Accompanist Checklist

**St. Mary Accompanist Guidelines**

**Excerpts from USCCB, *Music in Divine Worship***

“The primary role of the organist, other instrumentalists, or instrumental ensemble is to lead and sustain the singing of the assembly and of the choir, cantor, and psalmist, **without dominating or overpowering them.”**

“Those with the requisite talent and training should be encouraged to continue the musical tradition of improvisation. The liturgical action may call for improvisation, for example, when a congregational hymn concludes before the ritual action is completed. When improvisation is not possible, it is recommended that musicians play quality published literature.”

“There are also times when instruments may be played alone, such as a **prelude** before the Mass, **an instrumental piece during the Preparation of the Gifts, recessional, or a postlude.”**

**MASS PREPARATION CHECKLIST – ACCOMPANIST**

* Arrive **30 Minutes (W/CANTOR)** prior to Mass start time
* Arrive **60 Minutes (W/GROUP)** prior to Mass start time
* Check Instrument Level **FIRST**
  + Clavinova and Organ Levels are adjustable
  + Please do **NOT** adjust sound board levels
* Put Song Numbers Up
* Check Music
  + Discuss song selections with cantor or group
* Practice
  + Psalm, Alleluia and Acclamations
  + Congregational Songs
* Finish practice **no later** **than 10 minutes** prior to start of Mass
  + Prelude (Sung or Played - highly encouraged)