



**Catholic Schools Office, Mercy Hall, 3300 N 60 ST, Omaha, NE 68104-3402; 402-557-5600
MUSIC IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

Music in Catholic Schools (MCS) is a band program designed to cooperate with parents and schools in providing band classes for their children enrolled in parochial schools. All staff members of the program are certified music instructors in the state of Nebraska. The administration of your school has approved the Music in Catholic Schools (MCS) instrumental program for their students in grades five through eight.

Music in Catholic Schools is under the direction of the Superintendent of Schools of the Archdiocese of Omaha with input from a parent Advisory Board. The program is financed primarily by parent-paid tuition, along with funds from fund-raising projects, interest income, grants, and gifts. Music in Catholic Schools provides the following to students enrolled in the program:

1. One small group lesson (one-half hour) per week on any band instrument. Band instruments include woodwinds (flute, clarinet, oboe, saxophone); brass (trumpet, cornet, horn, baritone, trombone, tuba); and percussion (percussion kit that includes the orchestra bells and a drum or practice pad is required.) Strings, guitar, and piano are not included in Music in Catholic Schools band classes. **Band classes are held mostly during the school day**, though some classes are immediately before or after school. Most students miss some regular class time each week to attend band classes.
2. One band/ensemble rehearsal (30-45 minutes) per week in schools where an adequate number of students are enrolled. (Normally five or more band students per school.)
3. Two joint-schools concerts per year – one in December and one in May. Attendance at both concerts is required for participation in the Music in Catholic Schools band program.
4. Special activities such as Beginning Band Olympics, Band Clinic, Solo/Ensemble Festival, Honor Band, and Pepband events.
5. Band music and lesson books are provided. Some band instruments are available through MCS.

TUITION PAID TO MUSIC IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS DOES NOT SUPPLY BAND INSTRUMENTS—EXCEPT FOR STUDENTS WITH FINANCIAL NEED!

Tuition is based on a nine-month school year. It may be paid for the entire year; or **one monthly payment** is made at registration and the remaining eight months' payments may be done through automatic electronic funds transfer (not credit cards.) Band tuition is not pro-rated on a weekly or per lesson basis, but when considering the weekly costs of private lessons, MCS is a bargain! **Students are expected to participate for a minimum of one semester**, and **parents are obligated to pay for a minimum of one semester** (one-half of a school year) of tuition for band classes.

(Some tuition assistance and instruments are available for students with financial need. Please contact the MCS office for more information.)

Single tuition: Annual: \$657	Monthly ACH (electronic bank withdrawals): \$ 73
Family Tuition: Annual: \$990	Monthly ACH (electronic bank withdrawals): \$110
Single tuition-those who qualify-Reduced Lunch: \$315	Monthly ACH (electronic bank withdrawals): \$ 35
Single tuition-those who qualify-Free Lunch: \$225	Monthly ACH (electronic bank withdrawals): \$ 25

Students have an opportunity to become familiar with the band instruments in school assemblies given by Music in Catholic Schools staff during the first two weeks of the school year. Band teachers then meet with interested students during the school day shortly after that.

In August and early September, parent band info sessions are held at various schools for information, registration, and instrument rental. Separate fliers are handed out to students with details of these band info sessions. That information is also posted on the MCS website.

Band classes begin the first week of September, so students should have instruments by then. The first payments are due no later than September 25th.