

**ACADEMY^{OF}
SACRED
MUSIC
FRANCESCO
AZOPARDI**

PROSPECTUS

2024-2025



asm.mt

FOREWARD

Music has formed an integral part of Christian worship since time immemorial, with prominent musical references across the Holy Bible. In the 20th century, the importance of music in Catholic liturgy has taken on added significance with the church's preference for increased active participation by the congregation. Effective music ministry goes beyond a good musical performance since music in the liturgy is about prayer (and helping others to pray) through music and not about showmanship. It should be the perfect combination of the spiritual with the artistic, all in the service of the Lord.



The church has always been a main supporter and sponsor of the musical arts across Europe, however, the formation methodologies for music ministers varied rather considerably from one country to another. For many years Malta relied exclusively on individual musicians, mostly trained abroad, to carry out musical services in our Cathedrals or churches. The Academy of Sacred Music Francesco Azopardi is a way of acknowledging the glorious history of sacred music in Malta while investing in the future with the professional training of music ministers. The Academy, appropriately named after one of Malta's foremost pedagogues and composers of sacred music, offers courses in various liturgical fields such as musical animation, choral singing, composing, organ playing, and more. Courses are being offered in collaboration with the Pastoral Formation Institute and some are accredited by the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority.

I sincerely augur that the Academy of Sacred Music will be at once the continuation of an illustrious musical tradition as well as the practical answer to the needs of music in the liturgy in the 21st century.

Christopher Muscat

Head

THE ACADEMY

The Academy of Sacred Music Francesco Azopardi forms part of the Episcopal Vicariate for the Liturgy of the Archdiocese of Malta and was officially founded on the 29th June 2024, feast of St Peter and St Paul, by H.G. Archbishop Charles J. Scicluna.

The main objectives of the Academy are:

- to offer quality musical opportunities that form students to serve in a professional way the liturgical ministry
- to offer an opportunity for students to join the choirs and musicians of the Metropolitan Cathedral of Malta, and
- to transmit and strengthen the Catholic faith.

Therefore, the Academy offers a variety of courses related to music ministry, taught by professional tutors and experienced practitioners in the field of sacred music, under the leadership of the Music Director of the Archdiocese and Maestro di Cappella of the Cathedral.

All courses offered by the Academy are accredited either by the Pastoral Formation Institute within the Archdiocese of Malta or the Malta Further & Higher Education Authority, with certificates at various levels. The Academy's guarantee of excellence is supported by highly reputable international institutes, such as the Cappella Musicale del Duomo di Milano (one of the world's oldest musical institutions founded in 1402) and the AERCO Choral Academy in Bologna.

The Academy aims to offer a holistic musico-spiritual formation to its students by supporting its academic programme through extra-curricular cultural, religious and social activities.

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COURSES 2024 - 2025

Choral Singing for the Liturgy
MQF Level 3

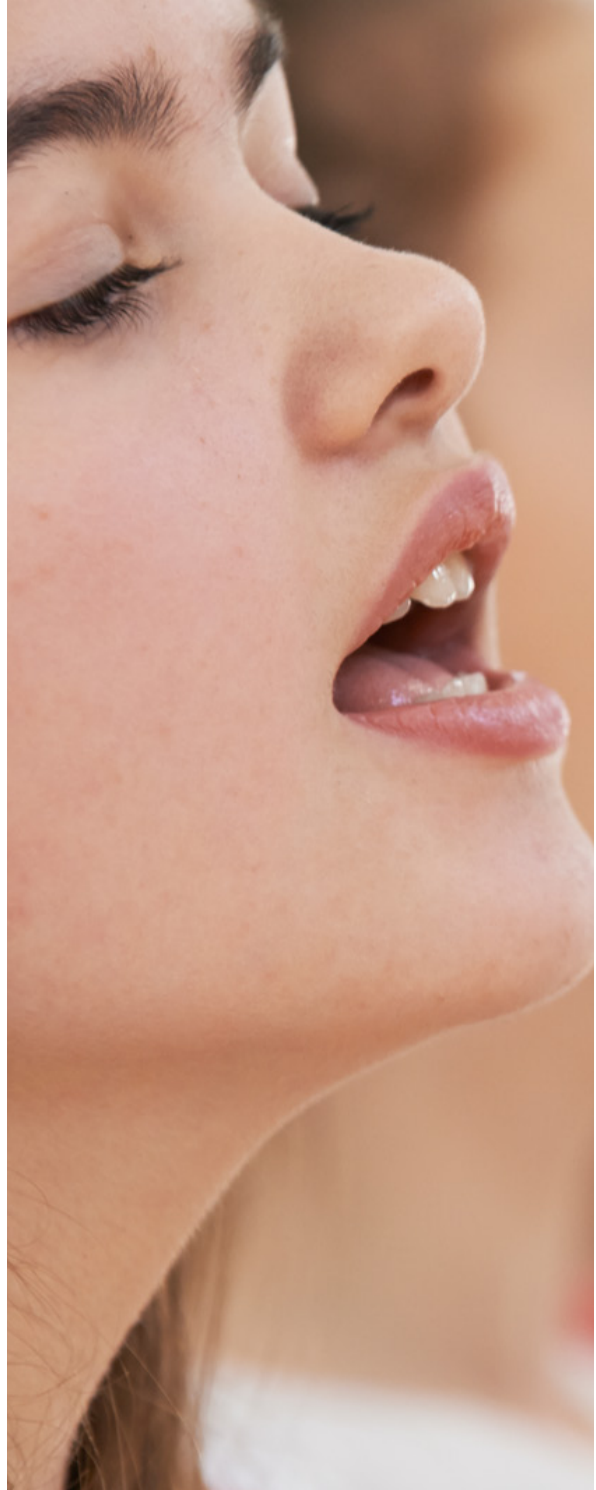
The Organ in the Liturgy
AFF Level 3 Certificate

Animating Liturgy
AFF Level 3 Certificate

Liturgical Singing for Priests
AFF Level 3 Certificate

Harbex
AFF Level 3 Certificate

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Award in Choral Singing for the Liturgy

MQF Level 3

The Academy's most intensive training course is the one offered for girls and boys aged between 7 and 14 years. During this course, children are given a comprehensive musical formation with particular focus on choral singing for the liturgy.



MORE INFO

The Organ in the Liturgy

AFF Level 3 Certificate

This course is intended for organists who are already serving or who intend to start serving in parishes and who wish to strengthen their knowledge of the organist's ministry. The course, which leads to a certificate at level 3 of the Archdiocese Framework, is spread over six meetings that shall include practical elements.



GET FORMED



APPLY NOW



Animating Liturgy

AFF Level 3 Certificate

This course is intended for liturgical music animators who already give a service and who wish to strengthen their knowledge about this ministry, or individuals who intend to start giving a service during Catholic liturgy. The course, which leads to a certificate at AFF Level 3 of the Archdiocese of Malta, is spread over six meetings.



APPLY NOW





Liturgical Singing for Priests

AFF Level 3 Certificate

This course is intended to offer practical aides and musical preparation to deacons and priests for better singing during the liturgy. The course, which leads to a certificate at AFF Level 3 of the Archdiocese of Malta, is spread over six meetings.



APPLY NOW

HARBEX

Harbex

AFF Level 3 Certificate

The aim of the course is to serve as a guide and inspiration to utilize and enhance the musical skills to write new songs for the liturgy in the contemporary christian style. Students are encouraged to understand the required attitudes in various liturgical moments.



APPLY NOW





Get Formed! is a new financial scheme for parish pastoral workers registered with the Archdiocese of Malta. The scheme is managed by the Secretariat for Parish Life and Activities, in collaboration with the Pastoral Formation Institute. This scheme aims to promote and support the pastoral formation of pastoral workers seeking to develop further in their ministry within parishes in the Archdiocese of Malta.



Partners



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