



## *Colorado Knights' Choir*

With Director Tom Shiners



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## *From the Director*

When I accepted the position as the Director of the Knights Men's Choir some time ago, I was excited and it was an honor. To know me is to know how much I love music, and what I believe it does for the soul. Since taking over the choir we have become the Knight's Men's Choir for the State of Colorado. We have guys from several different councils that join us each month, and it is one way to keep us unified between councils.

I challenge the other Knights in our council to come and sing with us. Some of our guys are accomplished musicians, some are not. The more the merrier.

I have 3 driving forces for directing and singing:

- 1- **Music touches everyone!** The gift of music is one that can touch someone's soul without having to listen to the words; the melody alone can move people and help them to notice the words. Everyone can identify with this—how many times have you been caught singing a song with the wrong words, in the car, at a concert, at home? I try to use our song as a channel from us to the Lord. It might be the one thing that helps them to take notice of where they are, in church, in life, in their own happiness.
- 2- **Mass and Music are Celebrations!** Think of the Mass, which is a celebration of what our Lord Jesus Christ did for us. Now think of Masses without music. It is faster, shorter, and I believe people go through the motions with the prayers, meaning they are reciting them from memory, but not always thinking about what they are saying. Now think of how they participate when they are singing, some are from memory, but they usually sing with feeling. They read the words; they follow the leader on pitch and volume. They open up a part of their heart to God that is not opened by simply reciting a prayer that they have prayed countless times before. They may even sway or what I call chair dance. When was the last time you saw someone reciting the Holy, Holy, the Lord's Prayer, or the Profession of Faith and moving to the rhythm?
- 3- **Touching those that need us!** If our music touches 1 soul in that moment of song that was unable to be reached before, we are then doing the Lord's work. If we get 1 person to ask about the Knights, we are doing the Lord proud. If by some chance we get someone to believe who did not before—this is the most important. Music is stress relief. Music can take you to another time, place, and mental status. You can lessen the burden or make someone happy just through song.

Music has a very special place my heart, and in our ministry. I appreciate the dedication that I have from the guys we have now, and their devotion to finding more members as we continue to grow this choir we have, as brothers, as singers, as children of God.

Music has a profound effect on the state of mind, the attitude, and the attention of those that are around it. So please consider it when I ask to you to join us to spread God's word and works.

We sing every third Sunday of the month at 8:30 am Mass here at St. Thomas More, and continue to do special masses as requested of us. Our rehearsals are always the second Tuesday of the month. Please contact me if you are interested in joining us and enjoying the camaraderie of singing together as Men, Knights, and stewards of our Lord.

Your Brother in Christ,  
Tom Shiners  
Director  
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