## **Richard Chonak** (changes in black)

Benedict XVI exhorted you to not forget the musical heritage of the past, to renew it and increase it with new compositions. Dear friends, I too encourage you to continue on this road.

To be an Association is a resource: it helps you to generate movement, interest, commitment to better serve the liturgy. An Association that is not the originator or owner of any music, but has love and fidelity to the Church [as its program.] Together you can devote yourselves better to song as an integral part of the Liturgy, with Gregorian chant inspiring you as the first model. [Take care] together for artistic and liturgical preparation, and promote the presence of the schola cantorum in every parish community. In fact, [the choir] guides the assembly, and with its own specific repertoire, is a skilled voice of spirituality, of community, of tradition, and of liturgical culture. I recommend that you help the whole people of God to sing, with conscious and active participation

This is important: closeness to the people of God.

and in the Liturgy.

The fields of your apostolate are various: the composition of new melodies, promoting chant in seminaries and houses of religious formation; supporting parish choirs, organists, schools of sacred music, and youth. To sing, to play, to compose, to direct, to make music in the Church are among the most things for the glory of God. It is a privilege, a gift of God, to express musical art and aid participation in the divine mysteries. A beautiful and good music is a privileged instrument for approaching the transcendent, and often helps [even distracted people] understand a message.

## **Google Translate**

Benedict XVI urged you not to forget the musical heritage of the past,

to renew it and increase it with new compositions. Dear friends, I also encourage you to continue on this path.

Being an Association is a resource: it helps you to generate movement, interest, commitment to better serve the liturgy.

Association that is not the protagonist or owner of any music, but whose program is love and fidelity to the Church.

Together you can better engage in singing as an integral part of the Liturgy, inspired by the first model, Gregorian chant. Together you take care of the artistic and liturgical preparation, and promote the presence of the schola cantorum in every parish community. The choir in fact guides the assembly and - with its specific repertoires - is a qualified voice of spirituality, communion, tradition and liturgical culture. I recommend that you help to sing the whole people of God, with conscious and active participation in the Liturgy. This is important: closeness to the people of God.

The fields of your apostolate are various: the composition of new melodies; promote singing in seminaries and houses of religious formation; support parish choirs, organists, schools of sacred music, young people. Singing, playing, composing, directing, making music in the Church are among the most beautiful things for the glory of God. It is a privilege, a gift from God to express musical art and help participate in the divine mysteries. A beautiful and good music is a privileged instrument for the approach to the transcendent, and often it helps to understand a message even those who are distracted.