



## Copyright

**“Copyright is a set of exclusive property rights given to owners of their creations.”**

**“When is copyright infringed? Copyright is infringed when a person uses a work that is reserved to the copyright owner without permission.”** *An Introduction to Copyright NZ, Copyright Council of NZ, January 2009*

When material is copied, a copyright license is required. Parishes who copy words for use in their Sunday Liturgies need to have a copyright licence. Most parishes in the Auckland Diocese hold a copyright licence with Onelicense.

There are two dimensions of the need for copyright to be aware of:

- 1. The copying of musical scores or sheet music.**
- 2. The copying of lyrics.**

### **The copying of musical scores or sheet music.**

Publishing firms **do not** allow the copying of musical scores or of sheet music. Nobody has permission to copy sheet music and there is no licence which provides for this. Sheet music, which musicians use, needs to be purchased. Parishes need to budget for the purchase of music for musicians and choirs. Sheet music can be located in the accompaniment companion to hymn books (Such as As One Voice volumes 1 & 2) or it can be located on the website of one of the publishing companies and downloaded once payment is made.

Exceptions:

- Some composers allow their music to be downloaded and printed free of charge. E.g. Masses by NZ composers; Mass of St Theresa (Mews), Hopetoun Mass (Skinner), Mass of Mary Queen of Peace (Guzzo) and other settings found here <https://www.nlo.org.nz/resources/frequently-used-mass-settings-from-new-zealand-composers/>. When using these masses, please acknowledge the composer (who is the owner) of this work.
- If the sheet music you wish to copy is in the Public Domain (i.e. you have music which is 50 years or more old, or accessed through a website such as hymnary.org) it may be photocopied.

### **The copying of lyrics.**

Copyright licensing firms license users to copy words (lyrics) of a song. These words, when the conditions of copyright are met, permit the user to display words on a screen or reprint in a song sheet.

Conditions:

- The parish needs to own a published copy of the sheet music.
- Musicians need to play from published sheet music (not photocopies).
- A copyright line, as follows, needs to appear in the reprint:(Music and text can be combined.)  
*Text: John Doe, © 1988 ABC Music Co.; Music: Jane Doe, © 1990 XYZ Publications. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-xxxxxxx. All rights reserved.*

For further explanation, visit the Onelicense website: <https://www.onelicense.net/faqs>