

**Philadelphia Catholic Gospel Choir**  
*Job Description*

The ***Director of Philadelphia Catholic Gospel Choir*** position is a part-time position twelve months of the year. The director reports to the Director of the Office of Black Catholics (OBC).

**The Goals for the Director Philadelphia Catholic Gospel Choir:**

To foster a prayerful, singing choral ensemble that demonstrates a strong appreciation of the beauty, diversity and historical significance of African American Sacred Music through preparation and evaluation built upon continuing education, personal ministry and vocation.

With the assistance of OBC, attend at least (2) conferences/workshops to assist in continuing education of African American Sacred Music.

The Director of Mass Choir will support the gospel message through song and challenge the Mass Choir to live it more faithfully:

- to enhance the reflective and prayerful execution of instrumental and choral/solo musical selections
- to further develop the Choir's diverse musical repertoire with an emphasis on the Gospel genre as expressed in publications such as *Lead Me Guide Me* as well as the other styles of music (ie., hymns, spirituals, anthems, etc.)

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

With support and oversight of the OBC, coordinates all musical selections for all events sponsored by OBC (*St. Martin de Porres Mass, Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Service, Spring or Fall Concert, and OBC revival*).

Facilitates ongoing recruitment of new choir members.

Coordinate and schedule all musicians (cantor/choir/instrumentalists) and ensure quality of musical performance; priority should be given to musicians resident of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Oversees monthly rehearsal with Mass Choir on date and time agreed upon with OBC. The rehearsal locations to be alternated at two different parishes to accommodate the choir members.

Meets with the Director of the Office of Black Catholics annually for a performance evaluation.

Provides two liturgical workshops or retreats for choir members in consultation with OBC.

Other duties as deemed appropriate and necessary by the Director of the Office of Black Catholics.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

Education and Experience

Bachelor of Arts degree in Choral Directing or Liturgical Music from an accredited college or university or 5 years minimum experience in performing and directing music for Catholic liturgies in a parish setting.

Necessary Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Must have experience in African American Sacred Music.

Must be a skilled choral director, including the ability to direct from the bench.

Must have experience in teaching vocal technique.

Must be a skilled in keyboard player with ability to play the piano and/or organ.

Must be knowledgeable of the Catholic liturgy, including choosing appropriate Mass settings and Psalms.

Must be able to get along well with and lead people to achieve desired goals.

Must be attentive to details and accuracy.

Must demonstrate initiative and be self-motivating.

Must be flexible in meeting the needs of the job and able to follow direction.

Must be living his/her life in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church throughout entire employment within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

**Salary:**

Commensurate with Experience

Qualified candidates can apply by visiting <http://archphila.org/archdiocesan-offices/aophr/> and completing the on-line application process.