

Mary Catherine Levri

6823 Elwynne Dr. • Cincinnati, OH 45236

Phone: (724) 355-7503 • E-mail: mlevri@athenaeum.edu
mlevri@gmail.com

Education

- University of Notre Dame**, South Bend, IN August 2017
Doctor of Musical Arts in organ performance
Dissertation Title: "The Chant-based Organ Works of Anton Heiller"
Advisor: Dr. Craig Cramer
- University of Notre Dame**, South Bend, IN May 2011
Master of Sacred Music in organ performance
- Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies in Marriage and Family**, Washington, DC May 2008
Master of Theological Studies, emphasis in marriage and family
- University of Notre Dame**, South Bend, IN May 2006
Bachelor of Arts
Majors: Program of Liberal Studies (Great Books), Organ performance

Professional Experience

- University of Notre Dame**, South Bend, IN July 2025 - present
Associate Professor of the Practice, Organ and Church Music
- Teach organ lessons to undergraduate organ majors
 - Teach secondary organ lessons to graduate students in SMND, as well as undergraduates
 - Teach courses in organ literature and the practice of church music
 - Work with TheologyND and the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy in developing programs that serve the development of excellent sacred music programs in Catholic dioceses and parishes
- Mount St. Mary's Seminary and School of Theology**, Cincinnati, OH 2016-2025
Director of Music, Associate Professor, Director of the Sacred Music Institute
- Coordinate daily liturgies for the seminary, including daily Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours
 - Provide organ accompaniment for daily liturgies
 - Teach music theory and music history courses, as well as provide voice lessons to seminarians each semester
 - Teach organ lessons to seminarian and priest organists
 - Founded and direct the [Sacred Music Institute](#) at MTSM, which hosts the *Music & Liturgy* series, an annual summer conference, guest lectures, and educational initiatives
 - Direct the seminarian schola, as well as the Athenaeum Chorale, the main performing ensemble for the *Music & Liturgy* series at the Athenaeum
 - Direct the *Music & Liturgy* series, including 6 Solemn Vespers performances and 2 guest organ recitals each year

- Coordinate a sacred music conference each summer for the continuing education of pastors and parish musicians from the tri-state area and beyond.
- 50-60 hrs/week

Basilica of the Sacred Heart, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN

2010-2015

Assistant Organist, Assistant Director of the Notre Dame Liturgical Choir

Director of the Community Choir

- Accompanied and directed the Liturgical Choir at weekly 10:00 AM Sunday Mass, broadcasted on CatholicTV
- Toured both nationally and internationally with the Liturgical Choir
- Founded and directed a schola of Gregorian chant that performed every Sunday
- Directed the Basilica Community Choir, membership of 40-50 singers
- Founded and co-directed children's choir of the Basilica and adjacent parish
- Played the organ for Masses, weddings, funerals, and special liturgies
- Planned liturgies as a member of the Basilica Liturgy Committee and created music files in Finale for the weekly worship aid
- 40-50 hrs/week

Holy Cross-Immaculata Parish, Cincinnati, OH

July 2021-June 2022

Director of Music and Organist, part-time

- Served as organist for 1 Mass each Sunday, as well as for special feasts
- Selected music and coordinated cantor schedule
- 5-8 hrs/week

St. Gertrude Parish, Madeira, OH

June-August 2018

Interim Organist, part-time

- Served as organist for 3 Masses each Sunday, as well as for weddings and special feasts
- 5-10 hrs/week

Notre Dame Center for Liturgy, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN

2010-2017

Lecturer and blog writer, part-time

- Coordinated Lenten reading group for students with Center director, Dr. Timothy O'Malley
- Wrote 3 pieces on liturgical subjects for the NDCL blog, Oblation
- Lectured on the use of Gregorian chant in parishes for conference of diocesan sacred musicians
- Lectured for an online course on the history, theology, and practice of Gregorian chant
- Lectured for retreat of NDVision session for Liturgical Music Ministers

St. John the Beloved Catholic Church, McLean, VA

2008-2009

Associate Director of Music, part-time

- Founded and directed Volunteer Choir at 10:30 AM Sunday Mass
- Served as organist for professional choir at Mass in the Extraordinary Form each Sunday
- 20-25 hrs/week

Choral Conducting and Organ Performances

St. Gregory the Great Chapel, Mount St. Mary's Seminary, Cincinnati, OH

August 2016-present

Choral Conductor for the Athenaeum Chorale and MTSM Latin Schola
Music & Liturgy Solemn Vespers series, 6 performances a year

Works performed include:

J. Alain, *Messe de Requiem*

F..J. Haydn, *Missa de Sancti Ioannis de Deo*, Hob. XXII:7

Josquin des Prez, *Missa l'homme armé*

W.A. Mozart, *Vesperae solennes de confessore*, K339

L. Viadana, *Missa Defunctorum*, select movements

T.L. Victoria, *Officium defunctorum á 6*, select movements

A. Vivaldi, *Gloria in D*, RV 589

Various motets and anthems by Dalby, Ferko, Guerrero, Liszt, MacMillan, Mendelssohn, Martinson,
Nestor, Palestrina, Tallis, Tavener, Waddell, and others

Christ Church Cathedral , Cincinnati, OH Organ recital on Richards & Fowkes organ	February 2 nd , 2025
St. Gregory the Great Chapel , Mount St. Mary's Seminary, Cincinnati, OH Organ recital on Pasi organ	February 4 th , 2024
Bellarmino Chapel , Xavier University Accompanist for Xavier University Liturgical Choir Spring concert	April 21 st , 2023
University of Notre Dame , Notre Dame, IN Organ recital on Fritts organ in Reyes Recital Hall	September 25 th , 2022
Bellarmino Chapel , Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH Accompanist for Xavier University Liturgical Choir Fall concert	November 12 th , 2021
St. Paul's Cathedral , Pittsburgh, PA Organ recital	January 3 rd , 2021
St. Catharine of Siena Church , Cincinnati, OH Organ recital	February 16 th , 2020
Collegium Cincinnati , Cincinnati, OH Accompanist for <i>Ordo Virtutem</i> by Hildegard von Bingen	October 27 th , 2019
Trinity Episcopal Church , Covington, KY Organ recital	October 19 th , 2018
Basilica of the Sacred Heart , Notre Dame, IN Organ recital with Dr. Paul Walker	January 20 th , 2018
St. Paul's Cathedral , Pittsburgh, PA Organ recital	July 31 st , 2016
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church , South Bend, IN Organ recital	January 10 th , 2016
The Kellogg Institute: University of Notre Dame , South Bend, IN	September 22 nd , 2014

Organ recital honoring Maestro José Antonio Abreu

Goshen College Music Center, Goshen, IN
Organ recital

October 30th, 2011

Recordings

And I Saw a New Heaven – Notre Dame Liturgical Choir, South Bend, IN
Directed and accompanied several pieces on the recording

Autumn 2011

Teaching Experience

Mount St. Mary's Seminary and School of Theology, Cincinnati, OH
Associate Professor, Music

August 2016-present

- Associate Professor, Seminary: "Liturgical Practicum: Chant,"
Lectures and practicum sessions, masterclass format for vocal performance
Fall 2017 – present
- Associate Professor, Seminary: "Liturgical Music and Vocal Skills,"
Lectures, emphasis on music theory, music history, and theology of music
Fall 2016 – present
- Associate Professor, Seminary: "Latin Schola,"
Twice weekly choral rehearsal, liturgical performance once a week
Fall 2017 – present
- Associate Professor, Seminary: "Voice Lessons (Group Voice),"
Individual half-hour voice lessons, occasional group sessions
Fall 2016 – present
- Associate Professor, Seminary: Organ lessons
Individual half-hour lessons with seminarians and priests
Fall 2016 – present
- Associate Professor, School of Theology: "Theology of Aesthetics,"
Lectures, emphasis on Christian theology of beauty
Spring 2023
- Associate Professor, School of Theology: "Sacred Music Seminar: The Requiem Mass," Spring 2018,
2020, 2022
Lectures, emphasis on music history, and theoretical, theological, and
historical music analysis

St. Gertrude's Priory, Cincinnati, OH
2020

Fall 2016 – Spring

- Instructor, Organ lessons
Individual half hour organ lessons for Dominican novices

Teaching Interests

Church music history, liturgy and culture, theology of aesthetics, organ performance, choral performance

Awards

“Fra Angelico Award,” The Angelico Project For an individual making an outstanding contribution to local Catholic art, thought, and culture.	June 2025
“Best Guest Column – Honorable Mention,” Catholic Media Awards “If We Lose Beauty, We Lose Our Spiritual Sight,” The Catholic Telegraph	January 2021
“Celebration of Teaching Award,” Greater Cincinnati Collegiate Connection 2019	October
DMA Thesis Award, University of Notre Dame Sacred Music Department 2018 Thesis: “The Chant-based Organ Works of Anton Heiller”	May

Leadership and Service

President, Society for Catholic Liturgy (SCL) Previously served as Secretary from 2019-2021, and Vice President/Treasurer from 2021-2022	September 2022 – September 2024
Sub-dean, American Guild of Organists, Cincinnati Chapter	December 2019-June 2021
Member, National Pastoral Musicians (NPM)	2011-present
Member, Church Music Association of America (CMAA)	2008-present
University Faculty for Life (UFL)	2012-2014

Publications

Book Review: “<i>Models of Heaven: Interpreting Life Everlasting</i>, M. Francis Mannion,” Antiphon	Fall 2024
“The Eucharistic Dynamic of Beauty,” Adoremus Bulletin https://adoremus.org/2023/07/the-eucharistic-dynamic-of-beauty/	July 2023
“Creativity and Tradition: A Framework for Sacred Music,” Communio: ICR Longer, original version of Humanum article: https://www.communio-icr.com/issues/view/memory	Summer 2023
“Creativity and Tradition: A Framework for Sacred Music,” Humanum Review 2021 https://humanumreview.com/articles/creativity-and-tradition-a-framework-for-sacred-music	September
“If We Lose Beauty, We Lose Our Spiritual Sight,” The Catholic Telegraph https://www.thecatholictelegraph.com/the-final-word-dr-mary-catherine-levri/72480	January 2021

“Why Church Music Is So Awful,” Humanum Review
2020

December

<https://humanumreview.com/articles/why-church-music-is-so-awful>

Presentations

Society for Catholic Liturgy Conference, University of St. Thomas, MN September 21st-22nd, 2023
Panel discussion: “Liturgical Formation and Priestly Formation”
Conference Title: “Remain in Me: Liturgical Formation and the Eucharistic Revival”

Ph.d. Symposium, Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies in Marriage and Family April 21st,
2022

Washington, DC

Lecturer: Benjamin Britten’s War Requiem: A Denouncement of Faith?

Society for Catholic Liturgy Conference, University of Notre Dame September 23rd-25th, 2021
Paper: “The Chants of the Roman Missal: A Common Way Forward”
Conference Title: “That They May Be One: Liturgical Reconciliation”

St. Ignatius Church, Cincinnati, OH March 5th, 2020
Parish mission talk: “Beauty Beckons Us: The Call to Life in the Eucharist”

St. Andrew Church, Cincinnati, OH October 9th, 2019
Lecture: “Gregorian Chant: History, Theology and Practical Use”

Panel Discussion with Sir James MacMillan, Cincinnati, OH May 14th,
2019

National Pastoral Musicians/American Guild of Organists, Cincinnati, OH February 4th, 2019
Lecture: “The Chant-based Organ Works of Anton Heiller”

National Pastoral Musicians, St. Veronica Church, Cincinnati, OH May 22nd, 2018
Lecture: “Gregorian Chant: History, Theology and Practical Use”

Theology on Tap, Archdiocese of Cincinnati April 19th, 2018
Lecture: “Why Catholics Should Sing,” with Q&A

Society for Catholic Liturgy Conference, Philadelphia, PA September 28th-30th, 2017
Paper: “The Prayer of the Church: Edith Stein, the Liturgy, and the Vocation of Woman”
Conference Title: “The Liturgy and Post-Modernity”

Conference at St. Joseph’s Seminary, Dunwoodie, NY March 10th-11th, 2017
Paper: “Sacred Music at the University of Notre Dame: A Labor of Love and the Holy Spirit”
Conference Title: “Gregorian Chant in Pastoral Ministry and Religious Education”

American Bach Society Conference: University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN April 8th, 2016
Doctoral student organ recital: Selections from the Leipzig Chorales
Conference title: J. S. Bach and the Confessional Landscape of His Time

CMAA Conference: Cathedral of St. Paul, St. Paul, MN

October 13th-15th, 2013

Organ Recital: "Two Lesser Known Suites on Gregorian Propers"

Conference title: "The Renewal of Sacred Music and the Liturgy in the Catholic Church: Movements New and Old"