

## Head Cantor (part-time) St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church (Ruthenian)

**About the Byzantine Catholic Church:** The Catholic Church is a communion of particular Churches in union with the Church of Rome. They follow a variety of rites and are typically referred to as Eastern Catholic Churches. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* describes the Eastern Catholic Churches as:

Churches of the East in union with Rome, but not of Roman rite, with their own liturgical, theological, and administrative traditions, such as those of the *Byzantine*, Alexandrian or Coptic, Syriac, Armenian, Maronite, and Chaldean rites. The variety of particular churches with distinctive traditions witnesses to the catholicity of the one Church of Christ, which takes root in distinct cultures (p. 875).

### Position Summary

The Head Cantor supports and encourages congregational liturgical singing in the Byzantine Catholic tradition. This leadership role promotes the beauty of the liturgy, and helps to sustain the spiritual life of the parish.

### Roles & Responsibilities

- Takes a lead role in cantoring services (English), while sharing this role with volunteer cantors
- Ensures that Sunday liturgies and major feasts have at least one cantor
- Coordinates cantor schedule and ensures timely publication on the parish web site
- Identifies and recruits volunteer cantors and organizes training
- Utilizes Byzantine Catholic resources and online training available at the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Cantor Institute (<https://mci.archpitt.org/>).

### Qualifications

- Voice is of reasonable quality, on key, and capable of leading a small congregation of 75-100.
- Basic understanding of music theory and intermediate sight-reading ability.
- Stamina to cantor continuously for extended periods of time.
- Respectful of the ideas of others. Handles disagreement in a constructive and charitable way.
- Takes direction, acknowledges mistakes, and accepts correction.
- Perseveres through difficulties, is organized, self-directed and takes responsibility.
- Committed to living a life that is morally consistent with the Catholic faith.

**Additional Information:** Prior experience (esp. Byzantine/Orthodox), and a degree in music are pluses, but not required. Training will be provided at no cost. Compensation (salaried) up to \$1000 per month, depending on experience, education, and ability. Hours to do the job depend on skill level, and how long it takes to become proficient as Head Cantor. Details provided during the interview process.

**Location:** St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church is located in Houston, Texas at 5402 Acorn Street ([www.stjohnchrysostom.com](http://www.stjohnchrysostom.com)). The parish is of the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy (archdiocese) of Pittsburgh ([www.archpitt.org](http://www.archpitt.org)).

**How to Apply:** Qualified applicants are to email a cover letter, and brief summary of experience and qualifications, or a resume to Fr. Tom Wells at [Pastor@stjohnchrysostom.com](mailto:Pastor@stjohnchrysostom.com).