stthomaspeoria.org/liturgy/music-ministry/life-teen-music-group/>



Scan this QR Code with your phone to access the website directly