



NEWSLETTER

The monthly joint publication of the NPM Arlington and NPM DC Chapters.

Fostering the art of musical liturgy.

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Alleluia! He is Risen!



NPM Arlington and NPM DC wish you a blessed Easter!

Those Who Sing Pray Twice Cantor Workshop Review



*St. Cecilia,
pray for us!*

On Monday, February 26, 16 singers and directors attended the Cantor Workshop at St. Ambrose Church in Cheverly, MD. Amy Massey and Valerie Kopinski, the co-presenters, did a wonderful job of enlightening the group on the role of the cantor in light of the bishop's document *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship*. They particularly emphasized that the Psalm is the Word of God and should be well prepared and prayed by the cantor.

Next they moved to basics of vocal technique and vocal warm-ups. This was followed by opportunities for individuals to sing in front of the group and receive personal feedback on how to improve their singing and conveying of the text. The participants were enjoying the event so much that they stayed almost 30 minutes longer to support and hear each other sing. Everyone also received handouts with college-level information on singing, tone production, vowels and modifications, Latin pronunciation, and vocal health. A great event that should be repeated by Amy and Valerie again in the future!

Jayne Traynor Rose, DC Chapter

Director's Corner

The musical proclamation of the Responsorial Psalm refrain and verses during the Octave of Easter is sung praise at its very best.

Easter Sunday's Psalm 118 joyously announces: "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!" And to punctuate the elation surrounding Christ's Resurrection, each Gospel Acclamation after Sunday repeats that psalm refrain throughout the Octave.

Along with the Easter Alleluias, the Octave liturgies include these psalm refrains: "The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord," "Rejoice, O hearts that seek the Lord," and "O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth."

Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship tells us that the Responsorial Psalm is an "integral part of the Liturgy of the Word" and "is intended to foster meditation on the Word of God." Respecting and recognizing their origins, *Sing to the Lord*, citing the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, calls psalms "poems of praise that are meant, whenever possible, to be sung."

We pastoral musicians know that; we embrace that. That's why I admittedly squirm every rare occasion I must speak the Responsorial Psalm in a liturgy without music. Another uncomfortable moment occurs when I explain to some budget-minded young couples planning their wedding music why the services of a cantor are needed for

the Responsorial Psalm during their upcoming ceremony or Mass. The psalm screams to be whenever, wherever!

Even though we find comfort in our role in psalmody, a refresher in its art and practice

awaits us at our Arlington and DC chapters' jointly sponsored workshop this month with presenter **SR. KATHLEEN HARMON**. A renowned educator and musician, she has authored and co-authored an extensive array of publications. Among them is *Becoming the Psalms: A Spirituality of Singing and Praying the Psalms*.

Sr. Kathleen promises to help us continue our journey through the Easter Season – and beyond – in her presentation, *Singing the Psalms Shapes Who We Are*, on Saturday morning, **April 28** at Our Lady of Good Counsel parish in Vienna, VA. That journey has a special place in our roles as pastoral musicians, whether we're singing, directing, planning, composing or merely contemplating the psalms. Read more about Sr. Kathleen and the workshop on page 3.

We hope to see you there!

Eugene Harper
Arlington Chapter Director



Singing the Psalms Shapes Who We Are Kathleen Harmon, SNDdeN, Ph.D.

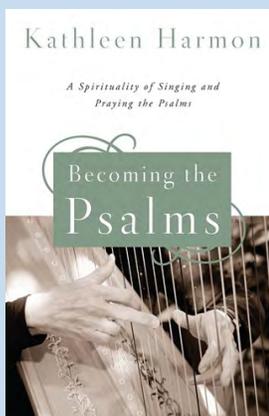


Saturday, April 28, 2018
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
(registration begins at 9:00 AM)

Our Lady of Good Counsel
8601 Wolftrap Road,
Vienna, VA 22182

Cost: \$15 chapter member
\$20 non-member

There is a reason why the community of the Church has sung the psalms as part of the liturgy from earliest days. These songs of praise and cries of lament lead us to encounter God and ourselves at the deepest level of faith and discipleship. Singing the psalms shapes who we are as people of faith, as music ministers, and as leaders of the liturgy.



To RSVP click [here](#) or email us:
arlingtonnmp@gmail.com

Questions? Contact us at
arlingtonnmp@gmail.com (Arlington) or
npmcdmembership@gmail.com (DC)

*Several of Sr. Kathleen's books
will be available for purchase.*

Be sure to visit the Washington, DC and Arlington, VA Chapters' websites for the latest information on Chapter happenings, registration forms, and events:

www.npmcdc.org
www.npmarlington.org

Who should attend this workshop? Who is Sr. Kathleen Harmon?

If you sing, play, compose, plan, or even contemplate the psalms in your parish, you don't want to miss the workshop, **SINGING THE PSALMS SHAPES WHO WE ARE**, on **Saturday, April 28**, from 9:30am till 12:30pm at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Vienna, VA. Check out more details on the left of this page.

Renowned pastoral musician and liturgical theologian **Sr. Kathleen A. Harmon** will lead attendees through a thoroughly engaging morning.

She holds a graduate degree in music and a doctorate in liturgy. An educator and musician, she facilitates liturgical music workshops and cantor formation programs.

Currently, Sr. Kathleen is Vice Chair of the Board of Directors for the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. She also serves as Director for programs of the Institute for Liturgical Ministry, Dayton, Ohio.

She has authored and co-authored an extensive array of publications. Among them are *Becoming the Psalms: A Spirituality of Singing and Praying the Psalms*, *The Ministry of Music*, *The Ministry of Cantors* and *The Mystery We Celebrate, the Song we Sing: A Theology of Liturgical Music*. Some of her books will be available for sale at the workshop.

Sr. Kathleen is a member of the religious order Sisters of Notre Dame de Namar (SNDdeN) Ohio Province, based in Cincinnati. With their motto "making known God's goodness with you" these sisters work in educational institutions ranging from universities to primary schools, in hospitals and spirituality centers, and in the areas of peace and justice. They carry out their vocations in five continents and 20 countries.

2018 National Convention

#NPM41

We hope to see many of you in Baltimore this summer! For full convention details see the digital [Convention Brochure](#). Details about the Chapter Dinner are found in this newsletter!

The Chapter Discount is the **best available**, even better than the \$310 early bird fee:

10-19 Members (15% off): \$306 (\$355 w/ dinner)
20-29 Members (20% off): \$288 (\$337 w/ dinner)
30+ Members (25% off): \$270 (\$319 w/ dinner)

Is an NPM Convention for you?

Yes! If you are a pastoral musician: director of music ministries - psalmist - cantor - bishop - priest - deacon - seminarian - choir director - ensemble leader - organist - keyboardist - guitarist - player of another instrument - youth pastoral musician - music educator - or anyone seeking time away in a retreat environment filled with prayer, filled with music, filled with the support of other ministers.

Is there a local Chapter member discount?

Yes! Before you send in that registration form, we hope you will consider registering through the local chapters (Arlington & DC are considered as one).



Please note:

1. Again this year there is a **\$20** discount if you choose an Electronic Program Book.
2. Registrant must be a parish/individual member of both National **AND** the local chapter (Arlington/DC).
3. Only one discount per registrant (e.g. *cannot be combined with Clergy/Musician Duo*)
4. Chapter discount is not available on Youth, Daily, Companion, or Child registrations

Here's what to do:

1. Complete a [registration form](#).
2. Make a check payable to NPM/Arlington (\$306* - *plus any extras you've chosen*)
3. Mail both to **Anne Shingler, 3146 Woodland Lane, Alexandria, VA 22309** by **Friday, April 13, 2018**.

Questions, including how to join your local chapter?

Please email arlingtonnpm@gmail.com (Arlington) or npmmembership@gmail.com (DC)

Convention Chapter Dinner - Something New!



At this year's **#NPM41** Convention, the Core Committee and the National Office have implemented some new and exciting schedule changes. One of these is the Pastoral Musicians Dinner - a family-style banquet immediately after the Convention Eucharist on **Thursday, July 12**. See page 33 of the [Convention Brochure](#). As such, your local chapter leadership wants to support this effort. We will attend this dinner as our Chapter Dinner and arrange for tables for our chapter attendees.

This dinner requires pre-registration. Please mark your [registration form](#) (on page 2) to attend the dinner. Cost is \$49 per person.

A Look Around Our Chapters



Send us your photos!

As we journey through this Easter season, many of us have increased schedules of liturgies, concerts, and rehearsals. Please consider taking a few photos of your ministry, parish, and sanctuary and sharing them with us for possible publication in the Newsletter or on Social Media. Share JPEG or TIFF files with the newsletter editor, tlewicki@allsaintsva.org.

Choristers at St. Mary's Church, Barnesville, MD kneel and pray during Mass.

NPM DC Lenten Retreat

It's possible to have heard a passage or story countless times and think you appreciate its full meaning. Then someone presents it in a whole new light, and it's as though you never heard the words before.

That's how it was with the scripture on which Fr. Daniel J. Issing, C.S.C., based his reflections at the Lenten Retreat on March 3. He chose passages from the 12th & 13th Chapters of the Gospel of John: the grain of wheat that must die before it can produce fruit; Jesus' entry into Jerusalem; and Jesus' washing the disciples' feet at the Last Supper. He took these stories of long ago and made it seem as though they were written directly for us, as we work through the complexities of life in this modern world.

Fr. Dan led participants in a meditation on "The Mystery that Contains Us," that is, the Paschal Mystery. Beginning with the "smallness of God" and linking the Passion of Jesus with the suffering here and now, he invited retreatants to meditate on how sin, repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation widen our life to experience God's providence and mercy as the truth of the universe. From there, Fr. Dan moved on to the "largesse of God" and how God saves us. God always invites us to move from the way things are to deeper communion and the peace of Christ. The path is through dying to self and losing what we cling to. In this we are united to Christ and we experience God's power and mercy. God gives us seed to spread prodigiously, sowing for a future of Christ's peace.

At the conclusion of the retreat, Fr. Dan spoke of Pope Francis' emphasis on mercy, and asked us – as pastoral musicians – how mercy might challenge us in our parish life.

Charlene Dorrian, DC Chapter



SPANISH CHOIR DIRECTOR

St. Bernadette Catholic Church
7600 Old Keene Mill Rd., Springfield, VA
www.stbernapar.org

Seeking director/pianist of Coro Hispano for large multi-cultural and pastorally aware parish in suburban Northern Virginia. Coordinate with pastor, music director, and choir leadership team on music choices and logistics for 1pm Mass each Sunday and several annual bilingual liturgies. *Flor y canto, tercera edición.* Music budget; some weddings and funerals; part-time compensation negotiable. Send resumé indicating music and church experience to David Mathers at dmathers@stbernapar.org.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church
12805 Valleywood Dr., Lake Ridge, VA 22192
www.seas1.org

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish seeks a full-time Director of Music Ministry. In collaboration with the Pastor, the Director of Music Ministry is responsible for guiding, developing, implementing, supporting, and evaluating music programming that leads the faithful to full, conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations.

For a full job description see:

<https://www.catholicjobs.com/job/9673131113>

Send applications or inquiries to: pastor@seas1.org.



Piano/Organ Accompanists

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church of Triangle, Virginia is looking for multiple Pianists/Organists to join our Music Ministry team in accompanying our choirs, cantors, and instrumentalists. We are a vibrant Franciscan Community and School worshipping with various styles of music from Traditional to Contemporary.

As these musicians would be forming a team of accompanists, there are options for available services, rehearsals, and earning potential.

Position Descriptions:

- Accompany two to three Sunday services per weekend with choir and instrumentalists; accompany two evening rehearsal per week.
- Accompany one to two Sunday services per weekend with choir and instrumentalists; accompany one evening rehearsal per week.
- Share the responsibilities in accompanying Holy Day, Christmas Eve, and Easter services; sacrament services such as First Communion and Confirmation.
- Share the responsibilities in accompanying special services such as annual Christmas Concert and Holy Week services; with additional rehearsals.
- Share the responsibilities in accompanying weddings and funerals, as desired; individually compensated for these services.

Applicants should have excellent piano skills, the ability to sight-read, and experience playing in Traditional and Contemporary Styles; strong organ skills preferred.

Annual salary potential ranges from \$7,800 - \$34,800 depending on number of services and rehearsals *before weddings and funerals.*

Please contact Nikole Giraldi, Director of Music Ministry:

Nikole Giraldi
Director of Music Ministry



18825 Fuller Heights Rd. Triangle, VA 22172

703-221-4044 ext. 231

www.stfrancis.org

nikoleg@stfrancis.org



To submit a job posting, classified, or event posting, please send the information, formatted as seen on this page, to Claire Schweppe (clmcaruso@gmail.com) or Tim Lewicki (tlewicki@allsaintsva.org) by the 15th of the month for the following newsletter (i.e. by September 15 for the October newsletter). Please let us know when the position has been filled or your items have been sold/donated.
Thank you.



Upcoming Events



Emily Mason, Harpist

Harp Concert to Benefit our 1908 Steinway

April 21

Free Admission

6:15 pm

Saturday, April 21
St. Veronica Parish Hall

Come Hear Emily Mason play the harp for an hour after the 5:00 pm mass on Saturday, April 21st, with a light reception to follow. The concert will be held in the parish hall to raise money to care for the 110-year-old Steinway which sits in the sanctuary at St. Veronica. Emily will be playing a wide variety of pieces from Mozart to jazz to Disney classics. Admission is free- all donations will go towards an environmental control system for our beautiful 1908 Steinway.

St. Veronica Catholic Church • 3460 Centreville Rd. Chantilly, VA 20151

Friday, April 27, 2018 8:00 PM

Ephrem Brass

St. Thomas More Cathedral

3901 Cathedral Lane, Arlington, VA 22203

www.cathedralstm.org • 703-524-2815

The members of Ephrem Brass seek to honor their namesake Saint Ephrem the Syrian who was called the Harp of the Holy Ghost, Mary's own Singer and the Father of Hymnody, by presenting music of a sacred nature from the ancient to the contemporary. Writing many of their own arrangements, the ensemble members have a unique sound that is at once contemplative and dazzling. The brass ensemble will be joined by guest organist **Russell J. Weismann**. This concert will feature music from Tallis, Praetorius, Byrd, Lemmens and Strauss.

Announcements of items of interest to Pastoral Musicians such as concerts, transitions, or special activities are welcome in the monthly newsletter. Deadline for articles, announcements, etc. remains the 15th of each month.

Please email Claire Schwappe at

clmcaruso@gmail.com.



Sacred Music at All Saints Concert Series

presents

THE BLUE RIDGE SINGERS

Dr. Jeffery Alban, conductor

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

7:30 PM

FREE CONCERT!

Join us as we continue our fifth anniversary season! This choral group has been on our season each year and is an audience favorite! Enjoy choral works by Vaughn Williams, Sametz, Pärt, Elder, Lassus, Guillaume, and others



@AllSaintsVAConcerts

9300 Stonewall Road Manassas, VA 20110 • WWW.ALLSAINTSVA.ORG • 703-393-2146

Upcoming Events

MUSIC IN McLEAN

Silver Jubilee Concert

honoring
PAUL SKEVINGTON
25 years at Saint Luke Catholic Church

SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 2018 4PM

The free concert will feature the world premiere of
A Joyful Noise (Psalm 100 with Alleluias) by Thomas Colohan,
commissioned by the combined choirs of Saint Luke and dedicated to Paul.

Festival Choir, Women's Choir, Children's Choir, and Choristers
Paul Skevington, Organ
Phil Snedecor, Trumpet
Benjamin Smedberg, Conductor

Gala reception follows the concert

Saint Luke Catholic Church | 7001 Georgetown Pike | McLean, Virginia | musicinmclean.org

2017 - 2018
CALENDAR of EVENTS

✦

April 28, 2018
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Joint Arlington/DC Event
Singing the Psalms
Shapes Who We Are
Kathleen Harmon,
SNDdeN, Ph.D.
Our Lady of Good Counsel,
Vienna, VA

July 9-13, 2018
NPM National
Convention
Baltimore, MD

Make a
Joyful noise
Unto The
Lord!

DC CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETINGS

On the second Monday of the month, the chapter executive board will hold an open meeting for the members to discuss the work of the chapter. This is an opportunity for our members to offer suggestions and to volunteer your time and talent. Locations will be announced prior to each meeting. Check the newsletter, your email, and facebook for information about each upcoming meeting. Below is the meeting schedule for the 2017-2018 year.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>
April 9, 2018	12:30-2:30 pm	Our Lady of Mercy, 9200 Kentsdale Dr, Potomac, MD
June 11, 2018	12:30-2:30 pm	TBA

Ministers to Sung Worship: The Choir

When congregational singing was introduced into the celebration of the Sunday liturgy in the 1960s, many musicians, clergy, and ordinary Catholics thought that there would no longer be a need for choirs. As it turned out, however, choirs are more needed than ever. Liturgical documents highlight the choir's ministry, and pastoral experience has demonstrated the choir's importance in supporting and leading the singing of the whole assembly. In fact, many parishes today boast a variety of choirs that sing music in various styles. In addition to the standard mixed-voice adult choir, there are Gospel choirs, contemporary music ensembles, children's choirs, youth choirs, funeral choirs, and family choirs.

The primary ministerial role of the choir is to sing various parts of the Mass in dialogue or in alternation with the rest of the assembly. Some parts of the Mass, like the *Kyrie* and the *Agnus Dei*, have the back-and-forth form of a litany, so they work well as this kind of dialogue. Other parts have a call-and-response form, in which the choir intones a line that is repeated by the congregation. The Gospel acclamation works a bit like this. Other parts of the Mass may be sung in various ways—sometimes by the choir alone, sometimes by the whole assembly, sometimes in alternation between the choir (or a cantor) and everyone else. Two long texts may be sung this way: The *Gloria* may be sung by everyone together, or by the congregation alternately with the choir, or even by the choir alone; and the profession of faith may be sung by all together or alternately between the congregation and the choir. The three major processional chants of the liturgy—the entrance, offertory, and Communion chants—may be sung alternately between the choir and the congregation or even by the choir alone, and the first two (entrance and offertory) may be sung by all together.

The place for the choir in the building reflects its ritual function: The official texts say that the choir should be located where it is clearly part of the whole assembly but also where it can best do its assigned tasks.



Whether singing with the rest of the assembly, in alternation, or alone, the choir's role is always understood in relation to the full, conscious, and active participation of the faithful. When it is not singing its own special repertoire, the choir joins the song of the whole assembly, supporting the congregation and adding beauty and variety to the singing by harmonies and descants.

To perform their liturgical task, choirs need plenty of rehearsal, for it is only when the music is well prepared that the choir can really support the singing of the whole assembly. Thorough preparation is also needed if choral singing is to express the mystery of God through beauty and if it is to foster the dignity of the celebration.

The participation of the assembly receives an enormous boost if a parish has a good liturgical choir, but the role of the choir is always *ministerial*, serving the action of the liturgy and fostering the participation of those who have gathered.



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Hats Off!

The following choirs have provided music for the Sunday TV Mass recently. Mass is celebrated in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, and broadcast on WDCW-TV (DCW50) each Sunday at 10:30 AM. Check your local cable or satellite provider's listings. Click the image of the Shrine's dome to view recordings of these masses.

Theological College Schola, Catholic University, Washington, DC



Christ is Risen: The world below lies desolate
 Christ is Risen: The spirits of evil are fallen
 Christ is Risen: The angels of God are rejoicing
 Christ is Risen: The tombs of the dead are empty
 Christ is Risen indeed from the dead,
 the first of the sleepers,
 Glory and power are his forever and ever.

- St. Hippolytus of Rome



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PASTORAL MUSICIANS
Members of the Board - Arlington, VA and Washington, DC

ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA CHAPTER

Eugene Harper, Director
gwppapi@gmail.com
 703-862-7822

Fr. Donald Rooney, Chaplain
frdonrooney@stbernpar.org

Richard Gibala,
 Diocesan Music Coordinator
rickpgibala@gmail.com
 703-524-2815

Anne Shingler, Secretary
a.shingler@gs-cc.org
 703-360-8029

Bob Malinowski, Treasurer
rlm7680@gmail.com
 703-569-4092

Tim Lewicki, Newsletter Editor
tlewicki@allsaintsva.org
 703-393-2146

E.J. Cochran, Membership
ejcochran@aol.com
 703-590-0030

Claire Scheppe, At-large
clmcaruso@gmail.com
 703-430-0811, ext. 123

David Mathers, Past Director
dmathers@stbernpar.org
 703-451-8576, ext. 112

WASHINGTON, DC CHAPTER

Amy Massey, Interim Director
music@mothersetonparish.org
 301-924-3838

Fr. Mateo Ayala, Chaplain
fathermateo@strose.com
 301-948-7545, ext. 229

Mark Kozeal, Treasurer
mkozeal@bna.com
 202-329-1701

Joan Laskey, Secretary
joanlaskey@verizon.net
 301-441-1168

Remi Bauer,
 Membership Coordinator
npmdcmembership@gmail.com
 301-926-7263

Mary Beaudoin,
 Program Coordinator
m.beaudoin3@verizon.net
 301-762-2143, ext 124

Jayne Traynor Rose,
 Program Coordinator
jayne.rose@aol.com
 301-365-1415, ext. 102

Susan DeCamp,
 Hospitality Coordinator
smdecamp@yahoo.com
 240-601-5750