

**Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
Organist Training Program Application for Enrollment**

Tuition Assistance through the Seyfert Foundation is available.

Name: _____ Parish: _____
Address: _____ Pastor: _____
City: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone: _____
E-Mail: _____ Age: _____
How many years have you studied piano? _____ Level of accomplishment: _____
Have you studied organ privately? _____ Level of accomplishment: _____
Have you studied voice privately? _____ Level of accomplishment: _____

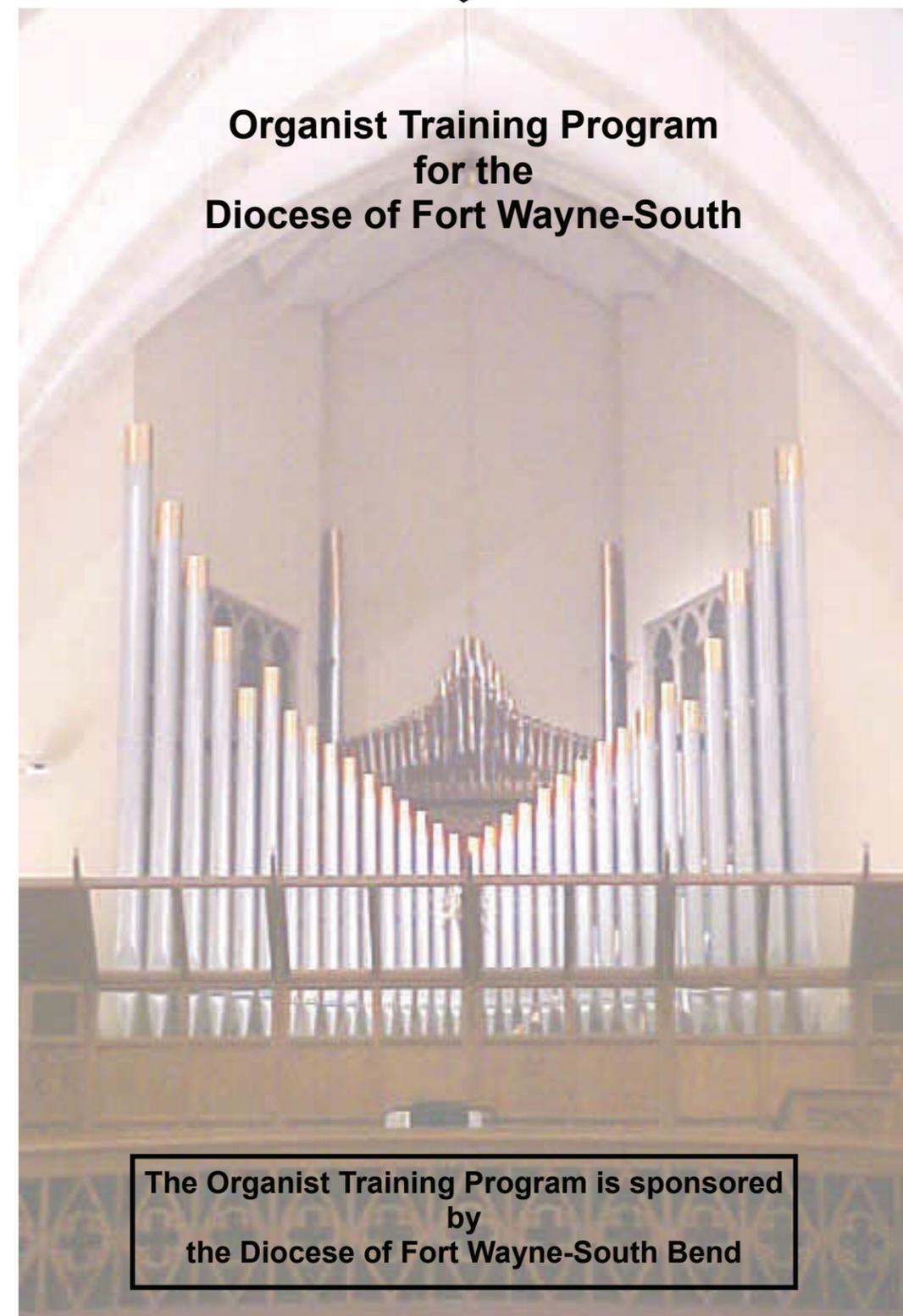
Describe your musical background and experience.

Is the organ at your parish a pipe organ or an electronic organ? _____
How many manuals does it have? _____
Do you have practice privileges at your parish? (circle one) Yes No
Would your parish be sponsoring your lessons? (circle one) Yes No

Are you currently in active music ministry at your parish? If so, please describe your ministry.

Please return this form, along with a letter of recommendation from your pastor or your parish music director to:

Terry Broberg-Swangin
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Office of Worship
P.O. 390
Fort Wayne, IN 46801-0390
260-399-1401
tbroberg-swangin@diocesefwsb.org



**Organist Training Program
for the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South**

**The Organist Training Program is sponsored
by
the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend**

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Organist Training Program provides current church organists the opportunity to advance their level of service and hymn playing, while also helping to deepen their understanding of liturgy. For those who are interested in becoming church organists, the program offers training in liturgy and in organ skills, as well as the opportunity to serve the Diocese either as a paid or volunteer musician in the student's parish or as a substitute organist available on an "on-call" basis for the Diocese. The Diocesan Organist Training Program was developed by the Diocesan Music Committee with the assistance of the Preparatory Program of the University of Notre Dame.

Students in the program are offered:

- ◆ An instructor who will review or introduce good technical organ skills.
- ◆ Liturgical repertoire suggestions.
- ◆ Formation in liturgical principles for the celebration of the Mass and the Sacramental Rites.
- ◆ An opportunity to study organ repertoire at the student's level of competence.
- ◆ Formation in the student's ability to accompany cantors, assembly and choir.
- ◆ An opportunity to grow musically, technically and liturgically.
- ◆ The equivalent of thirteen 30-minute private organ lessons per semester. One or two lessons per semester will be given on the organ in the parish where the student normally plays.

Frequently Asked Questions about the Organist Training Program

What are the pre-requisites for the OTP Program?

Applicants must have organ or piano skills at the upper intermediate or advanced level. Organ repertoire demands that the organist read three staves of music simultaneously as well as coordinate hands and feet; most often while accompanying the cantor or the assembly. Adults and young people who are at least sophomores in high school are eligible for the program. O.T.P. students will be expected to play in their parish as a paid musician, as a volunteer, or to register with the Office of Worship as a substitute organist in the diocese. All applicants must successfully pass an entrance audition

What kind of organ is required for study?

The student will need to practice on an organ that has two full manuals and a full pedal board; this usually means a church organ. A home organ with partial keyboards and a partial pedal board will not be adequate.

How much does the Organist Training Program cost?

\$250.00 per semester. A student's parish is strongly encouraged to sponsor him or her. Otherwise, the student pays at the beginning of each semester. Tuition assistance through the Seyfert Foundation is available under the Foundation's scholarship program.

How heavy is the workload for the Organist Training Program ?

The program requires a minimum of 3-4 hours per week for practice. O.T. P. students are also required to attend liturgical workshops each year. Students will either be a paid or volunteer parish organist on a full or part time basis.

How long will the Organist Training Program take?

The completion of the Organist Training Program depends on the achievement of certain skills, so setting a concrete timetable is difficult. Most students complete the program in three to four years. Successful graduates of the Organist Training Program have achieved and can demonstrate the following skills:

Hymn Playing: The ability to play any hymn at the proper tempo and registration with both manuals and pedal, and the ability to sight read simple hymns.

Cantor Accompaniment: The ability to choose proper music for cantors and accompany the cantor and the assembly with proper tempo, registration and with both manuals and pedal.

Repertoire: The ability to play from standard classical organ literature preludes and postludes for parish Masses, weddings and funerals.

Liturgy: A solid understanding of the Roman Catholic liturgy, and the ability to choose appropriate music and to play for a Roman Catholic Mass

Practical Experience: Regular experience as a paid musician, or as a volunteer, for the student's parish. Regular assignments as a substitute organist within the Diocese or other performances as assigned by the student's instructor also fulfill this requirement.

Critique: The successful completion of a Mass critique, which consists of the student playing for a Sunday Mass, in the parish where they are normally employed, without assistance. The student's performance will be evaluated by either their instructor or a diocesan church musician



Photo credits: R. Calahan, organ at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, IN