



Newsletter

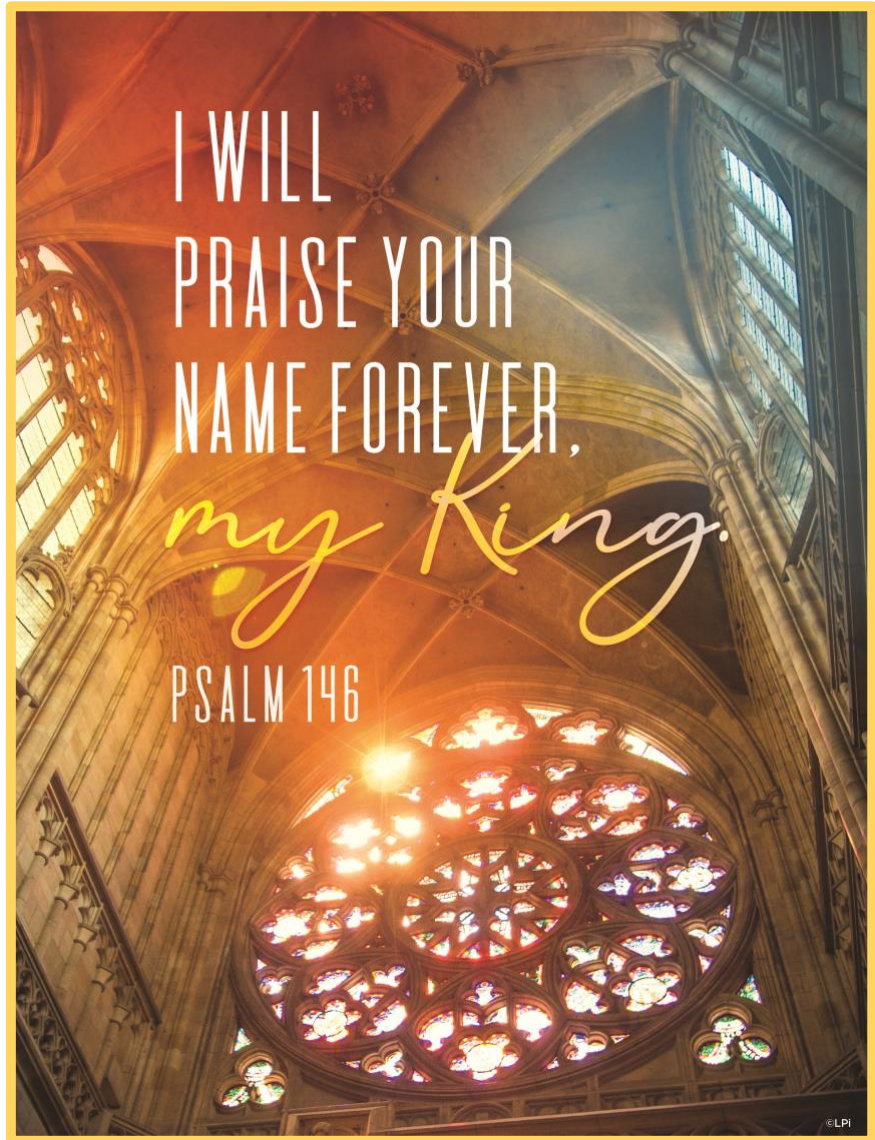
The monthly joint publication of the NPM Arlington and DC chapters
Fostering the art of musical liturgy

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St. Cecilia, pray for us!



Do you have an event, article or idea to share with other Chapter Members? Please submit all articles and inquiries by the 20th of the month to: Katie Evans at music@ccjgs.org. All submissions subject to review. Thank you.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER



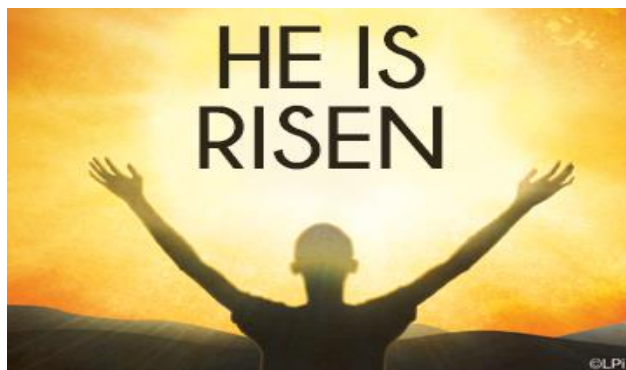
Before writing this article, I took a few moments to look back at the articles which I had written proximate to Holy Week and Easter in 2020 and 2021. In 2020, our entire world had only just shut down as the effects of the pandemic hit the United States. Mass was not possible with a congregation, and we were forced to celebrate our most Holy Days with the assistance of streaming technology. Last year, restrictions were beginning to be lifted, but

only small groups of singers were allowed, and we were still being dissuaded from encouraging full-throated singing from the congregation. As a music director, in many ways last year's Easter was more difficult than 2020 when everything was completely shut down. Not being able to share the work and joy of the week fully with the choir and congregation felt like a liturgical purgatory of sorts.

But 2022 is a new story. Full congregations are back in the pews. Choirs have resumed singing. Mandatory restrictions have been lifted. Mask wearing is no longer required. When the stress and preparation of Holy Week begins to weigh us down, let us remember we have not been able to celebrate fully since 2019. May we deeply experience the joy of baptism and the promise of eternal life as we lift our thankful hearts and sing *Alleluia!* once again.

- Amy Massey, DC Chapter Director

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LENTEN RETREAT

Living our lives in light of our Baptism

Timothy Johnson, Director of the Office of Worship for the Archdiocese, facilitated this year's Lenten Retreat. His presentation focused on living our lives in light of our baptism. He noted that we often fail to appreciate the power of the sacrament – the fact that we die to our old self and become a new person, a sacramental presence of the Lord. Lent for the baptized is an opportunity to “begin again.”



We were given questions for reflection:

- Do we find joy in daily prayer?
- Do we grow closer to God through prayer?
- Do we read Scripture and joyfully dwell on it?



- Do we humbly acknowledge our faults and try to correct them?
- Do we dedicate our daily work to the Lord
- Do we engage in activities that honor God?

After time for quiet prayer and reflection, the second session focused on the signs & symbols of Christian Initiation. Our senses (hearing, touching, smelling, tasting) are invoked to bring home the reality that we are newly anointed as priests, prophets, kings. A valuable take-away from the retreat: “Seeing music as a glimpse of the mystery of God.”

- Charlene Dorrian, Past DC Chapter Director



SHROVE TUESDAY LUNCH IS BACK!



What a joy it was to be back together IN PERSON for our Shrove Tuesday Lunch, after two years! We so enjoyed the food, service and hospitality at Ruthie's All Day in Arlington. There were scrumptious deviled eggs and arugula salad for all, followed by wonderful entrée sandwiches to choose from of chicken, pork or brisket highlighted by their amazing barbeque sauces. The lunch was topped off by delectable campfire cookies and ice cream. But the best part of the day was gathering together with fellow pastoral musicians from our local chapters to share food, fellowship and fun!



In case you missed our virtual offering last year of our own Rick Gibala and Remi Bauer offering a delightful and entertaining cooking demonstration, you can check it out here: <https://fb.watch/bJNwsoccGu/>

- Anne Shingler, Arlington Chapter Secretary



RUTHIE'S ALL-DAY

LOCAL CHOIR PERFORMS AT CARNEGIE HALL



From Top Left: Katie Evans, David Walsh, Aidan Davis, John Otranto, William Thayer, Lacy Pitman. From Bottom Left: Kathy Gray, Martha Shiles, Sue Hardesty, Ann Marie Scarpino, Gail Walsh.

Members of the Jesus the Good Shepherd Church choir in Owings, Md. are thrilled to be realizing a lifelong dream to sing at New York City's Carnegie Hall on March 27, 2022. The Covenant Community of Jesus the Good Shepherd sent 11 members of its choir to perform in a concert produced by Distinguished Concerts International of New York (DCINY). Choirs from all over North America—ranging in style from civic to philharmonic—were invited to perform. Jesus the Good Shepherd is the only local choir to Maryland and the only one in The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington slated to sing in the concert.

“Carnegie Hall is one of the most prestigious venues in the world, for both classical and popular music. To be able to step on a stage with such history will be exciting, magical and a privilege,” says Sue Hardesty who has been a member of the choir for over 10 years.

The Jesus the Good Shepherd choir will sing the Faure Requiem under the direction of Guest Conductor Erin Freeman who is in residence at Virginia Commonwealth University and part of the Richmond Philharmonic Symphony and Chorus.

The Faure Requiem is extra special to members of the Jesus the Good Shepherd choir who sing it almost every November for the church's annual All Souls Day Mass of Remembrance. To be able to sing it at Carnegie Hall and with a 100-voiced choir is even more special for the singers who have only been able to do minimal singing since the start of the Pandemic two years ago.

“One of the important lessons from the pandemic is how important our own lived experiences are,” says music director Katie Evans of Jesus the Good Shepherd. “To not be able to travel over the last two years has been tough, but to not be able to sing was even worse. The choir members realize we cannot get back these lived experiences and we value them so much more as performers.”

Evans had submitted a recording of the choir to DCINY back in 2020. The group was invited to the 2021 Carnegie Hall performance, which unfortunately was canceled amid continuing COVID-19 restrictions. This will be the first large choral work that DCINY has produced at Carnegie Hall in over two years.

The event has not come without any bumps, especially concerning all the COVID protocols still in place.

Since Carnegie Hall is a “vaccinated venue only,” all performers had to provide proof of vaccination including booster shots based on CDC guidelines and age of each performer. Carnegie Hall additionally requires all audience members to wear masks and provide proof of vaccination. The venue also utilizes time-

stamped entry tickets to promote social distancing.

Luckily, the performers were told they do not have to wear a mask while on stage, but backstage and for rehearsals masks are still required.

“After all these hoops, it will still be worth it to say I have sung at Carnegie Hall!” said soprano Kathy Gray, a member of the Jesus the Good Shepherd choir who is a research nurse in Annapolis.

"The Catholic Church has always promoted the fine arts. Music, of course, is no exception. In

today's world, it is vital for the Church more than ever to promote classical, choral pieces which are, in fact, timeless,” says Michael J. King, Pastor at Jesus the Good Shepherd. “As a pastor, I have always loved church music since I was a child. Today, I am indeed proud that members of my parish choir have undertaken such an ambitious goal as to actively participate in this musical experience at Carnegie Hall. I am so happy for them. It truly will be a memory for a lifetime!"

- Katie Evans, DC Newsletter Editor

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL



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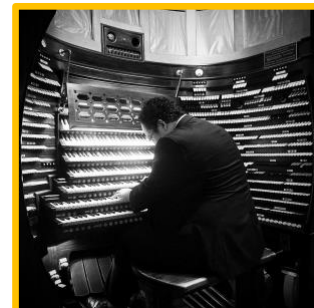


April 15: Noon Reflection on the Seven Last Words of Christ: Cathedral of St. Matthew

Rev. Travis Russell, SJ delivers a Reflection on the Lord's Passion at Noon on Good Friday, April 15, joined by members of St. Matthew's Schola Cantorum, for our traditional commemoration of the Lord's Passion. Join us in the Cathedral for the Noon Reflection and the 1pm Liturgy or participate via the Archdiocese of Washington livestream.

April 29 at 7:30 pm - David Ball, Organist – Cathedral of St. Thomas More

David Ball serves as Cathedral Organist and Head of Music Ministry at Christ Cathedral in the Diocese of Orange, California (formerly the Crystal Cathedral). David was recently named one of The Diapason's 20 under 30. Learn more at davidballorgan.com.



CHOIR CHAIRS LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME!



Precious Blood Church in Culpeper has 27 choir chairs that we are willing to donate to any church in need. Please contact Hannah Masson at hmasson@pbconline.com Director of Music, Precious Blood Church, Culpeper, VA.

NPM NATIONAL



TESTED BY FIRE

RENEWED & TRANSFORMED

45TH NPM ANNUAL CONVENTION
LOUISVILLE, KY • JUNE 28-JULY 1, 2022
VIRTUAL • JULY 5-7, 2022

In-Person Convention Information

When? June 28-July 1, 2022

Where? The Galt House Hotel
140 N Fourth St, Louisville, KY 40202

<https://www.galthouse.com>

[NPM Convention Registration](#)

Booking Your Room at the Galt House Hotel

Scan the QR code to book your room at the Galt House, or call
502-589-5200 and mention code **0623NAPM**.



**For more information on Cancellation Policy, Local Fun, Virtual Option and more,
please check the NPM Convention website [here](#).**

To see a short video on the info for the NPM Convention click here:

<https://youtu.be/j-AFNR-UAAs>

[NPM Brochure](#)

[NPM Schedule of Events](#)

Lunchtime Concert Series:



Every week, NPM holds Thursday Thoughts at 3!
Here are the latest and greatest in case you missed it! The videos are also archived and can be viewed [here](#).

[Let Our Prayer Arise! \(by Steve Angrisano\)](#)

[The Embrace of Christ: Musical Reflections on Lent \(by Christian Cosas and Krista Schupbach\)](#)



Ministry Monday #192: Musically Preparing for the Exsultet (with Nicholas Will)

#193: Bilingual Considerations for the Exsultet (with Tony Alonso)

MEMBERSHIP



Which membership is best for you?



BASIC membership is \$39. This is also a good option for those who feel philanthropic about our organization and want to continue supporting us.

STANDARD membership is \$119. For those planning liturgies, professional growth opportunities, receive *Pastoral Music* magazine, and are likely to want a discount on attending conferences.

PREMIUM membership is \$169. For Directors of Music Ministries Division (DMMD). They receive all the above-mentioned benefits, as well as access to more premium content and the colloquium, among other professional events.

It is vital that you choose your local chapter in order for us to be notified of your registration and receive a portion of your dues to support local events.

We encourage you to take the leap and register for your national membership at www.npm.org/membership



Christ, the Lord, Is Risen Today VICTIMAE PASCHALI

Christ, the Lord, is ris'n today;
Christians, haste your vows to pay;
Make your joy and praises known
At the Paschal Victim's throne;
For the sheep the Lamb has bled,
Sinless in the sinner's stead;
Christ, the Lord, is ris'n on high;
Now he lives, no more to die!

Text: 77 77 D; Victimae paschali laudes; ascr. to Wipo of Burgundy, ca. 1000–1050;
tr. by Jane E. Leeson, 1808–1881, alt. Music: Würth's Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1859.

The Board of Directors for DC and Arlington

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