

## Comments from attendees

### Sacred Heart Oelwein

"You gave us a glimpse of heaven today..Thank you."

"I was in Israel and visited the Holy Land 20 some years ago and today you brought back to mind all those wonderful memories and places that I visited. Very moving..."

"You really made me think about a lot of things today...you made me think about things in a different way than I have ever before....a lot of food for thought."

"the music gave me a new kind of appreciation for lent and what it is all about."

"I have never seen or heard anything like this before....it was just spectacular!"

"Thank you for starting my lent off on such a good note..."

"I can't even think of my favorite part....I just loved it all..." (Emma age 9.....her face beaming!)

"I am going to hang your poster in my room..." (Danni...age 8.....she also asked several members of our group to sign the back of it)

"I had tears in my eyes the whole time, and all those around me did too....my eyes are still watering now..."

"I've always loved good music and what your group did today was tremendous.....God bless your ministry."

"You made me tick inside..." (Older gentlemen with tears...could hardly speak as he was leaving...he meant that we touched him inside....)

"Your group is such a wonderful example of evangelization" (Deacon Jim)

"Please keep your ministry going for many years....you are needed..."

"I cannot even imagine the amount of time you and the group must have put into this....thank you....you will touch many lives."

### St. Mary Waverly

"I have no words to describe this....and I am a man of many words!"

"This is exactly what our parish needed." (at least 2-3 people said this).

"Very moving...touched me deeply."

"You have no idea how much this means...."

"We have seen you all 4 years....it was absolutely great the first year, and every year we say this it can't get better than this...today...this was the best one yet!"

"I am a music director and I want you to know that I have a great appreciation for how you put this together and how much time it takes to put on a program like this....absolutely amazing program and very moving..."

"I needed to hear this today..."

"This is my first time...absolutely unbelievable...so spiritually moving...I heard great things about this and knew it would be good but this was beyond anything I imagined. I am kicking myself for not have gotten to a program the 3 previous years...just never made the time."

Kathy Rath has a story about a man that was a part of the parish in Waverly and left for several years and was teaching some religious ed but considering coming back I believe...told her something to the effect of this was my answer...Kathy....please share the story....

### St. Jude Presentation Cedar Rapids

"We all had a great time and my folks were raving about the performance all the way home. It was refreshing to see a concert with some depth as opposed to just singing some songs and calling it done. Always good to evoke some emotion from your audience. Expectations were definitely exceeded."

"I just wanted to pass on a few comments and thoughts. I've heard from a couple people after yesterday's performance that they were pleasantly surprised. They attended last year at St Ludmila's and said this year was even more touching and meaningful than last year!"

On a second note, As you've noticed, I've made a few presentations this year and each one hits me profoundly differently. What a gift this group's retreat presence has been for me this year! Thank you, and I thank God for you.

May He continue to bless this work :)"

"My mother in law went to your presentation and called me afterwards to tell me that she has never enjoyed anything as much as she enjoyed this. Wow! The spirit was working overtime to get her there. God bless your ministry and all of the members of your group."

### **St. John Mt Vernon**

My son and I just attended your uplifting, awesome, humbling and powerful program tonight. God bless you for putting all of the focus on the message and giving all of the glory to God. What a service you are doing for the Catholic Community. I enjoy watching those groups who shy away from the costumes and scenery with programs that focus on the music. Your program was so tastefully done so as not to take away from the message. And there wasn't a sharp or flat note to be heard of!!

I just wanted to thank you for compiling so much musical talent and channeling the Holy Spirit through your ministers. My son, although maybe not the best audience member, loved it! He was singing "I send you out" as we left. I think that was the name of our last song. He said he wished you had a CD and I agreed!! I know none of you do this to bring in money aside from fundraising for a cause, but if you ever do make a CD, please let us know!! We loved all of those songs. My favorite has always been When God Ran. How blessed are we that we got to hear it today when we had read the prodigal son Gospel reading at this morning's mass?!

Once again, thank you and God bless you all for sharing your talent with so many of us.

### **Nazareth Lutheran Presentation**

"You made Jesus real to me this evening."

"I so much appreciated the reverence that was shown."

"I don't have words to tell you how I am feeling right now....so touching"

"The words of the songs resonated in me and spoke to me very personally tonight."

"Amazing...I have never seen anything like this before...truly beautiful."

"I want to thank you for sharing this with non Catholic churches."

"Thank you for coming to our church." (heard this several times!)

"Heard you at Heartland Vineyard last year and it was so awesome, I had to come back and bring my friend."

"I brought my parents tonight and afterwards my mom gave me a kiss on the cheek and said 'thank you' for bringing me."

"What a talented group of musicians you are...oh my!"

"This was the best story ever sung."

"I can't believe how perfect it was...every song, every movement, every facial expression was perfect...so polished."

"Very moving, very meaningful" (heard this several times as well)

"Brought me to tears..."

"If people were not crying on the outside, I am sure they were on the inside."

"God bless your ministry."

"Are you all professionals?"

"I can't imagine the time it takes to put this together. What a committed group you must be."

"We need more things like this in the world."

"You really need to take up a collection."

"This was better than any program I paid for"

"Beautiful music selections"

"You must have your path cleared right to heaven." (I felt very humbled and embarrassed at this one because this is so not true...I responded that we all feel so unworthy to be doing what we are doing...humbled that God uses us)

### **St. Edward Presentation**

"You took my spiritual life to another level tonight. I have never felt this close to Jesus."

" I felt that Jesus was right here tonight."

"I have never felt the way I feel right now....I have never attended anything like this. I can't begin to put it into words...thank you."

"I hope your group realizes the good you are doing."

"I have attended your concerts before, but for some reason it really hit me extra hard tonight...moved my soul deeply."

"This already is my best Holy Week ever."