

# Dublin and Glendalough Diocesan Church Music Committee

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## ARCHBISHOP'S CERTIFICATE IN CHURCH MUSIC SYLLABUS FOR PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

(► Revised in July 2009 and replaces previous versions)

### ORGAN SYLLABUS

*Information about how to obtain organ music, etc.  
is given at the end of the syllabus.*

#### YEAR ONE

#### General rules

A list of hymns, chants and other items selected by the candidate **must** be sent to the Hon. Secretary of the Diocesan Church Music Committee at least six weeks before the examination date.

Photocopies (to be destroyed after the examination) of **all material must** be provided for the examiner.

At the examination, the candidate will usually be required to accompany the examiner for the test hymns, psalms and canticles.

The use of a registrant is not permitted.

The decision of the examiner is final.

Candidates must also be prepared to attend liturgical seminars and choir training courses and to submit assignments as required.

**Total marks 100 –Pass: 60 marks, Honours: 70 marks, Distinction: 85 marks.**

**To receive Honours or Distinction, at least 15 marks must be achieved for hymn playing.**

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#### **HYMNS 25 marks**

To be played using *Church Hymnal, 5th edition (2000)*.

The candidate will be asked to play

Rock of Ages (Tune: Petra) CH 557 (with pedals) (15 marks)

**and**

**one other hymn (chosen by Examiner) from a list of three** submitted by the candidate.  
(10 marks)

At least one of these three to be played **with pedals**.

Year 1, continued

**2. CANTICLES**

from The Book of Common Prayer 2004

**10 marks** (Canticle with pedals: 6 marks, manuals only: 4 marks)

either (a) Jubilate (single chant) **and** Glory and Honour (double chant)

or (b) Nunc Dimittis (single chant) **and** Urbs Fortitudinis (double chant)

At least one of the chosen canticles must be accompanied with pedals.

**3. RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**5 marks**

To accompany (manuals only) **one psalm** to a responsorial psalm setting from *Singing Psalms* (Cadden & Thompson / The Columba Press) **or** *Psalms for Singers* (RSCM Online Shop) **or** *Responsorial Psalms for Sundays and Major Feast Days* (Fintan O'Carroll / ICMA).

**4. ORGAN MUSIC**

**35 marks**

**One piece** to be chosen from each of the following lists.

**List A – J.S. BACH**

**15 marks**

Ich ruf' zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ	BWV 639 (Orgelbüchlein)
Prelude in g minor	BWV 558 (Eight 'short' preludes and fugues)
Prelude in F	BWV 556 (Eight 'short' preludes and fugues)
Pastorale (bars 1–37)	BWV 590

**List B – GENERAL CHORALE PRELUDES**

**10 marks**

From Seasonal Chorale Preludes Book 1, ed. C. H. Trevor (OUP) (manuals only)

Wachet auf, ruft uns Stimme	Walter
Jesu, meine Freude	Zachau

From Seasonal Chorale Preludes Book 2, ed. C. H. Trevor (OUP) (manuals only)

Nun lasst uns Gott	Pachelbel
Vater Unser im Himmelreich	Telemann

Year 1, continued

**List C – OLD ENGLISH ORGAN MUSIC**

**10 marks**

All from Old English Organ Music for Manuals, ed. C. H. Trevor

Cornet Voluntary (Bk 1)

Travers

Siciliano (Bk 4)

Stanley

Pastorale (Bk 1)

Wesley

**5. PEDAL EXERCISES**

**10 marks**

from The First Year at the Organ by Percy Buck:

page 18, No. 50 **and** page 24, No. 71

**6. SIGHT READING**

**10 marks**

An unfamiliar hymn or a short piece in a major or minor key, not more than three sharps or flats – manuals only. The candidate will be allowed up to 5 minutes to review the piece before playing.

**7. VIVA VOCE**

**5 marks**

The candidate will be asked questions on the registration of the pieces selected.

## **YEAR TWO**

### **General Rules**

A list of hymns, chants and other items selected by the candidate **must** be sent to the Hon. Secretary of the Diocesan Church Music Committee at least six weeks before the examination date.

Photocopies (to be destroyed after the examination) of **all material must** be provided for the examiner.

At the examination, the candidate will usually be required to accompany the examiner for the test hymns, psalms and canticles.

The use of a registrant is not permitted.

The decision of the examiner is final.

Candidates must also be prepared to attend liturgical seminars and choir training courses and to submit assignments as required.

**Total marks 100 –Pass: 60 marks, Honours: 70 marks, Distinction: 85 marks.**

**To receive Honours or Distinction, at least 15 marks must be achieved for hymn playing.**

### **1. HYMNS 25 marks**

To be played using *Church Hymnal 5th edition (2000)*.

All hymns to be played with pedals

The candidate will be asked to play

The King of love (2nd tune: St Columba / SATB version)) CH 20 (15 marks)

**and**

one other hymn (chosen by Examiner) from a list of four submitted by the candidate. (10 marks)

**2. CANTICLES AND PSALMS**  
**15 marks** (5 marks are allocated to each psalm and canticle)

The candidate should prepare:

TWO canticles from BCP 2004

Both canticles to be accompanied using double chants and with pedals. One of these will be chosen by the examiner.

**and**

TWO psalms, or portions of longer psalms (e.g. a suitable section 8 to 12 verses long)

The candidate will be asked:

to accompany (with pedals) ONE using an Anglican chant other than the chants selected for the canticles above)

**and**

to accompany (with pedals) ONE using a responsorial psalm setting from *Singing Psalms* (Cadden & Thompson) **or** *Psalms for Singers* (RSCM Online Shop) **or** *Responsorial Psalms for Sundays and Major Feast Days* (Fintan O'Carroll / ICMA).

**3. ACCOMPANIMENT OF ANTHEMS**  
**10 MARKS**

**One** of the following anthems to be chosen by the candidate and either the organ accompaniment or 'rehearsal only' accompaniment played.

Ave Verum Corpus	Mozart (Oxford Easy Anthem Book)
A Prayer of St Richard of Chichester	White (Oxford Easy Anthem Book)
Ave Verum Corpus	Elgar (Novello or RSCM)

Year 2, continued

**4. ORGAN MUSIC**  
**35 marks**

ONE piece to be chosen by the candidate from each category:

**List A – J.S.Bach**  
**15 marks**

Fugue in g minor from Prelude and Fugue No. 6 BWV 558  
from Eight ‘Short’ Preludes and Fugues.

Any ONE Prelude from Nos. 1, 2, 3, or 7 only.  
from Eight ‘Short’ Preludes and Fugues.

Christ lag in Todesbanden (Orgelbüchlein) BWV 625

Nun Komm der heiden Heiland (Orgelbüchlein) BWV 599

Liebster Jesu (Orgelbüchlein) BWV 634

**LIST B – ROMANTIC**  
**10 marks**

Christus, der ist mein Leben	M. Reger (Organ Book No. 3 OUP)
Entrée solennelle	L. Boellmann (Organ Book No. 3 OUP)
Chorale Prelude on <i>Ein feste Burg</i>	M. Reger (Organ Book No. 4 OUP)
Communion	C. Franck (Organ Book No. 4 OUP)
O Haupt voll Blut und Wunden	M. Reger (The Church Year – The Church Organist’s Collection Vol.1)
Alleluia!	F. Peeters (The Church Year – The Church Organist’s Collection Vol.1)
No. 6 from <i>Six short preludes and postludes, Set 1</i>	C.V.Stanford, Op. 101

**LIST C – MODERN**  
**10 marks**

Jubilant Finale (Fanfares and Finales – Service Pieces for Organ / Kevin Mayhew)	Colin Mawby
Prelude on Caswall (Wem in Leidenstagen)	Peter Hurford (The Church Year – see above)
The Secret Rose	Eric Sweeney (Beaumaris Publications)
Ave Maris Stella I, Op.18. No. 6	Marcel Dupré (The Church Year – see above)
Sonata No 2 (second movement)	Paul Hindemith

**5. SIGHT READING**  
**10 marks**

At the examination, the candidate will be asked to play:

a hymn (manuals only), having been allowed not more than 5 minutes to review it;

**and**

from the open score of the anthem chosen at *C* above: any two parts

– to be played together (e.g. alto and bass), as directed by the examiner.

**6. VIVA VOCE**  
**5 marks**

The candidate will be asked questions about the registration of the pieces (including liturgical music) they have played and to discuss issues relating to accompanying and leading hymn singing (playover, tempo, gaps between verses, etc.).

## **YEAR THREE**

### **General Rules**

A list of hymns, chants and other items selected by the candidate **must** be sent to the Hon. Secretary of the Diocesan Church Music Committee at least six weeks before the examination date.

Photocopies (to be destroyed after the examination) of **all material must** be provided for the examiner.

At the examination, the candidate will usually be required to accompany the examiner for the test hymns, psalms and canticles.

The use of a registrant is not permitted.

The decision of the examiner is final.

Candidates must also be prepared to attend liturgical seminars and choir training courses and submit assignments as required.

**Total marks 100 –Pass: 60 marks, Honours: 70 marks, Distinction: 85 marks.**

**To receive Honours or Distinction, at least 12 marks must be achieved for hymn playing.**

### **1. HYMNS**

#### **20 marks**

To be played from *Church Hymnal, 5th edition (2000)*. The own-choice selection must not include hymns submitted in previous years.

All hymns to be played **with pedals**.

(i) The candidate will be asked to play

Father, Lord of all creation (*Tune: Abbot's Leigh*) CH 318

**and**

(ii) ONE hymn (chosen by Examiner) from a list of five submitted.

**This list should include at least two of the following, selected from Church Hymnal**

141 These are the days of Elijah*	368 Sing of the Lord's goodness*
219 From heav'n you came (The Servant King)	377 You shall go out with joy
230 My Lord, what love is this	448 The feast is ready*
228 Meekness and majesty	581 I, the Lord of sea and sky
325 Be still, for the presence of the Lord	598 Take this moment, sign and space

\*More demanding, but worth the effort for the more ambitious student

(iii) The candidate also will be asked to play ONE hymn at sight, unprepared, having been allowed not more than 5 minutes to review it.

Year 3, continued

**2. PSALMS  
10 marks**

The candidate to prepare

FOUR psalms, or four portions of longer psalms (e.g., a suitable section 8 to 12 verses long),  
two using Anglican chant

**and**

two using a responsorial psalm setting from *Singing Psalms* (Cadden & Thompson), *or* *Psalms for Singers* (RSCM ONline Shop) or *Responsorial Psalms for Sundays and Major Feast Days* (Fintan O'Carroll / ICMA).

All the psalms are to be accompanied with pedals, using chants not selected in previous years.

**At the examination**, the candidate will be asked to play one psalm to Anglican chant and one to a responsorial setting, chosen by the examiner from the candidate's submitted list.

**3. ACCOMPANIMENT OF A SETTING OF THE EUCHARIST  
15 marks**

ONE of the following congregational settings of the Eucharist to be chosen and prepared in its entirety (organ accompaniment):

The Wiltshire Service (Full)

Saint Patrick's Setting

Holy Communion, Series 3 (Unison)

A Unison Communion (Full)

Richard Shephard (RSCM Ref C0019)

Colin Mawby (Mayhew)

William Mathias (RSCM) (C0007)

Herbert Sumsion (RSCM) (C0474)

Year 3, continued

**4. ORGAN MUSIC**  
**35 marks**

One piece to be chosen by the candidate from each category:

**LIST A – J.S. BACH**  
**15 marks**

- Fugue only from Prelude and Fugue in C BWV 545
- Chorale prelude on Liebster Jesu, Wir sind Hier BWV 731
- Chorale prelude on Heut' triumphieret Gottes Sohn BWV 630
- Prelude **and** Fugue in A BWV 536
- Trio in d minor BWV 583
- Fantasia only in c minor BWV 562
- Allabreve BWV 589

(While any edition will be accepted, Peters or Bärenreiter are recommended.)

**LIST B – ROMANTIC**  
**10 marks**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Six Short Preludes & Postludes, Set 1, Op. 10, No. 1, 2 or 5                  | C.V. Stanford<br>(Stainer & Bell)      |
| Sonata in A, Op. 65 No. 3, 2 <sup>nd</sup> movt ( <i>Andante tranquillo</i> ) | F. Mendelssohn                         |
| Sonata in c minor, Op. 65 No. 2, 1st movt ( <i>Grave</i> ) and Adagio         | F. Mendelssohn<br>(Novello or Peters.) |
| Prelude, Fugue and Variation, Op. 18, Prelude only.                           | C. Franck (Durand).                    |

**LIST C – MODERN**  
**10 marks**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Aria, Op. 51   | Flor Peeters – (ed. Heuwekemeijer / Peters D-396)                       |
| Prelude on “Picardy”   | John Joubert<br>(Easy Modern Organ Music, Book 2, OUP)                  |
| Fanfare  | Kenneth Leighton<br>(Easy Modern Organ Music, Bk 1, OUP)                |
| God rest ye merry, gentlemen<br>Sonata No.2 (first movement) | Wilbur Herd (The Church Organist’s Collection Vol. 1)<br>Paul Hindemith |
| Processional   | William Mathias   |

Year 3, continued

**5. SIGHT READING**  
**5 marks**

A moderately easy piece with pedals

The candidate will be allowed up to 5 minutes to study the piece in advance.

**6. TRANSPOSING AT SIGHT**  
**5 marks**

A simple four-part texture to be transposed at sight up or down a tone to a key not exceeding two sharps or flats (manuals only).

**7. SCORE-READING (prepared)**  
**5 marks**

A passage chosen by the examiner from the vocal score (open score) of the SATB anthem which the candidate will conduct / conducted in the choir training examination. All four parts are to be played together (manuals only).

*In the event that a choir training examination is not scheduled, the candidate should consult the Hon. Secretary about the choice of a suitable score.*

**8. VIVA VOCE**  
**5 marks**

The candidate will be asked questions on the choice of registration and the selection of chants for the psalms. They should also be prepared to discuss issues relating to the accompaniment of liturgical music.

**End of Syllabus**

**Locating music listed in this syllabus**

*Singing Psalms* may be obtained from the Resource Centre, Holy Trinity Church, Rathmines, Dublin 6. [sssresourcecentre@eircom.net](mailto:sssresourcecentre@eircom.net). tel: (01) 497 2821. Opening times are a little restricted, so telephone in advance. Also available online (and perhaps at a lower price) from The Columba Press, Dublin. [www.columba.ie](http://www.columba.ie)

*Psalms for singers* may be obtained from [www.rscmshop.com](http://www.rscmshop.com)

*Responsorial Psalms* may be obtained from Veritas Bookshop, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1.

For organ music and other items, refer to the article 'Where do I find it?' elsewhere on this site. We recommend Roger Molyneux's on-line used organ music store: [www.usedorganmusic.co.uk](http://www.usedorganmusic.co.uk), particularly for music out-of-print; e.g. *Seasonal Chorale Preludes* (OUP) and *Old English Organ Music for manuals, Books 1-6*, C.H.Trevor.

**Should you have difficulty**, the Hon Secretary, Jacqueline Mullen, [jacqmulen@eircom.net](mailto:jacqmulen@eircom.net) (01) 298 8923 will be pleased to assist.