

WAY OF THE STAR

Awakening parishes through
a one-night Advent mission
experience of Scripture, music,
art, and Eucharistic encounter



THE VIGIL PROJECT

Learn more at
thevigilproject.com

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What is Way of the Star?

“Our perennial spiritual and psychological task is to look at things that are familiar until they become unfamiliar again.”

- G.K. Chesterton

“Way of the Star” is a one-night Advent mission experience created to awaken Catholic parishes to the powerful mystery of the Incarnation and to stir the hearts of participants in longing for their Savior. Drawing heavily from the practices of Ignatian imaginative meditation and Lectio Divina, we enter into the familiar scenes of the Infancy Narrative to experience them with fresh minds and hearts: seeing the faces of the Holy Family, hearing their conversations, feeling the cold on the road to Bethlehem, adoring with the shepherd and magi, and encountering the reality of *Emmanuel, God with us*. Over the course of the program, anchored by original musical compositions, participants journey through Scripture and visual imagery deep into the story of Jesus’ birth. It culminates in an encounter with Christ’s True Presence during a time of Eucharistic Adoration, accompanied by songs of adoration from The Vigil Project.

Way of the Star premiered in Italy in Advent 2023 to overwhelming acclaim.

I thank God for this experience! I have felt something so deep in my heart hearing, seeing, and praying with these images and encountering, again, Jesus present in the Eucharist.”

- Don Massimo D’Abrosca

From Meditation to Adoration

Participants will be guided through five “stations,” or familiar scenes from the Infancy Narrative in the Gospels of Luke and Matthew. Each meditation will begin with the reading of a short reflection and Scripture. The focus will shift from spoken reflection to visual and musical reflection: artwork unfolds gradually as music plays. After the heart is opened to the mystery of the Incarnation through meditation, music, and artwork, there will be a seamless transition into an encounter with the True Presence of Christ in Eucharistic Adoration, delicately accompanied by music and periods of silence.

Event Overview

- 1.5-2 hour program built around a time of Eucharistic Adoration
- Content rooted in Scripture designed to inspire and catechize participants on the reality of Christ’s Incarnation. Delivered via multimedia - music, speaking, video, visuals, prayer
- Live instrumental and sung music led by The Vigil Project
- A beautiful celebration of the rite of Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction
- A community reception following the event (We want to meet your parishioners!!!)

HOW DOES THE SCHEDULE WORK?

Since every parish has different needs, our team will work with you to design a schedule that fits your community. So that you can get an idea of what it can look like, here's a sample from a recent event:

Sample Schedule:

- 10:00a** Load in / set up / sound check
- 1:00p** Set up and sound check complete
- 5:00** Preexisting parish Mass time
Music can be provided by Vigil if desired and previously arranged
- 6:30** Doors open
- 7:00** Welcome and short opening prayer by pastor
- 7:05** Five musical meditations begin
- 7:40** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Transitioning song and lighting for Eucharistic Adoration
Musicians lead the congregation in prayerful songs and silence
(Optional) Reconciliation available for participants
- 8:15** Benediction | Eucharistic Adoration concludes
- 8:25** Presenter offers closing remarks
Host announcements
Closing Song
- 8:30** Community reception / meet & greet with The Vigil Project
Resources and merchandise available



****This schedule is intended to be an example only. The schedule will be adjusted to fit the specific needs of your community.*

WHAT ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ARE INCLUDED?

Our goal is for these events to be a catalyst for your parishioners' ongoing growth in prayer and Eucharistic devotion. We offer resources that work cohesively with our events to make that possible:

- Online resources - music, media, etc - crafted to help participants go deeper in their Advent prayer and Eucharistic devotion long after the event is over - FREE
- Access to the Vigil Publishing catalogue of sheet music and lead sheets for your music director during the applicable liturgical season - FREE
- Workshop for your parish music ministry members (on the afternoon of the scheduled Way of the Star event) designed to inspire and encourage them in their call as Catholic musicians - ADDITIONAL FEE
- Exclusive bulk pricing for event hosts on Vigil music, booklets, and resources

PLANNING AND MARKETING SUPPORT

We want this to not only be one of the best events your parish has ever hosted, but also one of the easiest to plan. We work with you every step of the way to make that happen:

- Direct contact with an experienced Vigil event manager to assist with planning and logistics from start to finish (no third party booking agencies)
- Custom marketing materials to help you effectively spread the word, including printable poster design, bulletin graphical inserts, social media and website graphics, and more

SIMPLE EVENT PRODUCTION

We understand that your parish is not an event venue, and your staff members are not production professionals. We've got a plan to keep it simple and deliver an excellent experience to your community:

- Our team includes a production manager who runs our audio and visual gear
- Vigil provides ALL production gear and instruments for events to which we drive
- Vigil provides MOST production gear and instruments for events to which we fly; host provides basic PA gear.
- Our team works directly with the host to accommodate the specific needs of your event

“There are few Catholic organizations out there that focus primarily on evangelization through music at the parish level. These artists are accomplishing powerful work by creating the space for deeper encounter with God in everyday parish life.”

- Paul George | Speaker and Founder,
Discover the Art of Living

LEARN MORE AT [THEVIGILPROJECT.COM](https://thevigilproject.com)



CONTACT ME FOR MORE BOOKING INFO:

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Your parish is the heart of our mission

We believe that the heartbeat of the Catholic Church is the parish community, so we've made serving parishes the heartbeat of our work. It's often the case that world-class music and speaking are reserved only for large-scale events that are far from the parish; our goal is to bring a transformative, evangelistic experience home to your parish.

Who is The Vigil Project?

The Vigil Project is a community of artists that exists to make music for the Catholic journey and to invite the Church into prayer through song. Following the Church's liturgical calendar, we share new music, offer events for parish communities, and provide music leaders with resources for worship. We have visited over 400 parishes in the United States and Europe over the past eight years, and are featured musicians at the 2024 National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis.



NATIONAL
Eucharistic
Congress

Hallow



focus

the WORD
among us®

MORE WAYS WE SERVE PARISHES

The parish is the heartbeat of our work at The Vigil Project. We long to see excellence and beauty in the music of the parish, and to support pastors and musicians in achieving that goal.



MUSIC MINISTRY CONSULTING

Research shows that 80% of Catholics believe music is a very important part of their experience of the Mass. Yet, pastors and music directors know that music is often a primary challenge in parish life. The Vigil Project accompanies pastors and music directors to help discern and answer important questions around Catholic music, like: How do you achieve excellence with a volunteer choir? How do you help a community move beyond a style that they are attached to and embrace the teachings of the Church on liturgical music? How do you create space in parish life for devotion? Our dream is for music to be a gift that evangelizes, engages, and builds unity in every parish. We journey alongside you and your music ministry to nourish the spiritual lives of your music ministers and achieve excellence in the music of worship.



CATHOLIC MUSICIAN RETREATS

It is all too rare that Catholic musicians at the parish take intentional time away from their day-to-day lives to receive again the gift of music. That's why The Vigil Project annually brings musicians – volunteer and professional alike, of many varied backgrounds – together for a time of rest, creative renewal, and prayerful restoration. Over four days and three nights, you will experience powerful sessions that refresh your call to serve as a Catholic musician; receive formation in key topics like musicianship, liturgy, devotion, songwriting, and technology; and enter into an extensive time of prayer. Our next retreat is this October in New Orleans. Learn more and register for the retreat at:



www.thevigilproject.com/resources/catholic-musicians

LEARN MORE AT THEVIGILPROJECT.COM



CONTACT ME FOR MORE PARISH PROGRAM INFO:

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