

Seasonal Planning Group Discussion Results
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1. What is the sound of the season?

Advent—Anticipation, hopeful, waiting
Christmas—joyful, celebration
Ordinary Time—relaxed, happy, unexpected, depends on A, B or C
Lent—simple, basic, somber, chant
Triduum—changes for each service
Easter—joyful

2. What music is used to reflect this sound? Why?

a. Mass settings

Advent—not all embellishment, Chant Mass
Christmas—Mass of Renewal, Mass of Creation, Mass of Christ the Savior
Ordinary Time
 Summer—something everyone knows—visitors etc., Heritage, Christ the Savior
 Fall—Mass of Creation, Christ the Savior
 Winter—Mass of Renewal, Christ the Savior
Lent—Chant Mass, changes for each
Triduum—each day is different according to the liturgy, i.e., Holy Thursday (sing Gloria), Good Friday (solemn)
Easter—

b. Hymns

Advent—minor settings
Christmas—Christmas carols, songs to expand, add voices
Ordinary Time—appropriate, Mary's Song (August), patriotic songs (Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day)
Lent—reflects the mercy conversion, repentance
Triduum—reflects each liturgy
Easter—reflects each liturgy

c. Anthems

Advent—Ready the Way
Christmas—O Holy Night, instrumentation before Mass, OCP music not used with congregation
Ordinary Time—could have groups
Lent—reflects each liturgy, goes along with readings etc.
Triduum—reflects each liturgy, goes along with readings etc.
Easter—reflects each liturgy, goes along with readings etc.

d. Environment

Advent—different committee
Christmas—different committee
Ordinary Time—flowers, plants, other committees
Lent—low key, very simple, but reflects the season
Triduum— low key, very simple, but reflects the season, Easter Vigil goes from dark to light
Easter—goes from dark to light

e. Instrumentation

Advent—simple/few, can be different depending on instruments

Christmas—full!

Ordinary Time—everything, add vibraphone or others

Lent—

Triduum—

Easter—more instruments may be used on Easter Sunday, sometimes it's hard to continue after Easter Sunday

3. Is there anything that you would like this season to sound like but are prevented from happening? Why?

Advent—lack of various instruments, leadership constraints, gathering people/choir, encourage new members—invite/mentor

Christmas—lack of various instruments, leadership constraints, gathering people/choir, encourage new members—invite/mentor

Ordinary Time—praise songs, traditional songs, print

Lent—have the availability of instrumentalists, hoping to have the opportunity to try “new” songs, having the time to rehearse new hymns before Easter

Triduum—have the availability of instrumentalists, hoping to have the opportunity to try “new” songs, having the time to rehearse new hymns before Easter

Easter—have the availability of instrumentalists, hoping to have the opportunity to try “new” songs, having the time to rehearse new hymns before Easter

4. What “tools” do you use to plan seasons?

Advent—

Christmas—Mass readings each day, Liturgy Today, GIA planning season guide, NPM planning guide online, chapter meetings

Ordinary Time—NPM website, OCO music planner, GIA music planner, past years

Lent—music liturgy committee planning, OCP, NPM, networking with other parishes

Triduum—music liturgy committee planning, OCP, NPM, networking with other parishes

Easter—music liturgy committee planning, OCP, NPM, networking with other parishes

5. Others

Ordinary Time—time to learn something new, time to shake it up—different sounds, needs to be in the Missal, people travel, use tourist as training wheels