



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!

www.NPMarlington.org

THE SEASON OF ADVENT
 MEANS THERE IS SOMETHING
 ON THE HORIZON
 THE LIKES OF WHICH WE HAVE
 NEVER SEEN BEFORE.

— JAN RICHARDSON

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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



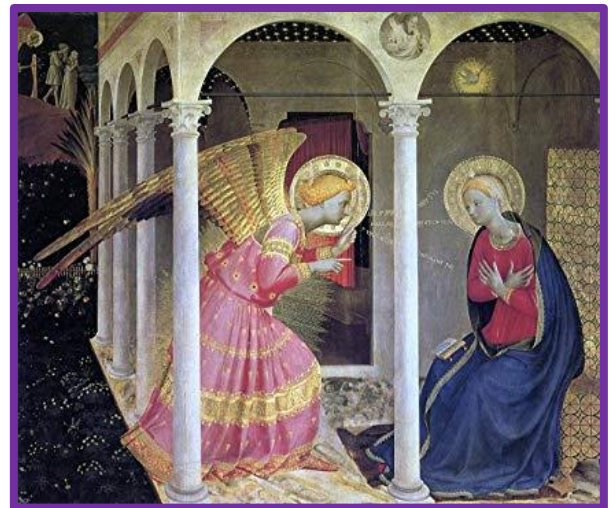
How is it possible that another liturgical year has come to end? In the span of one week, we go from celebrating the triumphant power of Christ the King to anticipating and preparing for the mystery of the Incarnation. As pastoral musicians we are deeply tied to the rhythm of the liturgical year. In my experience, the start of Advent brings more hope, joy, and promise than the secular celebration of January 1st. Given the unprecedented restrictions and suffering placed upon our church life due to the pandemic, the need for renewal and looking forward is even more acute than

seasons past. The new liturgical year is the perfect time to re-center our lives, take stock of our spiritual growth over the last year and look forward to the story of Christ retold again.

This beginning again is not possible without acknowledging the *yes*, the fiat of Mary, at the Annunciation. One of my favorite hymns for Advent is “The Angel Gabriel”, an old Basque tune with a moving text. Verse three is the one that embodies this miraculous yes that started all of salvation history. “Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, “To me be as it pleaseth God”, she said. ‘My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name’: most highly favored lady. Gloria! (If you are not familiar with this hymn, [take a listen here.](#)) She did not let fear of the unknown, fear of the angel in front of her or fear of the gigantic, history-changing task before her deter her *Yes!*

As we embark into this new liturgical year, may we find new places to say *yes* to Christ in our lives. May we be open to growth in our music ministries and to those in need around us. May we not be weighed down by the last 20 months of upheaval nor frightened of what may come. Let us, like Mary, continue to say *yes* in the face of the unknown. For in the end, Christ is King, and his reign began with the Holy Yes of Mary and the cry of tiny child so many years ago.

Veni Sancte Spiritus. Veni per Mariam.



- Amy Massey, DC Chapter President

FALL LITURGY DAY - LIVING DOCUMENT OR JUST HISTORY



It was a beautiful fall day on October 23rd, when NPM chapter members of Arlington and

Washington, D.C. were received with generous hospitality at St. Thomas More Cathedral; and then a well-prepared presentation by **Dr. John A. Romeri**, on the Constitution of the Sacred Liturgy (CSL), "*Sacrosanctum Concilium*". As past Arlington chapter director, Gene Harper introduced our speaker in great detail, it was clear that we were about to hear from an experienced colleague whose qualifications were more than just liturgical academia, but his lived experience, and his in-depth study that has led to this presentation. Dr. Romeri is most recently the Director of Music and Organist for Christ Cathedral Church in the Dioceses of Orange, California.

We began our morning with a mission: to refocus our ministry, by looking with fresh eyes at this, our Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy: the foundational, first document of the Vatican II Council. Morning Prayer was jointly led by chapter members. Afterward, Dr. Rick Gibala, Director Music at the Cathedral of St. Thomas Moore, gave some personal remarks about his friend and our speaker. Dr. Romeri then began with us all reciting the very prayer that started each day of the Vatican II Council, prayed by

2,500 Cardinals, Patriarchs of Eastern Catholic Churches, Archbishops, Bishops. The Council started its work on October 11, 1962 and produced 16 documents. This first document, the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy was approved on December 4th, 1963, approved by a vote of 2,147 to 4. Dr. Romeri asked us to consider, "This 134-page document is our Constitution. Is it a living document, or just a history?"

Deftly we moved through the document with highlights and side notes that helped to focus our understanding of how the Council was shaping the future, in bringing vigor to the faithful in their lives and in their liturgy. The very familiar "full, active, and conscious participation" is from this

"This 134-page document is our Constitution. Is it a living document, or just a history?"

document. When reading these words, and many others in full context, it's easy to realize how important it is to refresh our minds with what the document actually says, resounding with relevance even 60 years later.

Dr. Romeri graced us with his friendly manner and refreshing perspective. Those of us in attendance were grateful for the opportunity to spend a delightful morning with him, and with each other.

- Diane Yendrey, Secretary, DC Chapter

DC HAPPY HOUR



What a pleasure to gather in person again!

The Happy Hour on November 19 was held at *Not Your Average Joe's* in Bethesda. It was a time to renew old friendships and to welcome new members to the association. With crisp autumn weather, chapter-sponsored food & pitchers of sangria, and our own set-off corner of the restaurant, the atmosphere was festive and noisy.

Added bonus: To be joined by Association Executive Director, Jennifer Kluge and Archdiocese of Washington Director of Worship, Timothy Johnson.



Parishes may have varied ways of adjusting to a “new normal,” but it was evident that the strength we gain from our relationships with fellow liturgical musicians is crucial. Thank you, NPM!

- Charlene Dorrian,
past Director, DC Chapter

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, December 5, 2021

4:00 pm

The Cathedral of Saint Thomas More
3901 Cathedral Lane
Arlington, Virginia

CONCERT Service of Lessons and Carols



Cathedral Concerts offers the annual Service of Lessons and Carols, featuring Cathedral clergy, lay readers, the Cathedral choir, youth choir, and handbell choir. A cherished Cathedral tradition, this service is filled with candles, carols, and readings. Celebrate the joy and peace of this wonderful season in the beauty of St. Thomas More Cathedral, especially in this time of Pandemic.



Catholic Charities Advent Calendar

Visit <http://www.comfortandjoy2021.org> at 7 pm each day in December for a musical treat to prepare for the coming of Our Lord! On the Feast of the **Immaculate Conception of Mary** Our Lady of Mercy's *Jayne Traynor Rose's* flute choir, the **Chesapeake Flute Consort**. They will be playing 2 of her arrangements and other music of the season. Tune in every day for a new program.

Welcome to the new Director of the Office of Worship for the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.: Timothy Johnston!

Timothy A. Johnston is the director of the office of worship for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington. He earned a master of arts in liturgical studies from St. John's University, Minnesota and a master of arts in Christian doctrine from Marquette University, Wisconsin. His bachelor of science in music education was granted by Quincy University, Illinois. Originally from Old Mines, Missouri, Timothy previously served as an editor and liturgical training consultant for Liturgy Training Publications with the Archdiocese of Chicago, IL, as the director of the Office of Liturgy for the Diocese of Salt Lake City, as the director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of St. Cloud, and as director of Liturgical Programs at Marquette University. He has served as a high school teacher, written articles on pastoral liturgy, and presented workshops on liturgical formation, especially the Liturgy of the Hours and Christian initiation. Timothy is the author of *Pocket Prayers for Times of Trouble* (Twenty-Third Publications, 2014) and co-author of *Guide for Celebrating Infant Baptism* (LTP, 2020) and *Disciples Making Disciples: Print and Digital Resources for Forming the Assembly* (LTP, 2017).



(CS photo/Andrew Birai)

Timothy likes to read historical fiction, hike in the Rocky Mountains, visit museums, and attend musical events like the symphony. You can read all about him in the Catholic Standard [here](#).

NPM NATIONAL

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](#).

[Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs \(by Thomas W. Jefferson\)](#)

[2022 National Convention Information \(November 6, 2021\)](#)



[Ministry Monday #179: Music Ministry and Mentorship \(with John Angotti\)](#)

[Ministry Monday #177: Authenticity in Liturgy \(with M. Roger Holland II\)](#)

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



Something Within me Wants to Be Born in Winter

Lord of All Light, When my days are filled with doubt,
 Something within me will not cease believing. When I feel
 despair, Something in me still hopes. Even when I see hatred,
 Something within me is still moved to love. I am not Mary:
 Sinless, blameless, ever-virtuous. Yet something in me wants
 to be born in *winter*. Teach me to nourish it, protect it Give it
 life. Teach me to say Yes.

To faith, and to hope, and to love.

To your coming to live among us in this strange place.

For even when I am broken, fragmented, shattered even.

Something in me wants to be born in winter. And in that Yes

Beyond any mercy I can imagine I am made whole.

Something in me wants to be born in winter.

Amen.



The Board of Directors for DC and Arlington

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