

NEWSLETTER

DC/Arlington

Fostering the Art of Musical Liturgy

November-December 2024



npmdc.org
npmarlington.org



Director's Corner

Katie Evans

DC Chapter Director

As the leaves transition to fall and we prepare for the end of the liturgical year, it is a time of reflection before Advent. Both Chapters successfully held Annual Masses and Dinners inviting members to share in liturgy and fellowship among other pastoral musicians. We also welcomed Oregon Catholic Publishers and the Choral Reading Sessions in both DC and Arlington. There have been other exciting pastoral events and concerts as the church remains vibrant with formation and music opportunities among our parishes! In the rear view mirror are the memories of isolated and masked masses, pandemic virtual choirs, and loneliness. As St. Augustine says, "we are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song!"



The DC and Arlington Chapters have growing memberships and new board members. We welcome Alberto Cortez as the joint Chapter Newsletter Editor as well as John Henderson as a Member at Large for the DC Chapter. I would also like to welcome Peter Kadelli who is the new Director of the Sacred Music program at The Catholic University of America to the NPM membership. As the NPM turns toward the future, it is important to find collaboration with young musicians and formative opportunities to welcome graduates of the music field. You can find more about the university's sacred music program on page 12.

This year we are also at the precipice of the Presidential election of 2024. As Catholics, this can be a challenging time within our secular and political world. Many of our parishioners will feel politically drained, and music can be a unifying call to holiness and peace. With our eyes to the beginning of Advent and the flourish of Christmas, the focus on the Christ child will soon overwhelm any political obstacles in our sight! May you have a blessed end of the liturgical year and an inspirational Advent season.

Click [here](#) to renew your membership!



DC CHAPTER OPEN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 12:00PM

Location: Zoom

The NPM DC Chapter invites you to join us for our November board meeting. Zoom Link will be provided [here](#) after completing form.



Whether you're a music director, pastor or pastoral musician, it is easy to let formation fall by the wayside of our busy schedules. But OCP's newest offering can help!

Center for Learning Formation Events are in-person, one-day programs led by expert presenters to develop the practical skills, knowledge and spirituality necessary for effective liturgical preparation, leadership and participation. Learn more about what these events offer, and how they can be tailored to serve your unique community, in this helpful [blog from Center for Learning director Matt Reichert](#).



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

Center for Cultural Engagement & The Sr. Thea Bowman Recommendations Implementation & Coordination Team

A CELEBRATION OF FAITH, HOPE, LOVE, AND UNITY

Six Black Catholics on the road to Sainthood

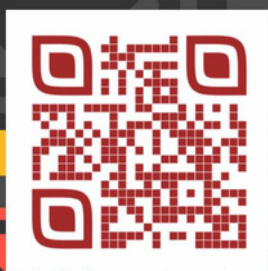


**A Musical Performance with:
Dr. Valimar Jansen
Wednesday, Nov. 13th
5-7pm | Heritage Hall**



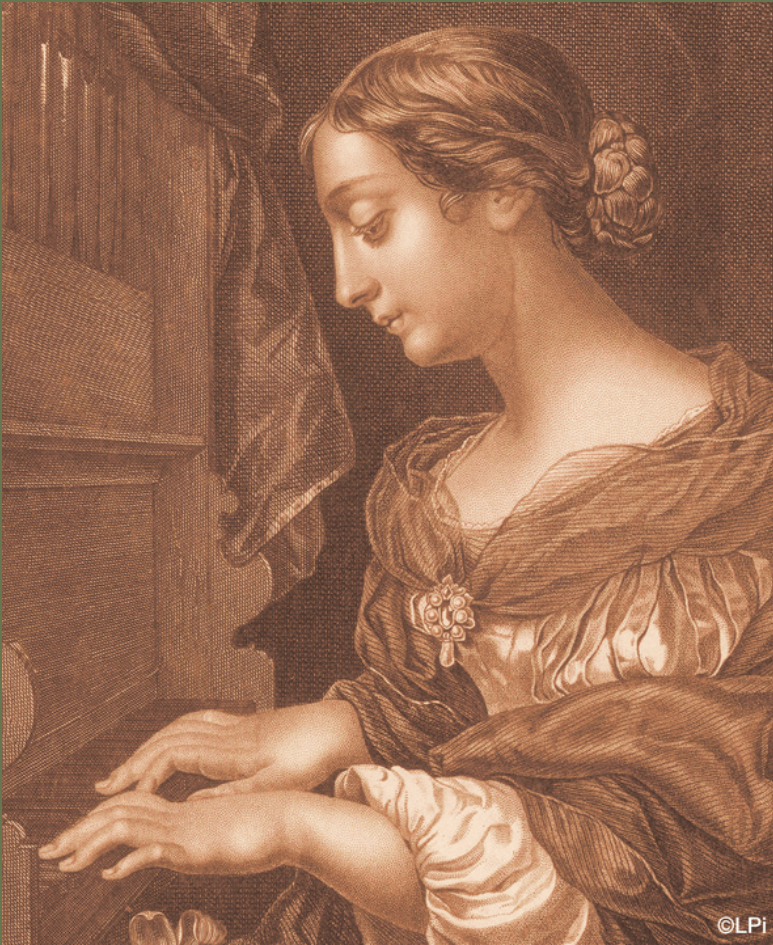
Pierre Toussaint | Fr. Augustus Tolton | Sr. Thea Bowman | Julia Greeley | Mother Mary Lange | Mother Henriette DeLille

**For questions or accommodations: bustamantej@cua.edu
Use QR code to reserve your tickets.**



NPMDC PRESENTS

Sacred Songs & Spirits



WHERE: ST. MARYS CHURCH,
18230 BARNESVILLE ROAD,
BARNESVILLE, MD 20838

FRIDAY NOV. 22
7:30-9:45PM

RSVP [HERE](#)

HAPPY HOUR, PRAYER, HYMNS

Join us Friday November 22 at St. Marys in the Fr. Reid Pavilion, as we gather with friends and colleagues for a night filled with sacred songs & spirits. Light appetizers and refreshments will be provided.



OCP CHORAL READING SESSION RE-CAP



On September 9th and 10th , the DC and Arlington chapters hosted choral reading sessions provided by OCP. Angela Westoff-Johnson flew in from Portland, Oregon to lead our groups through more than 20 new pieces, and during her presentation, she was able to slip in valuable conducting and choral techniques. Directors, choir members, and cantors from DC, Arlington, and Baltimore enjoyed hospitality and making music together.

According to Angela, “The reading sessions in Gaithersburg and Arlington were organized and well-attended. The attendees were great readers and very engaged. The accompanists were prepared and clearly put in great effort ahead of the event. We had lots of fun making music together.

It was especially nice to have several local composers in attendance featuring their songs!”

We are grateful to OCP for sponsoring this event for us.



ARLINGTON MASS & DINNER



NPM Arlington members and friends gathered Sept. 20 at St. Mark Church in Vienna for their annual Mass and Dinner. St. Mark's pastor, Fr. Peter Nassetta, YM, celebrated Mass and preached an inspiring homily. Nearly 40 musicians enjoyed a wonderful dinner and shared time in fellowship.





DC MASS & DINNER



The evening's dinner featured delightful food and engaging conversation. Pastoral musicians from the NPM DC chapter gathered Oct. 4 at the Archdiocese of Washington Pastoral Center in Hyattsville, MD for a wonderful Mass and dinner. The event was a success thanks to the gracious hospitality of Fr. Joseph Murphy and the ADW Office of Worship. His Eminence Cardinal Gregory had a message for the attendees.



CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

©LPI

2024-2025 Season

- November 12th - NPM DC Open Board Meeting, 12:00PM, Zoom
- November 13th - ValLimar Jansen Concert, The Catholic University of America, Open to the Public
- November 22nd - St. Cecilia Feast Day, NPM DC sponsored program St. Mary's, Barnesville, MD
- March 4th - Shrove Tuesday Lunch, hosted by NPM Arlington
- March 29th - Lenten Retreat, White Friar Hall, Washington, DC
- May 19th - DC General Chapter Meeting, Location TBD
- August 6-7 - NPM on The Road 2025, Rosemont College, Philadelphia, PA

Sacred Music at All Saints Concert Series

2024-2025

ABIGAIL JOHNSON, PIANIST

Friday, October 25, 2024 • 7:30 PM

Local pianist Abigail Johnson opens our Tenth Anniversary season with an eclectic program of Chopin and contemporary works. It is an evening not to be missed!



THOMAS SHEEHAN, ORGANIST

Friday, November 15, 2024 • 7:30 PM



Dr. Thomas Sheehan is Cathedral Organist and Interim Director of Music at the National Cathedral, where he plays for weekly worship and high-profile civic events, such as services for Presidential inaugurations and state funerals. Dr. Sheehan performs a varied program of organ works and transcriptions.

ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

Tuesday, December 10, 2024 • 7:30 PM

Members of the All Saints Music Ministry present this beloved service of Scripture readings, hymns, and choral anthems to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ at Christmas.



All events are free and open to the public. A free-will offering will be taken to support current and future programming for this annual concert series.

Located just a few minutes from Old Town Manassas and its many restaurants and shops, All Saints has plenty of free parking adjacent to the church.

SEIPP/FICKLEY DUO

Friday, February 21, 2025 • 7:30 PM



The Seipp/Fickley Trumpet & Organ Duo is unlike any ensemble performing today. Custom musical arrangements of virtuoso, beautiful, entertaining, humorous, and patriotic



selections enhance the exquisite blend of their instruments. Trumpeter Chuck Seipp and organist Todd Fickley are two performers at the top of their craft.

BLUE RIDGE SINGERS

JEFFREY ALBAN, *conductor*

Tuesday, April 29, 2025 • 7:30 PM

We welcome back the Blue Ridge Singers, who have appeared on the series each year, to present a concert



of choral music. This dedicated group of musicians under the direction of Dr.

Jeffrey Alban presents their Spring program.

OLD BRIDGE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

DAVID KIRVEN, *conductor*

Saturday, May 24, 2025 • 8:00 PM

We welcome the Old Bridge Chamber Orchestra, with guest organist Lisa Mitchell Tyler, to conclude



our anniversary season. Among other works, the orchestra and organist

present the exciting Symphony No. 3, Op. 78 (Organ Symphony) of Camille Saint-Saëns.



@AllSaintsVAConcerts
@AllSaintsVAMusic



@AllSaintsVa

Tenth
Anniversary
Season!

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH

9300 Stonewall Road Manassas, VA 20110 • WWW.ALLSAINTSVA.ORG • 571-516-3141

A SAINT THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Although St. Cecilia is the patron saint of musicians, there is another saint whose feast day falls in November that I would like to introduce to you.

Back in 2020 when so many cantors like myself experienced an interruption to our music ministry due to the pandemic, I found myself after more than eight months without singing to start thinking that I would never get to serve as a cantor again.

On the evening of November 23, 2020, I was reading the Magnificat magazine and the saint that was highlighted was Colman of Cloyne, whose feast day was the following day. I had never heard of this 6th century Irish saint before. The article said that he was a bard (which means he was a poet and singer) for the king. When he was fifty years old, he was baptized by St. Brendan. He was later ordained, and was reputed to be St. Columba's teacher. Colman was the first bishop of Cloyne, which is in the eastern part of county Cork.

I asked for St Colman's intercession on my cantor ministry. It went something like this:

St. Colman of Cloyne,
I read that you were a singer in the court of your king.
I ask for your intercession to restore my cantor ministry
In praise and worship of our Divine King.

The very next morning, around 9am, on the feast of St Colman, I received a text message from the organist at my parish, asking me if I would be available to cantor beginning that following Sunday. Thanks be to God.

As St. Colman's feast day, November 24, falls on the Solemnity of Christ the King this year, I thought that you might also benefit from this saint's powerful intercession for your music ministry. St Colman of Cloyne, pray for us.



Lorraine Kuchmy
Cantor, St Jane de Chantal Bethesda



The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

Is accepting applications for their graduate sacred music degrees for fall 2025:

Doctorate of Music in Sacred Music (organ and choral conducting concentrations)

Master of Music in Sacred Music (organ and choral conducting concentrations)

Master of Music in Choral Conducting

Master of Music in Organ Performance

Learn more about the sacred music offerings and how to apply at
<https://music.catholic.edu/sacred-music/index.html>

Please direct all questions to Peter Kadeli, Head of Sacred Music and Director of Choral Activities
(kadeli@cua.edu).

2025 PUERI CANTORES MID-ATLANTIC YOUTH CHORAL FESTIVAL & MASS

for Mixed Voice and Treble Choirs (grades 4-12)



Saturday, March 1, 2025 • 10:30 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

**Basilica of the National Shrine of the
Immaculate Conception**

400 Michigan Ave. NE, Washington, D.C. 20017

**Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory, Celebrant
Melanie Malinka, Guest Conductor**



8 Professional Development Credits are available for school conductors & MP3 rehearsal tracks of the Festival repertoire will be available for participating choirs.

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

Pueri Cantores, the national student choral organization of the Catholic Church, invites all parish and school treble and mixed voice choirs (grades 4-12) in the region to participate in a Festival & Mass. Singers will unite with hundreds of their peers as one combined choir to sing beautiful music from the Church's rich historical repertoire.

[Watch this video](#) to learn more about Pueri Cantores and how best to prepare your choir for the Festival day. [Check out these FAQs](#) about our Festivals, including attire, how to access music and MP3 rehearsal tracks, and much more.



FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

10:30	Registration
11:00	Choir Warm-up
11:15	Choir Placement
11:30	First Rehearsal
12:30	Lunch
<i>Individual choirs rehearse for Choral Prelude at this time.</i>	
1:15	Second Rehearsal
2:15	Break /Snacks
2:30	Final Rehearsal
3:30	Break – put on robes if needed
3:45	Choral Prelude begins
4:30	Festival Mass begins

Friends and family members are cordially invited to attend the Festival Mass.



MEET THE CONDUCTOR

MELANIE MALINKA is a native of Stuttgart, Germany and has served as Director of Music at The Madeleine Choir School in Salt Lake City, UT since 2001. In this position she oversees the school's rigorous choral program and leads preparation of the choristers for their extensive concert season, regular service commitments, international tours, and engagements with leading local arts organizations including the Utah Symphony/Utah Opera. She regularly conducts the Cathedral Choir at the Cathedral of the Madeleine and has served as interim chorus master for Utah Opera.



Vocal Pedagogy for the Aging Voice:

*A webinar made possible by
the National Association of Pastoral Musicians*

Monday, December 2

8-9:30 pm ET/

5-6:30 pm PT

Learn more at
npm.org



Join us for NPM's next webinar, "Vocal Pedagogy for the Aging Voice"! This webinar is an encore presentation from the 2024 NPM National Convention and will be offered live via Zoom by Dr. Sr. Susan Olson, OP.

Gradual changes in our voice may be a normal part of aging, but what are the stages and symptoms of age-related changes? Are there ways we can prepare our voices for these changes and, in some cases, challenges? Learn practical tips and exercises for keeping our voices, and the voices of those with whom we minister, healthy and strong for worship.

When: December 2, 2024: 8:00-9:30 pm ET/
5:00-6:30 pm PT

Cost: Free for NPM members; \$20 for non-members

Register [Here](#)

JOIN NPM ON THE ROAD IN 2025

As NPM prepares for its 50th anniversary in 2026, our summer programming in 2025 will look slightly different. We are headed to six major cities across the country next summer to provide opportunities for learning, fellowship, and song.



We're headed to:

Chicago, Illinois; June 17-18, 2025
San Antonio, Texas; June 27-28, 2025
Atlanta, Georgia; July 7-8, 2025
Oakland, California; July 24-25, 2025
Portland, Oregon; July 31- August 1, 2025
and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; August 6-7, 2025

NPM On the Road: What to Expect

Each city's summer session will include:

- A liturgy
- A new music reading session
- A keynote address
- Workshops, tailored to the pastoral needs of that area



The function of these events will be to support the local pastoral musicians in the area who might not otherwise be able to attend a national convention.

These will NOT be “Regional Conventions”; instead, it is a re-envisioned way to provide nationally supported programming to liturgical musicians throughout the country.

Learn More about NPM On the Road



More details regarding NPM On the Road will be announced by early fall of this year. As always, make sure to stay close to NPM's emails, website, and social media for more information!



**Music Director/Associate
Campus Minister**

University of Mary Washington
Fredericksburg, VA

The Music Director/Associate Campus Minister assists the Chaplain in maintaining a vibrant Catholic community that helps students grow in their faith while at college and prepares them to live out the faith in parish life after they graduate. Principally, the Music Director is responsible for beautifying the worship of God through music both inside and outside of the liturgy.

Apply [Here](#)

Music Teacher
St. Peter's Church
Waldorf, MD

St. Peter's School in Waldorf Maryland is seeking a Music Teacher for the 2024-25 school year. This is a full time role and will report to the Principal.

Apply [Here](#)

Director of Sacred Music

Epiphany Church
Washington, DC

Epiphany Parish in Washington DC is seeking a Director of Sacred Music; this is part time role and will report to the Pastor.

Under the supervision of the Pastor, the Director of Sacred Music is responsible for the overall execution of the church's music ministry, with a pastoral approach, in line with church documents and the Pastor's vision for sacred music.

Apply [Here](#)

Part-Time Organist
Mother Seton Parish
Germantown, MD

Mother Seton Parish in Germantown, MD is seeking a part-time organist to assist with choir rehearsals and weekend Masses.

Apply [Here](#)



WHAT'S GOING ON AT YOUR PARISH?

Do you have an event going on at your parish?
Do you have something to say or would like to share
about your ministry and/or formation?

The newsletter is published every other month.

Please give all submissions to Katie Evans at
WashingtonDC@npm.org and they will be accepted
for social media/communications ASAP, no waiting
for the newsletter!

MEMBERSHIP ALERT!

The local Chapters only receive membership dues through the National Office. When you renew or join you **MUST** elect which local Chapter, or the local Chapters will not receive the funding. This makes programming events and workshops hard for our local area, so **PLEASE PLEASE** designate your local Chapter when renewing Membership at www.npm.org. If you are unsure, please contact Keisna Sosa membership@npm.org and she will help you!



Renew or Become a
Member? Use QR Code!

**IMPORTANT! Your Chapter relies
HEAVILY on your Renewals!**

Washington DC Board



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Cathedral of St. Matthew