



May 2023

PARISH COPYRIGHT OBLIGATIONS

The following information is provided from the Australian Pastoral Musicians Network and ONE LICENSE:

It is illegal to play songs and display lyrics or melodies on a projection screen or reprint them on song sheets for worship, unless an appropriate licence has been purchased.

There are two church music licencing bodies in Australia - ONE LICENSE and CCLI. As CCLI does not have the rights to license the vast majority of Catholic repertoire, including Mass settings and psalms, a licence from ONE LICENSE is required for Catholic parishes that are projecting or reprinting songs. Some parishes may also have a CCLI licence to cover the projection or reprinting of additional resources.

USAGE REPORTING

For those parishes that do pay for a licence, this payment does not cover your copyright obligations. Under the terms of a ONE LICENSE licence, the parish is obligated to regularly report the actual repertoire used at every liturgical celebration conducted in the parish, (ie. weekend and weekday Masses, funerals, prayer group gatherings, etc.). It is the responsibility of the parish and ALL who use or play music in your parish to keep track of what is played. It is up to you how this is done but it may be a good idea to have some kind of form to be filled out each time music is used.

Parishes who use hymn books, and only hymn books, do still need a copyright licence and are required to report the songs which have been used or music played at Masses and other parish events.

MASS SETTINGS

"Both the music and the text for parts of the Mass are under copyright. If you use an entire musical setting of a Mass or any part of a Mass setting, you must report the usage every time. If your community uses one or two particular settings, and you sing the entire setting, you can report by whole setting with one report entry, or if you use only sections of one of more Mass setting you can report the individual title, such as the 'Lamb of God' or 'Amen'."

(Taken from the ONE LICENSE website, "Reporting Mass Settings <https://news.onelicense.net/2017/07/25/reporting-mass-settings/>).

FULL SCORE MUSIC

If the parish uses the pieces your choir, keyboard players, or other instrumentalists are familiar with, you will need to purchase physical or electronic versions of the full music score from your local retailer or directly from the publisher.

COPYRIGHT LINE

Use the following form to create your unique copyright line:

Words: John Doe, © 1988 ABC Music Co.; Music: Jane Doe, © 1990 XYZ Publications.
Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-000000. All rights reserved.

(Taken from the ONE LICENSE FAQ page <https://www.onelicense.net/faqs> - Q - How should the copyright line appear in my reprint?)

ONLINE STREAMING OF WORSHIP SERVICES

ONE LICENSE have also provided information regarding streaming of worship services containing copyrighted music. Streaming copyrighted music, or streaming song lyrics or melody lines, does need to be licensed. There is an in-depth explanation of the Podcast / Streaming License at this link <https://news.onelicense.net/2017/11/09/an-in-depth-look-at-the-podcaststreaming-license/>

The following webinar is also a thorough exploration of the Podcast / Streaming License <https://news.onelicense.net/2018/04/27/webinar-training-the-podcast-streaming-license/>

PARISH RESPONSIBILITIES

Through copyright reporting, royalty payments are made to the publishers and composers whose works have been used. There are many parishes that are not regularly submitting the contractually required reports. This means that composers whose songs are being used are not receiving the royalties justly due to them because the songs are not being reported. CCLI has similar reporting requirements as conditions for their licences.

Apart from the legal ramifications, it is the responsibility of the parish to honour the copyright license agreement. There is a responsibility, especially as a Church agency, to justly recompense composers and publishers of liturgical and other religious music for their creativity and their investment of time and finances, to provide resources for use in religious settings. There are substantial fines for parishes not meeting copyright obligations.

For assistance with payment of your parish copyright licence, contact the Diocesan Finance office at cdf@ballarat.catholic.org.au

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The ONE LICENSE website has a section for frequently asked questions that you may find helpful <https://www.onelicense.net/faq>

For further information regarding copyright obligations go to <http://www.copyright.org.au/>

COPYRIGHT ALSO APPLIES TO PRINTED DOCUMENTS

Pages in books/resources should not be reprinted for parish use without the permission of the publisher. Parishes are in breach of copyright and substantial fines apply.

When reprinting stories in the diocesan news from outside sources, we always seek permission from the source and acknowledge that the story has been reproduced with permission. Often this is just an email asking for permission. It is especially important to seek permission to reproduce photos, particularly of children. It is better to check than assume it will be ok.

For more information contact Julie Boyd in the Pastoral Ministry Office, ph. 5333 7159 or email julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au