

Bishop Boyle has evidenced a sustained and continued interest in the music of the church. He has appointed a conscientious Priest, qualified to supervise and direct the activities of the Church Music Commission for the diocese, **in the person of Reverend Carlo Rossini.** He has issued orders which have been followed up by periodic reports as to observance of these orders, and he has supported the actions of the Church Music Commission regardless who was affected by the regulations. He has really **backed up** his Church Music Commission without reservations or exceptions.



Did Pittsburgh have any convents with Benedictine nuns? Did Father Rossini follow through with his threats to punish nuns who sang the Propers at Mass (or sang choral music in parts)?

How many would agree that hymns at Low Mass are “best of all” ??

5. According to the teaching of the Catholic Church the members of the church choir (like the altar - boys) hold an **Ecclesiastical Office** next to that of the Celebrant and his Ministers. Consequently **Women** (ladies or girls) **cannot be members of the church choir.** Mixed choirs of men and women, therefore, or choirs of women only, are forbidden in church **at any time** — that is to say not only for the Sunday High Mass and Vespers but also for High Masses and other Services on week - days.

6. Women may sing “in unison” from their pews in the body of the church as part of the Congregation. Congregational singing not only for **hymns at Low Mass** and evening Services but also for the Responses and the Ordinary parts at High Mass (Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus, Benedictus and Agnus Dei) **has been always considered by the Church as the best of all and most worthy at any time.** School girls, therefore, and members of Sodalities should be encouraged to take the lead in this movement. The congregation may also **alternate** (in unison) with the liturgical choir in singing the different verses and phrases of the sacred text. Gregorian Chant is recommended as the most suitable music for the purpose, when a competent teacher is at hand.

7. Whenever school children must be placed in the choir loft at High Mass, the Boys may sing but the Girls **must keep silent**, unless the whole congregation takes part in the singing. Women organists are not permitted to sing **together with or alternate** with the male choir.

9. No School Sister may play the organ at Mass and other Services in the parish church, in place of the regular organist, without the **approval** of the Diocesan Music Commission. Sister organists in Motherhouses and Convent Chapels must also be **approved** by the Music Commission. Their church music shall be submitted for the diocesan “stamp of approval”.



15. No individual singer (except the organist) can be permitted to sing **alone** for Weddings and Funerals. Whenever special music is requested for these occasions, **FOUR** singers at least (a Male Quartet) must be engaged.



20. Church Choirs of fewer than Ten, Fifteen and Twenty **volunteer members** are forbidden to sing music for Two, Three and Four Voices respectively. **A bit harsh, perhaps...**

23. It is strictly obligatory for Organists and Choir Directors to attend the meetings called by the Diocesan Music Commission. Likewise it is obligatory for Church Choirs to take part in the Sunday Recital at the Synod Hall whenever appointed by the Music Commission. Organists and Choir Directors must attend at least **TEN** of these Recitals **within the year.**

24. Masses and other music by the following composers are **forbidden** for church use: Ashmall, Battman, Bartholomeus, Bordese, W. Brown, Concone, Durant, Farmer, Giorza, Gounod, B. Hamma, Kalliwoda, Kahn, Lambillotte, LaHache, Leonard, Loesh, Luzzi, Marzo, Mercadante, Millard, Poniatowski, Rosewig, Schubert, Sorin, Stearns, Wiegand, etc.

25. The following English-Latin Hymnals and Collections are forbidden for church and school use: St. Basil's Hymnal; The Gloria Hymnal; Catholic Youth's Hymnal (Christian Brothers); Catholic Choir Manual (Wynne); Crown Hymnal; May Chimes; Hellebusch's Hymnal; American Catholic Hymnal (Marist Brothers); Wreath of Mary; New Catholic Hymn Book; all of Barge's, Giorza's, Gaines', Marzo's, Peter's, Rosewig's and Werner's Collections; all of the hymns published in the “Sorrowful Mother” Novena Prayerbook and Novena Notes (Chicago, Ill.).

The hymnal by Father Rossini is not on this list!!! Curious...

26. **Organ accompaniment to Gregorian Masses** by L. Bonvin, P. Griesbacher, Fr. Mathias, A. Montani, J. Otten and J. Singenberger is forbidden because of the new rules which govern Gregorian Rhythm and Gregorian Aesthetics.



27. When, for any reason, the observance of Church laws concerning Music and Choirs is impossible, let the pastors be content with Low Mass, at which appropriate hymns in Latin or in the Vernacular may be sung by the congregation.

28. Organists or choir directors who within **One Month** after receiving notice from the Music Commission fail to send a written assurance that abuses on their part against any of the Regulations listed above have been corrected, will be **disqualified** for any church position in the diocese of Pittsburgh.

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