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*'INTEREST IN CHURCH CHOIR SINGING AMONG
CHRISTIAN TEENS IN ROMAN CATHOLIC ST. EDMUND
CHURCH LIMBANG SARAWAK'*

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Abstract

This study seeks on the interest among all Christian teens in Roman Catholic St. Edmund Church Limbang Sarawak in joining the church choir singing. Other than that, this study discover what are the problems that happened in church choir ministry and what are the best solution to solve the problem in church choir ministry. In seeking greater understanding, this research is a quantitative study and mainly it is involved the choir member in Roman Catholic St. Edmund's choir ministry. The overall findings of the study show that the numbers of students perceptions were saying that they are really interested in joining the church choir singing and they are love to sing. That is why they frequently come and join the church choir singing. The problems in church choir ministry are lack of knowledge in music, transportation problems, no qualified leaders, no support from parents, they are staying in boarding school, bored during choir practice and they have no friends. The best solution to solve the problems by organize more fun activities in church choir ministry.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background Of The Study

Choir is musical ensemble singers who perform together. In other terms, choir also known as *chorale* or *chorus*. In church music, church choir also known as '*The Sung Mass*'.

Church choir leads the singing in church mass in which the congregation participates, such as hymns and service music. Hymn is type of song where usually religious specially written the purpose of praise, adoration or prayer. The word of hymn derives from Greek which means '*A Song of Praise*'. Some church choirs still sing full liturgies including the different times of liturgical year which divided into year A, B and C. Full liturgies including proper such as introit, gradual, communion antiphons appropriate for the different times of liturgical year.

All the singers in church choir must turn their own attention in order to understand the context of the hymns so that they can reflect the beauty of the hymns. This is because it is church choir duty to beautify and adorn the worship of God in the context of the liturgy.

Church choir led by conductor or also known as choirmaster. There are about twenty or more members joined this church choir. Normally, this church choirs always grew larger and will be accompanied by instrumental groups such as piano, organ, a small group of band and chamber orchestra. In Roman Catholic St. Edmund Church Limbang Sarawak, the choir will be accompanied by organ and piano only during ordinary day in liturgical years. A small group of band will be accompanied the church choir during full Mass service such as Christmas Day, Easter Day, Wedding Ceremony and more. Sometimes, choirs sing without instrumental accompaniment known as '*A Cappella*'. Church choir consists of four sections which are soprano, alto, tenor and bass.

In Roman Catholic St. Edmund Church Limbang Sarawak, the numbers of teens joined the choir grew bigger during school holidays especially mid-year and the end of year especially to those who further their study will come back for holiday. Nevertheless, there are small member of teens who joined the choir and remains as member during school days. This is because some of them were staying in boarding school and their teacher won't let them out