

# INTRODUCING...

Parish Music Director

MARY JAMEYFIELD  
and Musician and Choir Member

PAT SKARITKA

Few thoughts bring consensus in this day and age, but at least one exception is that the music ministry of our parishes enhances our worship in the liturgy. This ministry is led, as it has been for many years at IC by the choir director, Mary Jameyfield. She is skillfully assisted by Pat Skaritka.

In addition to her talent as a pianist and organist, Mary sings, directs, writes music, and brings choirs of all ages together. She is constantly looking for new music for the choirs and keeps the adult choir members on their toes with difficult pieces that they must practice in advance of group rehearsal. There is a wide variety in this repertoire, from folk or spirituals to Gregorian chants.

Pat plays bass, but also is the liaison between Mary and the choir members. This means she makes phone calls, sends emails with music selections, and the rehearsal and performance schedules to all of the choir members. By contributing her organizational skills, she really keeps things on track.

Mary's expertise in knowing the abilities of her choir members, matching their voices with particular songs and helping each reach their greatest potential in the group is evidenced by the choir's loyalty. Many members have been with the choir for years, but Mary is always scouting and recruiting for new vocalists and instrumentalists.

Mary and Pat have been friends since attending Morton High School in Hammond, Indiana. At such a young age Mary was already writing music for high school performances. Mary went on to become a Nurse Practitioner and is currently working at Resurrection Health Care. As if that isn't enough, she is currently pursuing a master's degree as a nurse practitioner at Purdue University. Pat is equally industrious. She married and raised 3 sons, one of whom, David, drives in from Hammond to sing with the choir. Her sons often enjoyed her guitar playing at home and learned an appreciation of music from her. Pat now works in the Insurance industry, but is also going to school taking courses leading to a nursing degree.

Don't be surprised if you hear some chords from the Carpenters in their future music selections. Both women are huge fans.