



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF CLOYNE
SACRED MUSIC COMPETITION
FOR IRISH COMPOSERS

The Centenary of the consecration of St. Colman's Cathedral will be celebrated in 2019. The celebrations that will mark the centenary provide us with a unique opportunity and a challenge. Although the Cathedral is just 100 years old, the Diocese was founded in 560 AD by St. Colman and has served to spread the Gospel from almost the arrival of Christianity in Ireland to the present day. The challenge for the diocese, as the Cathedral enters another hundred years, is to continue to be faithful to those who went before it and to our own calling to serve the people of God.

For the occasion of the Centenary, the Diocese of Cloyne is holding a Sacred Music Competition for Irish composers for a Setting of the Mass. While we are seeking the highest level of craft and musical expression, we are also concerned with Mass settings that are viable in all parishes. As such, the Mass should be within the ability of all our church choirs and congregations.

The first major performance will be in August 2019 to coincide with the centenary of the Cathedral and rededication of the restored pipe organ. Towards the end of 2015, the Telford & Telford organ in the Cathedral of Cobh was dismantled and sent to the Ruffatti workshops in Padua for restoration. It will take a number of years for this work to be completed and the restored pipe organ will be rededicated at the centenary Mass in August 2019.

It is anticipated that the winner of the competition will be announced in June 2018 in order that publishing and printing will be completed not later than August that year. This is so that the Mass can be introduced to every parish in the diocese beginning in September 2018. There will be a programme of meetings, workshops and choir days so that parishes will have the opportunity of becoming familiar with the Mass setting. It is hoped that this Mass setting will be one of the ways of uniting all parishes with the Cathedral church of the diocese. It is anticipated that this Mass setting will be used for appropriate ceremonies in parishes in 2019 leading up to the centenary celebrations.

THE KEY DATES

Submission Deadline: 5pm on Friday 16th March 2018

Final date for Registration for the composition: 24th November 2017 - Feast of St. Colman

Announcement of the winner of the composition: June 2018

Prize: €5,000 will be presented in a ceremony in St. Colman's Cathedral in early summer 2018.

Commencement of process of introduction of the Mass setting: September 2018

Centenary Mass: August 2019

THE JUDGING PROCESS

The adjudication panel will comprise judges of international standing with acknowledged experience. The membership of the adjudication panel will be announced after the submission deadline. This delayed announcement is to try to remove bias from the judging process such that some entrants might be aware of the style and form of the judging panel's own compositions.

The judging process is blind, therefore none of the scores or recordings submitted may include the composer's name or any biographical information or anything that might identify them to the judges.

The decision of the adjudication panel will be final.

Only one composition will be selected and the adjudication panel will be required to keep their decisions in relation to other placings confidential.

The diocese reserves the right not to award a prize on the advice of the adjudication panel and at its own discretion.

Entrants may submit only one Mass setting.

THE STRUCTURE AND TEXT OF THE MASS

Note: a general familiarity with the structure and function of the Mass is assumed.

Composers must utilise the text of The Roman Missal English Translation according to the Third Typical Edition Approved for Use in the Dioceses of Ireland by the Bishops' Conference of Ireland and Confirmed by the Apostolic See 2011. For artistic considerations and in conformity with the tradition of sacred music, words or phrases may be repeated moderately while maintaining time considerations consistent with regular congregational use, however there can be no alterations, additions, or omissions. Settings in Irish or Latin for some or all parts may be submitted as long as the official English text is included in its entirety.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

Registration.

The blind entry arrangements will be managed by a separate confidential invigilator in order to preserve the anonymity of the entrants.

The registration process has a number of objectives:

- To facilitate the confidential invigilator in assigning a competition number to each entrant.
- To allow the diocese to know that competition is viable some months in advance of the closing date and that there are composers who intend to enter.

A sealed envelope containing the biographical and contact information for the composer should be sent separately to the confidential invigilator at the Diocesan Offices who will assign a competition number.

The entry materials marked with the competition number should be sent to Cathedral Parish Office where it will be opened and sorted and subsequently repacked and sent to the judges in question.

Nationality

The competition is confined to composers who are Irish. As a guide any person who was born on the Island of Ireland and / or who holds an Irish Passport will be regarded as eligible. Any person who holds dual citizenship, one of which is Irish, will be regarded as eligible. Any additional question that may arise in relation to the nationality eligibility should be addressed to the confidential invigilator who will consult with the diocesan authorities and if necessary the adjudication panel for resolution. This latter is to cater for those who have lived and worked in Ireland for many years but are not Irish citizens.

Format of Submission

The Mass setting required is one that that can be used at all musicianship skills. It must have either a piano or an organ accompaniment and could also have optional guitar chords in addition. It does not have to be orchestrated for other instruments. However if you wish to do so please include a copy of your Mass with just basic accompaniment.

Entrants should submit three bound scores printed using an established software based score writer programme such as Avid Sibelius First, Finale Print Music or Magic Score Maestro together with the soft copy on a CD.

Entrants can if they wish submit a CD containing a recording of the submitted work including quality MIDI realisations. However any such recording must be in addition to the printed scores and the software based score.

Parts of the Mass to be included

The settings should be for the following Ordinary texts of the Mass: (See the General Instruction of the Roman Missal chapter 2: The Structure of the Mass and its Elements and Parts numbers 27-90.)

Lord Have Mercy/Kyrie

Gloria

Alleluia/Gospel Acclamation (with composed chant tone(s) to accommodate Gospel verses) and Lenten Gospel Acclamation

Holy, Holy, Holy

Memorial Acclamations A, B, and C. Acclamations of the Eucharistic Prayer and Mystery of Faith

Amen

Lamb of God

Other parts may also be included, such as the Creed, Act of Penitence, Prayer of the Faithful and Our Father.

Copyright

In Ireland, copyright law is contained in the Copyright & Related Rights Act, 2000. There is no system of registration for copyright protection in Ireland as copyright arises automatically on the creation of an original work. You do not need to publish your work, to put a copyright notice on it or do anything else to be covered by copyright – protection is free and automatic.

A work is protected automatically from the time it is first written down or recorded in some way, provided that it has resulted from the creator's skill and effort and is not simply copied from another work. Copyright owners can assign or license their rights.

It shall be a condition of the competition that the winning composer shall assign the rights of the Mass setting to the Catholic Diocese of Cloyne for use by the diocese for the duration of copyright. This assignment shall be limited to the non-exclusive use by the diocese but the author shall retain all other rights.

The above is only intended to set out in advance the concept of and requirement for the limited assigned of copyright to the Diocese of Cloyne and the exact terms will be set out in a draft contract to be issued to all entrants at registration.

REGiSTERING AND DELIVERING THE ENTRIES

Registration, entry and adjudication will provide a high quality assessment system incorporating the highest standards of openness, fairness and accountability. A double envelope system should be employed so that the material can be sorted and subsequently repacked and sent to the judges in question without opening the inner envelope

Registration should be by post or hand-delivered to:

Confidential Invigilator,
Diocese of Cloyne Sacred Music Competition,
Cloyne Diocesan Office,
Spy Hill,
Cobh,
Co. Cork
Ireland
P24 RK54

The Confidential Invigilator will assign a competition number and send that number to the entrant at the address provided.

Completed Entries must be by post or hand-delivered to:

Diocese of Cloyne Sacred Music Competition
Cathedral Parish Office
5 Cathedral Tce.,
Cobh
County Cork
Ireland
P24 W248

A double envelope system should be employed so that the material can be sorted and subsequently repacked and sent to the judges in question without opening the inner envelope. Entry Material that arrives after the deadline of 5pm on Friday 16th March 2018 will be forwarded unopened to the Confidential Invigilator. The Confidential Invigilator may at his or her sole discretion seek the advice of the adjudication panel as to what should be done which could include the return by the Confidential Invigilator of the unopened material to the entrant.

Annex A

GUIDANCE FOR THE ADJUDICATION PANEL

The following guidance will be provided to the adjudication panel in order to allow them to understand the intention of the Diocese of Cloyne in holding a Sacred Music Competition.

The purpose of the contest is to seek a setting of the Mass for use in the diocese during the celebrations in St. Colman's Cathedral on the occasion of:

1. The Centenary of the consecration of St. Colman's Cathedral
2. The re-dedication of the Pipe Organ after complete restoration

The occasion of the Centenary of the consecration of St. Colman's Cathedral is not about the building itself, it is more an opportunity to re-dedicate the whole diocese to continue the work of St. Colman, who founded the diocese in 560 AD, and to all those who have worked to spread and preserve the faith since.

The Mass should be within the ability of all our church choirs and congregations because although it will be used for the centenary celebration its primary purpose it to be a diocesan Mass for use in every parish. It is hoped it will be used across the diocese in the decades after the centenary.

The competition is being confined to Irish composers in order to encourage Irish composers to compose sacred music.

The composition should reflect the Cathedral which has been described as a “sermon in stone” and the long faithful history of the diocese. The Cathedral and the diocese have stood the test of time and so the Mass setting should reflect that tradition.

An occasion may arise where there is a need for communication with an entrant. Any communication between the panel of adjudicators and any entrant must be via the Confidential Invigilator who will ensure strict anonymity in the process.

Only one composition shall be selected as winner.

As the winning Mass setting will have to be promoted through workshops, classes, recordings and choir days the adjudication panel are asked to consider this in their selection of the winning entry.