



Newsletter

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

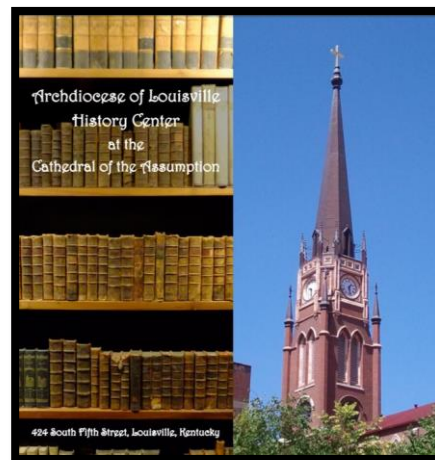
Fostering the art of musical liturgy

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St. Cecilia, pray for us!



NPM Virtual Convention:
July 7-11, 2020
Louisville, Kentucky

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Welcome to our new program year!

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, planning for music ministry this fall has been a challenge. The various social distancing requirements and other precautions make choral singing unrealistic. Even congregational singing presents challenge: singing while wearing a mask, singing without hymnals, and accompanying extended Communion processions due to the added safety precautions. How do we plan? How do we pray? How can we sing? These are questions each of us will need to pray over in the months to come.

Given the challenges and opportunities at the parish level, your local NPM boards have been grappling with how to program NPM events for this year. We're talking about some virtual gatherings or virtual workshops. Maybe some in-person events in the Spring. This much is clear - we want to stay connected with you, help you as we can, and continue to journey in pastoral ministry with you!

So much has happened since our Summer edition: **Eugene Harper** has completed his term as Arlington's Chapter Director and continues to serve on the board. **Tim Lewicki** (that's me!) has agreed to serve as Chapter Director for NPM Arlington, which means we also have a new Newsletter Editor. Welcome to **Katie Evans**, Music Director at Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Owings, MD and a member of NPM DC - thank you for taking on the monumental task of this newsletter!

It is my privilege to serve our local chapter as its director. In my full-time parish work, I minister at All Saints Catholic Church in Manassas, VA, where I oversee the music program of ten choirs, in three languages, for all ages! The success of this ministry is partially

due to the witness and support of others, especially in times like these.

Part of the great mystery of the Communion of Saints, as St. Paul reminds us, is this "great cloud of witnesses" who help us to endure the race in times of distress or trial (*cf.* Hebrews 12:1). All those faithful men and women in previous generations named in our liturgical calendar, and all those un-named saints in Heaven, provide us believers with examples of faith to emulate in our own lives.



The same can be said for our NPM family of pastoral musicians - many who have come before and make music now lead by example. Among these "great witnesses" is our own Eugene Harper. After I agreed to serve as chapter director, I was reminded there really isn't a term limit! Gene led NPM Arlington masterfully for these past five years, navigating some difficult times in our Church, while keeping us focused on our mission - "*Fostering the Art of Musical Liturgy.*" His vision for our chapter reflected the diversity within the diocese; we've hosted a number of bilingual or multicultural workshops and events, including various styles of music in our chapter-sponsored liturgies. His eagle eye for editing was invaluable to me as the Newsletter editor - he saved our membership from many typos, misplaced punctuation, and so much more! Thank you, Gene for your kind and gentle leadership, your joyful musicianship, and your friendship!

- Tim Lewicki, Arlington Chapter Director

Convention Comments

Many Arlington and DC Chapter members participated in the inaugural virtual convention this past July. Here are some of their comments and what they observed and how they participated in this virtual platform for our ministries.



“I was prepared to spend convention week lamenting the fact that it had to be virtual. Then comments started to appear from first-time attendees, often noting that they had never been able to afford the travel and hotel expenses that come with a live convention. While I treasure the educational opportunities offered by NPM, I’ve come to see this year’s event as a real breakthrough. I look forward to live conventions in the future, every other year if necessary, but I hope including some kind of a virtual component is possible every year. - Charlene Dorrian

“I would like to tell you about the 2020 NPM Convention, Called from Living Waters, but each time I think about it I remember another presentation, workshop, concert, or discussion that I want to see again or for the first time (available until September 15). I enjoyed each portion but would especially mention the Opening Event with Bishop Seitz’s inspiring remarks, the Black Lives Matter panels, the Asia Pacific Interest Section’s sung prayer offerings, and gatherings in the virtual exhibit hall. The work that the Louisville convention committee and the NPM national office staff completed in May and June was incredible. A fabulous convention! I only missed the hugs and unwinding over a glass of wine with friends after an evening concert.”

-Mary Beaudoin

“When friends came over to share the first day of the convention, all of the elements of previous Opening Events were there...beautiful music, a welcome from the local Bishop, a greeting from our President, Steve Petrunak, the roll call, and a timely, powerful address by NPM’s Episcopal Moderator, Bishop Mark Seitz.

The rest of the convention did not disappoint. Showcases featured interviews with composers, workshops included PowerPoint presentations, and the closing address by Michael Ruzicki was very moving. On the last day of the convention, I cooked a Louisville specialty, Hot Browns, and we all agreed that NPM did us proud!”

- Rick Gibala

Arlington Chapter Annual (Virtual) Mass

*Join fellow pastoral musicians and friends for virtual worship
and an overview of our year ahead.*

Date: **Friday, September 25, 2020**

7:00 PM

Where: *Broadcast live from:*
St. Bernadette Catholic Church
Springfield, VA

Watch our Facebook page and website for the
Mass link and more details!

*We know the current pandemic has forced many things
to adapt; this annual fall gathering is one of many. We
hope to "see" you soon!*



Welcome to our New Editor – Katie Evans!

Katie is the Director of Music and Liturgy at Jesus the Good Shepherd Church in Owings, Maryland. Living in Southern Maryland, she is excited to be part of the NPM support team! The deadline for articles, announcements, etc. remains the 15th of each month, and members still have the option of receiving hard copies via the USPS or electronically at the device of their choice.

Please send all articles and newsletter inquiries to: music@ccjgs.org



NPM 2.0 A Vision For Our Future

For over 40 years, the National Association of Pastoral Musicians has served the Catholic Church in the United States, “fostering the art of musical liturgy.”

40 years later.... **who is NPM?**

- **NPM is a community of pastoral musicians**, committed to mutual learning and sharing of resources in service to the Church. NPM provides the support, formation, and skill development opportunities that pastoral musicians need.
- NPM membership reflects the growing **cultural diversity** of the Church across the United States.
- **NPM is a community** for all those who are passionate about sung worship, those whose heart pounds as a community sings together, and those who miss their choirs over summer break (or during pandemics!)
- **NPM is a network of support** for colleagues. NPM is for everyone who wants to make Sunday morning better through singing praise to God.
- We promote **professionalism and competence** in pastoral music leaders. The members of NPM exercise leadership in our field and promote a vision for Church music.
- **NPM is able to advocate** for the **profession** and **vocation** of the pastoral music minister with the leadership of the Church in the United States, as well as representing the field of pastoral music ministry to the wider Church.
- Our association **collaborates with other national ministry organizations** to strengthen liturgical worship in the Church.
- With over 70 diocesan chapters already established nationwide, **new chapters** are forming all the time to unite pastoral musicians in a **common purpose for a common mission**.

NPM has three new levels of membership, each offering different benefits:

- The *Basic* level is a perfect way to get started with NPM, ideal for members of the choir, instrumentalists, and supporters of pastoral music.
- The *Standard* level is for those who want more of what NPM has to offer and is a great way for those who lead a choir (or ensemble) and clergy to participate in NPM.
- The *Premium* membership is designed for the professional music minister, the parish music director, and pastors. With access to all the benefits of NPM membership, Premium members get everything they need to serve the Church.

Learn more about the Strategic Plan and how it affects Membership, Chapters, Programming, and Services by [clicking here](#).



JOB LISTING:

St Dominic Church Principal Organist Accepting applications (now). Desired start-work: August 2020 Interested candidate should contact the St Dominic Parish Director of Music, Liturgy and Liturgical Ministries for additional information (interested candidates will assist the process by including their résumé and two professional references/contacts with the initial contact message). JC Cantrell, MMus, MS, CC and CT Colonel, USAF (retired) Director of Music, Liturgy and Liturgical Ministries St. Dominic Catholic Church Cell/text: 703-346-9969
www.stdominicchurch.org/

Resources:

Did you miss the NPM Convention? The Opening Event is available on YouTube here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i9BLOddeVwo>

What is NPM 2.0, A Vision for our Future? A video link is available here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NoEU3kzIFEI>

St. Joseph Catholic Church in the Washington Post on virtual worship and gospel choir:
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/religion/2020/07/30/church-singing-choir-covid/>



God of Glory,
 Your beloved Son has shown us,
 That true worship comes from humble and contrite
 hearts.
 Bless our brothers and sisters,
 Who have responded to the needs of our church and
 wish to recommit themselves to your service as
 musicians.
 Grant that their ministry may be fruitful and our
 worship pleasing in your sight.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.
 - From the Book of Blessings, Blessing of Musicians (alt).



Hats Off

This is where we usually compliment the choirs of the region who donate their services providing music for the TV Mass for Shut-ins. Choirs come to the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on a Tuesday evening and tape two Masses which are aired a few weeks later.

COVID-19 put a stop to that.

Music, however, is not an add-on to our Eucharistic celebrations. It is an integral part, and we are grateful that soprano, Crossley Hawn and organists Andrew Vu and Benjamin LaPrairie are now providing beautiful musical prayer. Crossley is a member of the Choir of the Basilica; Andrew is the Assistant Director of Music and Benjamin, the Associate Director of Music.

<https://www.youtube.com/c/marysshine/featured>



National Association of Pastoral Musicians

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