

# JOHN CARROLL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

300 Lakeshore Parkway Birmingham, AL 35209

The Choral Division of the Fine Arts Department

940-2400, ext. 247

lwright@jcchs.org

August 2010

TO: 841.01 FRESHMEN CHORUS and PARENTS

FROM: Lee Wright

RE: Course Requirements for the John Carroll FRESHMEN CHOIR

Dear Choristers and Parents;

Welcome! I hope that you are ready to begin what will become your all-too-fleeting high school experience. To facilitate this, there are several things that need to be taken care of in the beginning to avoid any misunderstandings throughout the course of the year. It is imperative that we have all policies and procedures clarified at this time in order to continue the success of our choral program.

There are three primary functions of this class. They are:

1) **Vocal Development:** The human voice is a wondrous instrument. One of the functions of this class is to explore in depth the workings of the instrument and expanding its boundaries.

2) **Music Reading Skills Development:** To be able to sight-sing is one of the most enjoyable and satisfying skills we can develop. If we take the time to learn it in our youth, it will be a "dear friend" throughout our entire adulthood.

3) **Performance Practice:** We all bring different performance experiences with us to this class. We can learn from each other and build on these experiences in order to create something that is especially and uniquely ours.

The John Carroll Choirs will again wear the Green Robes with the differentiated stoles. Under these robes, please wear **BLACK PANTS, BLACK DRESS SHOES, BLACK SOCKS/STOCKINGS and your WHITE "Choir Robe T"SHIRT.**

## 1) PERFORMANCES AND REHEARSALS:

### FALL CONCERT:

Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at Bruno Auditorium, John Carroll Catholic High School

7:00 AM MORNING REHEARSALS; at most three (3)

### WINTER CONCERT:

Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at TBA

Dress Rehearsal on Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 - 6:00 at TBA

7:00 AM MORNING REHEARSALS; at most three (3)

**AUDITIONS for the 2011-2012 choirs will take place in April and May 2011**

2) **GRADING:**

70% **In Class:** Rehearsal Etiquette, Sight-Reading, Quizzes, etc.

30% **Performances:** Morning Rehearsals, Dress Rehearsals, and Concerts

Please remember that while being a good singer is important, it is equally important that we develop good work and study habits, as well as sight-reading skills.

Expect great things of yourself and demand it of me as well! Be aware that you are leaders of our program as well as our school. Your attitudes and behavior must reflect that responsibility. Have a great time, but don't be afraid of hard work! Therein lies the joy of any skills development. Realize also that our Primary Function is to grow as dedicated Christians and musicians through this experience. This is what Christian Education is all about; it is our highest calling. Please feel free to call or email me if there are any questions (940-2400, ext. 247/ lwright@jcchs.org). This looks like it is going to be a great year! Work diligently and enjoy!

Respectfully,

Lee Wright, Choral Director

JOHN CARROLL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL