

Dear Choir Members,

Through *L'Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican Weekly published on 25th January this year, the Holy Father sends you the following message:- "I would like to congratulate you for belonging to a church choir, thus contributing to the dignity and splendour of divine worship. I do warmly encourage you to cultivate and perform the sacred melodies: the incomparable Gregorian Chant, polyphony of traditional or modern inspirational music in your church. Without underrating secular music, you have the privilege of singing to God, of celebrating the events of the salvation accomplished by Christ accompanied by His Mother and ours. You delight not only the ears of your listeners, but also cause them to enter into communion with God. You help Christian assemblies to desire stronger bonds with Him, as well as with all the creatures and peoples whom He loves.

Your vocation, Dear Choir Members, is rooted in the tradition of Scripture and the Fathers of the Church, especially of Saint Augustine. It is a tradition which invites us unceasingly to celebrate the Lord 'with the peal of the trumpet, with harp and lyre, with flutes and resounding cymbals' (Ps. 150). The human voice, however, alone and especially joined with others, expresses to God still more wondrously the sentiments of joy, adoration, suffering, repentance, confidence and love.

Finally, my last wish is an appeal to perseverance in the service of the sacred liturgy and encouragement for other young people to join you. Listen as well to this conviction of the Pope: for some, if you truly listen to the voice of the Lord, will gradually come to a decision to belong to Him entirely. I am praying for this intention.

Dear people in Christ, I entrust to you the responsibility to contribute generously to the dignity and splendour of the divine worship."

A VERY HAPPY AND FRUITFUL LUNAR NEW YEAR AND GOD'S CHOICEST BLESSINGS
TO YOU ALL. GOD LOVE YOU AND KEEP YOU ALWAYS.

Bro. Denis