

Technical details for backing tracks

The backing tracks were bought as CDs and have been converted to .mp3 or .wma for convenience. We have the complete set on a DVD, on a memory stick and also on a Google Drive here:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-8-jb8CoXcnOZkKkJaGjv9oT4wxDudTK?usp=share_link

The music is in alphabetical order by first line (usually). This, of course, creates a challenge if a different tune from the normal one(s) is specified by hymn number!

Occasionally a backing track has the incorrect number of verses or there are other problems. The person responsible for playing the music needs to check this as part of their preparation. In some cases a solution has already been found from a previous use of the music and this will be included in the backing tracks. An example of this is the Holy Trinity Service Gloria that we use at All Saints, for which there is a version called 'Holy Trinity Service_Gloria_098_BPM.mp3', created by speeding up the original to 98 bpm because we thought it was too slow. The key of the music remains the same. This was done using excellent and free software called Audacity. Sometimes it might be possible to choose which verses to miss out if the backing has too few verses and the hymn is long anyway.

The easiest way to play the backing tracks and other music is using a laptop or iPod or similar, using a wired connection, 3.5 mm jack plugs on both ends. The PA system can alternatively take a USB memory stick (the tracks must all be in the root directory) and the chaplaincy has an mp3 player, wired or Bluetooth. Bluetooth from a smartphone or similar is also possible.

Roger Smith

March 2023