



Pope Francis has announced a **Year of Mercy, December 2015 – November 2016.**

The purpose of the Year is to proclaim God's mercy to all people. The Year of Mercy is a way for the church to "make more evident its mission to be a witness of mercy." Each of us has an opportunity this Year to show mercy to one another.

The Year of Mercy has begun with the opening of the Holy Door of Mercy in the Basilica of St. Peter, December 8th, 2015 by Pope Francis. Every diocese has celebrated the opening of the Holy Door in unity with the Universal Church by opening a Holy Door of Mercy in their own cathedrals. These openings were on Sunday December 13th, 2015. The Year of Mercy will come to a close on Sunday November 20th, 2016.

As Ministers of Church Music, we have a task ahead of us to ensure that our music throughout this very special year, will in some way, reflect the theme of Mercy. This can be done by assisting in the Liturgy during our Masses, our Services of Reconciliation, and all gatherings that the Liturgical year presents to us. Those who sing in the choir hold a special place in the liturgy because of the ministry which they perform. They are part of the liturgical assembly and encourage the active participation of all in the singing, often doing this by singing with the congregation the various refrains and responses which are theirs.

I have included some Penitential Acts that are a beautiful way of portraying God's mercy in our Sunday Liturgy. **'Sing the Mass'** (produced by the National Centre for Liturgy in association with the Advisory Committee on Church Music) have many Penitential Act settings that are easily accessible for every choir.

This basic list of music is a guideline to all the beautiful music that is available to us through many different forms of Books, CD's. I have included Responsorial Psalms that take on many different forms by many composers.

Name of Hymn	Composer	Book / CD
Hymn for the Holy Year of Mercy	Paul Inwood	Year of Mercy Website
Deep within I will plant my law	David Haas	Celebration Hymnal
Like a Shepherd	Bob Dufford SJ	Celebration Hymnal
You are Salt for the Earth	Marty Haughen	Celebration Hymnal
Magnificat / My soul glorifies the Lord	Various Versions	
As the Deer Longs for running streams	Various Versions	
Sing of the Lord's Goodness	Ernest Sands	Celebration Hymnal
Praise to you O Christ our Saviour	Bernadette Farrell	Celebration Hymnal
Blessed be the Lord	Dan Schutte	Celebration Hymnal
I have loved you	Michael Joncas	Celebration Hymnal
We are called	David Haas	Celebration Hymnal
Eternal is your love	Liam Lawton	Eternal Collection
How Good is God	Liam Lawton	Eternal Collection
God of Mercy and Compassion	Michael Hodgetts	In Caelo
I thirst for you	David Haas	In Caelo
Taste and see	Various Versions	
Psalms 91 – Be with me Lord	Various Versions	
Psalms 24 – To you O Lord I lift up my soul	Various Versions	
Psalms 103 – The Lord is kind and merciful	Various Versions	
Psalms 33 – Let your Mercy be on us	Various Versions	
Psalms 34 – The cry of the poor	Various Versions	
Psalms 145 – You open wide your hand	Ephrem Feeley	Here in Christ we gather
Here in Christ we gather	Ephrem Feeley	Here in Christ we gather
In your presence of your Holy Angels	Ephrem Feeley	Here in Christ we gather
Taste and See	Ephrem Feeley	Here in Christ we gather
Your faith in me	Ian Callanan	In beauty we walk
Come and eat this bread	Ian Callanan	In beauty we walk
Grant to us O Lord		
Be merciful O Lord	Michael Joncas	
God full of Mercy	Lucien Deiss	
Lava me, Domine	Jean-Paul Lecot	

Be Merciful	Ian Callanan	
Hold us in your Mercy	Ian Callanan	

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