

Michael Steimel grew up in rural NE Iowa having both sides of his family as church musicians. Michael began playing for the weekly all-school liturgies in sixth grade and by the age fourteen, he was directing a neighboring parish adult choir. By his senior year in high school, he was still directing that choir and also assumed the choir directorship of one of his own parish choirs (of which his mother was a long-time choir member) and his high school liturgy group choir. Michael earned his BA in History, Music, Theology and a Secondary Education Certificate from Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa in 1991. After college, Michael was hired as the music director at All Saints Parish in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He ministered there for seven years and then accepted a job at Sacred Heart Parish in West Des Moines, Iowa, as their director of worship. During his time in Des Moines, Michael earned his Master's Degree in Pastoral Liturgy and Music at Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana, graduating in the summer of 2004. Michael was the national scholarship winner for that program in 2001, as awarded by the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. Michael was again recognized nationally, this time by Oregon Catholic Press, publisher of the Music Issue/Breaking Bread songbook, in their music selection series for their publication, "Today's Liturgy." He was only one of twenty hand-selected musicians chosen from across North America for that process. In the summer of 2006, Michael accepted the position of director of worship at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Kansas City. He has been on the Kansas City-St. Joseph Diocesan Liturgical Musician Commission for the past three years and a recent member to the Diocesan Cantor Committee. He has cantored at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral and was an initial member of their 12-member professional Schola Cantorum as well as a substitute organist. Recently, Michael was hired in July of 2009, by Saint Thomas More Parish in Kansas City as their liturgist.

Topics that Michael would enjoy enhancing at your parish and music ministry team:

- The Liturgical Year
- Basic Cantoring
- Selecting Psalmody for the liturgical seasons
- Making connections between the keyboardist and cantor
- Music Selections for the Liturgical Year
- The Liturgical Choir – resources, repertoire, and renewal

You may contact Michael either by email: msteimel@stmkc.com or mwsteimel@yahoo.com or by cell phone at (816) 500-6131.