Choral Music Guide

♫ Introduction ♫

This guide is designed to help you locate choral music and information about choral music.

Click on a topic below.

Printed Music
Online Music Scores
Books
Databases
Journal Titles
Journal Articles
Dissertations
Recordings, Videos, & DVDs
Subject Headings
Bibliographies & Repertoire Lists
Web Sites

♫ Printed Music ♫

How do I find choral music?

If you have a specific piece in mind, you can search by title, author (person/organization/composer), or both in the online catalog. Below are general call number ranges for choral music.

**Suggested Call Numbers for Choral Music**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Secular Vocal Music</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M1530–1546.5</td>
<td>choruses with orchestra or other ensemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M1547–M1600</td>
<td>choruses, part songs, etc., with accompaniment of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>keyboard or other solo instrument, or unaccompanied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M1608</td>
<td>choruses, etc., in tonic sol fa notation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M1609</td>
<td>unison choruses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M1610</td>
<td>cantatas, choral symphonies, etc., for unaccompanied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>chorus (secular and sacred) with or without solo voices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M1627–M1853</td>
<td>folk, national and ethnic music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M1990–M1998</td>
<td>secular vocal music for children</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sacred Vocal Music

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call Numbers</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M2000–M2007</td>
<td>oratorios</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2010–M2017.6</td>
<td>choral services, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2010–M2014</td>
<td>masses, requiems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2018–M2019.5</td>
<td>duets, trios, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2020–M2036</td>
<td>choruses, cantatas, etc., with orchestra or other ensemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2060–M2101.5</td>
<td>choruses, part–songs, etc. with accompaniment of keyboard or other solo instrument, or unaccompanied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2115--M2146</td>
<td>hymnals; hymn collections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2147-M2188</td>
<td>liturgy and ritual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2147-2155.6</td>
<td>Roman Catholic churches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2156-2160.87</td>
<td>orthodox churches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2161-2183</td>
<td>protestant churches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2184</td>
<td>other Christian churches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2186-2187</td>
<td>jüdisch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2188</td>
<td>other non-Christian religions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2190-M2196</td>
<td>sacred vocal music for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2198-M2199</td>
<td>popular religious and devotional music</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Online Music Scores

**How can I find online music scores for choral music?**

A number of online music resources are available for free download and printing. Click below for a listing of resources.

CLICK HERE

### Books

**How can I find books about choral music?**

You can search by title, author, or both in the online catalog. Below are general call number ranges for information about choral music.

**Suggested Call Numbers for Books about Choral Music**

- **ML48–ML54** librettos
- **ML52-ML54** librettos of masques, oratorios, and cantatas
- **ML102** dictionaries and encyclopedias
- **ML102.C3** Christmas carols
- **ML102.C45** chant
ML102.C5 church music
ML102.G6 American gospel music
ML102.H95 hymns
ML102.V6 vocal terminology

ML128 bibliographies
ML128.C13 campaign songs, bibliographies
ML128.C2 liturgical music (Mass, Requiem, chant), bibliographies
ML128.C48 choral music, bibliographies
ML128.S75 school songs, bibliographies

ML156.4 discographies
ML156.4.V7 vocal music, discographies

ML420–ML421 biographies of singers and vocal performing groups

ML1500–ML1554 choral music, general
ML1527 cantata
ML1537 choruses, secular
ML1631 odes
ML1600–ML2881 vocal music, secular
ML2400 cantatas
ML2500–ML2860 songs
ML2600–ML2770 part songs
ML2600–ML2633 madrigals, general
ML2602 part songs, general
ML2627 French chansons
ML2629 German secular song
ML2631 English madrigals
ML2633 Italian madrigals
ML2661–ML2770 part songs
ML2900–ML3275 vocal music, sacred, general
ML3000–ML3197 music of individual religions and denominations
ML3000 Christian, general
ML3002–ML3095 Roman catholic
ML3082 chant
ML3100–ML3188 protestant
ML3195 jewish
ML3197 islamic
ML3201–ML3275 genres of sacred vocal music
ML3201 oratorio, general
ML3204–ML3233 oratorio by region
ML3204 Latin
ML3211 United States
ML3229 Germany
ML3233 Italy
ML3260–ML3265 anthem, cantata, choral prelude, crucifixion, Passion
ML3270 hymns
ML3275 motet
What music databases are available for research?

Hardin-Simmons offers the following music resources:

- **JSTOR**  
  Full text journal articles.

- **Oxford Music Online**  

- **Music Index**  
  Citations for journal articles and dissertations.

- **RILM Abstracts of Music Literature**  
  Citations and abstracts for journal articles, dissertations, and books.

How can I find periodicals or journals about choral music?

The following are a few recommended journals available through the Smith Music Library.

**American Choral Review**  
2002-present, available through electronic subscription (see online catalog).

**American Organist**  
1979-present, available in bound volumes

**Choir & Organ**  
1993-1996, 2000-present, available in bound volumes

**The Choral Journal**  
1965-present, available in bound volumes

**Early Music**  
1973-1999, available through the JSTOR database  
1998-2008, available as microfilm

**Early Music History**  
1981-ca. 5 years behind present year, available through the JSTOR database

**The Galpin Society**  
1948-ca. 6 years behind present year, available through the JSTOR database
How do I find periodical and journal articles about choral music?

The following electronic resources can assist you in finding periodical and journal articles.

- **JSTOR**
  Full text articles.

- **Music Index**
  Citations for articles and dissertations.

- **RILM Abstracts of Music Literature**
  Citations and abstracts for journal articles, dissertations, and books.

How can I find dissertations about choral music?

The following electronic resources can assist you in finding dissertations.

- **Comprehensive Dissertation Index: 1861-1972**

- **Music Index**
  Citations for articles and dissertations.

- **RILM Abstracts of Music Literature**
  Citations and abstracts for journal articles, dissertations, and books.

- **WorldCat Dissertations**
  Citations for dissertations.
How can I find recordings, videos, and DVDs of choral music?

Search for "choruses" as a subject in the online catalog. You can limit your search by library, format, location, etc. A few commonly used limits are:

library = Hardin-Simmons University Smith Music Library
format = Score
format = Sound Recording
format = Video Material

Also, substitute other terms that are broader or narrower in score (see next section for suggestions).

What are some useful subject headings to help locate materials relating to choral music?

Search the online catalog for materials related to the subjects below:

Subject Headings for Books about Choral Music

- anthems
- antiphons (music)
- ave Maria (music)
- balletti (part songs)
- canticles
- carols
- chansons
- chants
- children’s choirs
- choirs
- choral conducting
- choral conductors
- choral music--bibliography
- choral music--history
- choral music--instruction and study
- choral singing
- choral speaking
- choruses
- church music
- glee, catches, rounds, etc.
- hymn tunes
- hymns
- madrigals
- Magnificat (music)
- Mass (music)
- motets
- oratorio
- passion (music)
- requiems
- Stabat Mater dolorosa (music)
- Te Deum laudamus (music)
- tune-books
Subject Headings for Scores, Recordings, and Videorecordings of Choral Music

- anthems
- antiphons (music)
- ave Maria (music)
- ave verum corpus (music)
- beatitudes (music)
- canticles
- carols
- chansons
- chants
- chorales
- chorus scores
- chorauses
- church music
- frottolas (music)
- glee, catches, rounds, etc.
- hymn tunes
- hymns
- madrigals
- Magnificat (music)
- Mass (music)
- motets
- nunc dimittis (music)

♫ Bibliographies & Repertoire Lists ♫

How can I find out what books have been published about choral music? How can I find out what music has been published for choral music? The following are a few recommended books available to Hardin-Simmons students.


Annotated bibliography of almost 2,000 choral works by 76 composers active in the United States between 1920 and 1993, along with an annotated bibliography of more than 200 selected writings.


Bibliography of more than 7,000 choral works arranged in biblical order. Divided into three main sections: Old Testament, the Apocrypha, and New Testament. Majority of the works are choral octavos. Extended works, with few exceptions, are excluded. Provides King James biblical reference: book, chapter, verse(s); additional scripture used, or author of paraphrased text, or translator; composer, arranger, or editor; title; voicing, solos, and accompaniment; and publication information. Cross-references texts from other biblical locations. Expansive composer and title indexes.

An annotated bibliography of 785 resources relating to choral music. Organized into 8 sections: (1) general music reference, (2) choral music reference, (3) choral and church music periodicals, (4) choral technique, (5) surveys of choral music, sacred and secular, (6) studies of choral genres, (7) studies of individual composers and works, and (8) choral music Web sites. Expansive subject, author, and title indices.


Annotated list of compositions by 102 African-American composers and arrangers. Entries are graded for difficulty. Information provided includes title, copyright date, number of pages, voicing and soloists, vocal ranges, range of difficulty, accompaniment (if applicable), publisher, and catalog number. Also includes a selected listing of 25 collections of Negro spirituals and brief biographical sketches of 84 composers. Various appendices.


Annotated bibliography of approximately 130 original compositions and 140 arrangements. Limited inclusion of folksongs and carols; excludes works intended exclusively for the Roman Catholic Church service. Gives composer/arranger, title, publisher and catalog number, number of vocal parts, grade of difficulty, approximate length, type of accompaniment, vocal range (lowest alto note to highest soprano note), and available editions. Various indices.


Selective bibliography of approximately 900 sources pertinent to choral music in the United States from the 1820s through the early years of the 20th century.

Multiaccessed index to reviews of choral works in 16 English-language journals. Synopsizes reviews published 1983–1985 of more than 2,000 recently published or reissued octavos, choral collections, and extended choral works. Numerous indices.


Annotated bibliography of nearly 600 opera choruses. Intentions: “to add to the body of choral repertory, and not necessarily to annotate opera scenes that make extensive use of chorus.” Citations include composer, title of opera, date of composition, librettist(s), publisher(s), act, scene, number, title or first line of text, performing forces, duration, level of difficulty (easy, medium, moderately difficult, and difficult), description of scene, and other notes as needed. Various indices.


Annotated bibliography (along with discography) of Haydn’s and Mozart’s choral-orchestral works. Provides duration, text, scoring, first performance, editions and autographs, and performance issues. Various indices.


Annotated bibliography of the works of Beach, Beethoven, Brahms, Dvořák, Fauré, Mendelssohn, Puccini, Rossini, Saint-Saëns, and Verdi. Provides duration, text source, scoring, editions available, location of manuscript materials, and includes a discography.


A companion to *Choral Music: A Research and Information Guide*. Focus is on church and worship music in the United States. 10 main sections: (1) general music reference; (2) church music reference; (3) church music in periodicals; (4) historical studies; (5) regional studies (regions of the U. S.); (6) religious and ethnic
groups; (7) church and sacred music genres; (8) music ministry; (9) tradition, change, and conflict; and, (10) church and worship music Web sites. Includes approximately 120 dissertations on specific topics in American church music.


Annotated bibliography of 644 choral works. Criteria for selection limited to works for the Protestant worship service and works for mixed chorus, excluding mixed quartets and works for men’s voices and women’s voices. Bibliography, now quite dated, divided into four classifications: standard list, a cappella standard list, current list, and a cappella current list. Basic bibliographic information included for each work with brief annotation. Four helpful indexes: (1) topical index of the church year; (2) first lines; (3) composers, arrangers, musical sources; and (4) authors, translators, textual sources.


The first edition is held at Hardin-Simmons University; the second edition is held at Howard Payne University and McMurry University (see next entry). Similar to the second edition, except for fewer composition listed in the bibliography (537 works), and there are no essays. Various indices.


Two parts. Part I contains a bibliography of 795 compositions and a number of collections of music for men’s voices. Limited to original works for male chorus and based on “availability” and “practicality.” Provides basic bibliographic information, including publisher and catalog numbers, for each entry. Also provides a list of publishers, with addresses and telephone numbers, and a list of service and professional music organizations. Part II presents essays on a variety of topics.


Bibliography of all sacred choral music in print organized alphabetically by composer. Updated by supplements. International in scope, though works published in the United States, Canada, and Western Europe are emphasized.
Each entry provides composer, title, voicing, accompaniment, remarks, and pricing information (U.S. dollars). Heavily cross-referenced.


Bibliography of all secular choral music in print organized alphabetically by composer. Updated by supplements. International in scope, though works published in the United States, Canada, and Western Europe are emphasized. Each entry provides composer, title, voicing, accompaniment, remarks, and pricing information (U.S. dollars). Heavily cross-referenced.


Annotated bibliography of 367 choral works, classified as SATB, SATB divisi, SAB, SSA, and TTBB. Provides composer, title, voicing, accompaniment, text, range, level of difficulty, style and general comments, publisher, duration, recommended usage (i.e., Christmas, festival, secular concert, etc.), date of composition, and recommended performance group (high school to college).

What are some internet Websites related to choral music?

The following are only a few recommended Web sites:

- **American Choral Music**
  Collaboration between the American Choral Directors Association and the Library of Congress. Devoted to choral music in public domain, provides music for download along with background information about the work and composer.

- **CANTUS: A Database for Latin Ecclesiastical Chant**
  Indices of chants in selected manuscripts and early printed sources of the liturgical Office.

- **ChoralNet**
  Established by the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) and sponsored by several organizations including the International Federation for Choral Music. Provides forums, information about choral organizations and choirs, choral resources, and news.
• **CPDL.org**  
  Home of the Choral Public Domain Library (CPDL). Provides links to printed music, information about composers, texts and translations, and CPDL forums.

• **Eble Music**  
  Publisher of choral, vocal, and instrumental music.

• **J. S. Bach's Church Cantatas**  
  Vocal parts with accompaniment of all Bach's church cantatas.

• **Musica International: The Virtual Choral Library**  
  Contains a virtual library of more than 160,000 pieces of choral music, with comprehensive descriptions and multimedia links, and information on 29,000 composers.

• **Yahoo! Directory**  
  Choral-related linkis.

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