

## Section One

As I mentioned in my first paper for this class, I intend to pursue a career in music ministry. This profession would revolve around the performing arts and social services areas of communication. Applied to the divisions of the National Communication Association, performance studies and interpersonal communication are the ones that draw my interest. As a music minister, I would need to have strong communication skills, both through performing and through interacting with congregants and ministry volunteers.

## Section Two

I decided to choose two jobs along the same career path: an assistant music director and a director of music ministry. The job descriptions and qualifications for these two positions are very similar, the assistant just has less responsibilities and is typically part-time. While researching job descriptions, I discovered the Diocese of St. Petersburg's guidelines for hiring a director of music ministry. The duties and responsibilities listed are:

To be responsible for all music associated with worship, religious education, youth ministry, social ministry, and evangelization in the parish; to be responsible for coordinating and staffing all other liturgies with competent musicians; to participate in planning the liturgies with the Parish Liturgy Committee and will be primarily responsible for the music selection of all regular and special celebrations...; selects and maintains musical instruments; to procure copyright permissions for music; provide liturgical formation, music education, and practical preparation for cantors/leaders of song, choral, and instrumental groups; to keep current concerning developments in liturgy and in music and to serve as a resource consultant for parish staff and groups regarding pastoral music. (CLIMB)

As far as qualifications go, the guidelines provided for determining competency are as follows:

Education and academic degree are one way to evaluate competency. A degree, however, is not always proof of the necessary musical, liturgical and pastoral leadership skills.

Checking references from the individual's liturgical/musical peers and from ordained and lay leaders who are familiar with his/her abilities is an important way to judge competency. An audition will help to ascertain a musician's musical competency.

(CLIMB)

When it came to researching other important information related to these jobs, I found that using the Bureau of Labor Statistics was not very helpful because there was no information specific to being a music director at a church. Instead, I used a website called CLIMB for statistics about these jobs. There, it states that the median annual salary for a minister of music is \$38,000. The starting salary is typically somewhere around \$25,000. Depending on the parish, there may or may not be education requirements. If a degree is required, it would be a bachelor's in music. Generally, though, previous experience is valued more. Even more important than that is having an understanding of Catholic liturgy. The outlook for this job is that it is expected to grow at the average rate for all occupations.

### Section Three

I was unable to schedule interviews before the due date of this paper, but I am hoping to have spoken to the people before my presentation. The first person I am going to be talking with is Ariana Virella, the music assistant at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Casselberry. I will also be speaking with Francesca Ani, who is a worship leader in the Tampa area, as well as the

promotions and development assistant and a DJ for Spirit FM. I am incredibly excited to speak to these women about how they have come to the place they are in in their careers.

#### Section Four

I have learned so much in this class. We started off by discussing goal setting, and I learned that it is important to have goals in place to motivate me to get to where I want to be in life. I have also learned how to ask good questions that will result in answers that are beneficial to me. Seeing as this is a communication class, I of course learned about the true definition of communication and that it is so much broader than people usually define it. I also learned about different persuasion theories and the importance of emotional and logical appeal. Overall, I would say that the most important things I learned were those concerning networking so that I can make my way to landing my dream job.

## Sources

CLIMB. Retrieved from <https://climbtheladder.com/minister-of-music/>

Diocese of St. Petersburg, Florida. Retrieved from [https://www.dosp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/2019-Guidelines.for\\_.Hiring.a.DMM\\_.pdf](https://www.dosp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/2019-Guidelines.for_.Hiring.a.DMM_.pdf)