

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question received on 7 May 2021:

I was wondering if you could explain what exactly the Choral Supplement contains?

The dictionary defines “supplement” as: **something that completes or enhances something else when added to it.** The Brébeuf Choral Supplement is a single volume which is 1,192 pages. It must be used in conjunction with the pew edition. This book is used whenever the choirmaster decides to add SATB harmonies. (The SATB parts match the organ accompaniments.) When this happens, the Altos, Tenors, and Basses will sing from the Choral supplement. (The Sopranos may also sing from the Choral supplement if they desire to do so—some prefer it because every verse is written out.)

For the first time in history, every single verse is written out in the Brébeuf Choral Supplement, making sightreading a breeze for the singers!

The Choral Supplement does not contain:

- (1) **Unison melodies** • i.e. those particular melodies which don't sound good SATB, such as STARRY, SILLERY, and RAYMBAULT. A complete list of these “unison hymns” is printed in the back of the Choral Supplement—we are talking about less than 4% of the tunes.
- (2) **Text only hymns** • These “switchable” texts give the choirmaster total flexibility, and the combinations are without limit.
- (3) **Historical translations** • omitted for obvious reasons.
- (4) **Theological annotations** • omitted for obvious reasons.
- (5) **Color plates & histories of the composers** • omitted for obvious reasons.
- (6) **Literal English translations** • omitted for obvious reasons.
- (7) **Stations of the Cross** • The Brébeuf Pew Edition contains three marvelous versions of the Stations of the Cross — but this was omitted from the Choral Supplement for obvious reasons.

See pictures of the Choral Supplement here:

<https://www.ccwatershed.org/2020/01/28/photos-brebeuf-choral-supplement-hymnal/>