

Newsletter

# DC / Arlington

Fostering the Art of Musical Liturgy

September - October 2025



[npmdc.org](http://npmdc.org)

[npmarlington.org](http://npmarlington.org)



# IN THIS ISSUE

*“Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”*

|                                    |    |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Director’s Corner                  | 3  |
| Calendar of Events                 | 4  |
| NPM on The Road Philadelphia Recap | 8  |
| NPM DC/Arlington Announcements     | 11 |

# DIRECTOR'S CORNER

In the first 100 days of his pontificate, Pope Leo XIV has performed many duties: routine meetings and audiences, large Masses, and diplomatic meetings. In one such gathering, Pope Leo addressed participants at an event organized by the Domenico Bartolucci Foundation to commemorate the 500th birthday of Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594). During that audience, Pope Leo commended Palestrina's polyphonic compositions as music that "elevates the soul and gives voice to the mystery of the divine." He also reiterated the Second Vatican Council's call for the full, active, and conscious participation of the faithful – an idea written about by Pope Pius X in his 1903 motu proprio *Tra le sollecitudini*. Leo asserted that "When liturgical music is inspired by faith and shaped with skill it engages voice, mind, and heart. It becomes a path to prayer."<sup>1</sup>



**Tim Lewicki**

*Arlington Chapter Director*

When the music of Palestrina or Byrd is sung well it can be sublime. In my mind, there is no doubt that, in the words of Pope Leo, it "elevates the soul." But the treasury of sacred music contains more than just chant and polyphony. The Philadelphia Gospel Mass Choir certainly engaged those that attended the "On the Road" in Philadelphia in August! Our jobs as pastoral musicians is to engage our assemblies and to lead them closer to God. This will mean some of us use more chant than others, or some rely on a talented guitarist leading a praise and worship song, or that some develop choirs that sing Palestrina, Byrd, Mozart, and Stopford. All music, when sung by well-prepared singers, engages the senses and leads to true worship.

Many of you know by now that we are excited to host the next national convention of NPM, celebrating 50 years of its founding. Save the dates and make plans to join us at The Catholic University of America on July 19-23, 2026. More details will be coming soon – including how you can help by volunteering at the convention.

But before we get to the convention, NPM Arlington and NPM DC have planned an exciting year of programming for our chapters. We'll have our annual Mass(es) and Dinner(s), a joint Choral Festival (November 15), Arlington's annual Liturgy Day, and DC's Lenten Retreat. Read about all these and more in this newsletter. I look forward to seeing you at these events.

<sup>1</sup> Vatican News, [Pope Leo: 'Polyphony is a metaphor of faith guided by the Holy Spirit'](#), May 26, 2025.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## 2025 - 2026 SEASON

- September 19<sup>th</sup>, NPM Arlington Chapter Dinner & Mass, St. Bernadette Catholic Church, Springfield, VA. (page 6)
- October 3<sup>rd</sup>, Location TBD, NPM DC Chapter Dinner & Mass
- November 15<sup>th</sup>, NPM DC/Arlington Choral Festival, Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle, Washington, D.C. (page 8).
- February 7<sup>th</sup>, Liturgy Day, All Saints Church, Manassas, VA
- February 17<sup>th</sup>, Shrove Tuesday Luncheon, Carrabba's Italian Grill, Centreville, VA.

Forever We Will Sing:  
Celebrating 50 Years of 

The National Association of  
Pastoral Musicians  
48<sup>th</sup> National Convention  
July 19-24, 2026  
Catholic University of America  
Washington, District of Columbia



NPM Arlington/DC

JUBILEE CHORAL  
FESTIVAL KICKOFF  
MEETING

**SEPTEMBER 9TH**  
**VIA ZOOM**

LUNCHTIME SESSION: 12:30 PM – 1:00PM

EVENING SESSION: 7:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Join fellow pastoral musicians for an informational meeting about the upcoming Jubilee Choral Festival, sponsored by the DC and Arlington Chapters. You'll have a chance to meet the guest conductor and get your questions answered about the music, schedule, and registration. Attend either the noon or evening session—whichever works best for you! Upon completion of form you will have access to Zoom links.

**Form** for Zoom Links!



# Arlington Chapter NPM Annual Mass and Dinner

Join fellow pastoral musicians and friends from around our area  
for worship and fellowship at our annual Mass and dinner.

**All are welcome!**

**When:** Friday, September 19, 2025

**Where:** Saint Bernadette Catholic Church  
7600 Old Keene Mill Rd  
Springfield, VA 22152

**Mass:** 7:00 P.M. *in the main church*

**Dinner:** 8:00 P.M. *in the St. Bernadette School Cafeteria*



**Cost of dinner: \$30.00 per person**

**Deadline to RSVP is Friday, September 12**

RSVP by scanning the code (left) or [CLICK HERE!](#)

**Beautiful and delicious catered dinner from Ben's Catering Service**

Menu: Rolls w/Honey Butter, Arugula w/Cherry Tomatoes, Beets,  
Red Onion, Boiled Egg and Feta Cheese Salad w/Balsamic Vinaigrette  
Dressing, Garlic Butter, Lemon Green Beans, Sautéed Carrots, Herbed  
Basmati Rice, Roasted Pork Tenderloins w/Balsamic Reduction Sauce,  
Grilled Lemon Chicken, Tortellini w/Alfredo Sauce, beverages and dessert!

**Pay ahead: Make checks payable to NPM Arlington and mail to:**

NPM Dinner c/o Bob Malinowski

7920 Lobelia Lane

Springfield, VA 22152

Or ask us how to pay digitally!

Payment also accepted at the door, (cash, check or digitally) but you must RSVP!

Questions? Email us [arlingtonva@npm.org](mailto:arlingtonva@npm.org)



# MASS & *Dinner*

**OCTOBER 3, 2025  
6:30 PM**

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## **Our Lady of Mercy**

9200 Kentsdale Dr,  
Potomac, MD 20854

\$30/person

Menu: TBD

**RSVP BY SEPT 28!**

**REGISTER AT:**  
**[NPMDC.ORG/EVENTS](http://NPMDC.ORG/EVENTS)**



# ON THE ROAD AND ON CAMPUS IN PHILADELPHIA!

AUGUST 6-7, 2025

~ Diane Yendrey, *Secretary, NPM DC Chapter*

What a beautiful campus at Rosemont College, and an easy location near King of Prussia, PA for a regional NPM event! Many thanks to Chris Ferraro and Susan Hugelmeyer, who provided us with hymns, antiphons, psalms, and Gospel Canticle for Evening Prayer for The Transfiguration of the Lord, and for Morning Prayer on August 7<sup>th</sup>. Chris and Susan both served as founding leaders of The Liturgical Music Institute (LMI), and their exceptional work with chants for Liturgy of the Hours, psalm tones, and New Testament canticles was a reminder of the week I spent at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Long Island, NY, in the last year of LMI, sponsored by NPM in the final years.



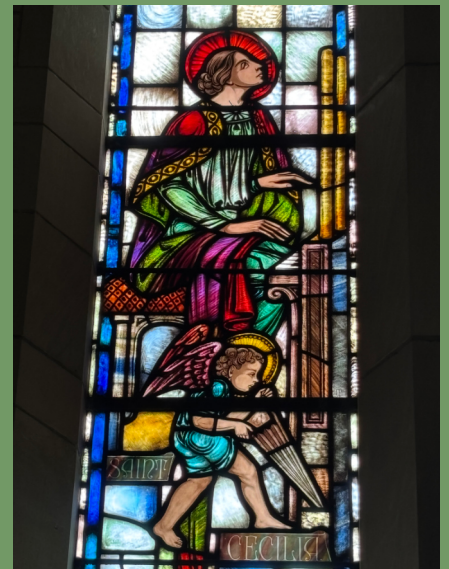
Fr. Paul Colloton was with us for Evening Prayer, sharing his memorable homiletics for the Transfiguration, and drawing on his long-time service to NPM in acknowledging our work in service to the Lord. We worshipped on campus in the magnificent, historic Chapel of the Immaculate Conception, where we were pleasantly accompanied by cool summer breezes for two days.



Dr. Christopher Daly of Villanova University was our keynote speaker. His philosophical musings and remarks on St. Paul, Augustine, Margery Kemp, and J.S. Bach, were sprinkled with personal travel stories and interesting historical facts and an unexpected YouTube ad that hilariously popped up during his presentation! We met in the theatre building on campus for two memorable lectures.

Much like NPM conventions but condensed to two days: many happenings in a short amount of time! An evening reception was a great time to re-connect with each other; there were workshop choices, representatives at vendor booths, a reading session with music from OCP, GIA, Morning Star, and others; and JW Pepper was represented, who also sponsored our lunch. A concert by the Philadelphia Gospel Mass Choir was a rousing event. (*I was not present for the prior day's "Extra Beat" walking tour.*)

We also heard from one of the Sisters of the Holy Child on campus, who educated us before Mass on the female saints depicted in the beautiful stained-glass windows in the chapel, where of course we closed the 2<sup>nd</sup> day with the Mass, celebrated by the Most Reverend Efren V. Esmilla, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. He expressed his appreciation for our work and was especially moved by the nearly 200 of us who were singing that day, ably led by our hosts. Many thanks to Frank Klose and the Philadelphia Chapter, and to Rosemont College for their generous hospitality!





CATHEDRAL OF ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE

# JUBILEE CHORAL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2025

REHEARSALS FROM 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM

VIGIL MASS AT 5:30 PM

Guest Conductor, Peter Kadeli

Head of Sacred Music and Director of Choral Activities  
at The Catholic University of America

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Registration Link: [npmdc.org/events](https://npmdc.org/events)

NPM Members: \$20      Non-members: \$30

Rehearsals and lunch are included in the registration fee.

The Cathedral is located at 1725 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. just off the intersection of Connecticut Avenue, Rhode Island Avenue, and M Street Northwest. It is near the Farragut North and Dupont Circle Metrorail stations. The Cathedral does not have a parking lot. Limited street parking is available and several parking garages are located next to and across the street from the Cathedral.

Questions? Contact: [WashingtonDC@npm.org](mailto:WashingtonDC@npm.org) or [Arlington@npm.org](mailto:Arlington@npm.org)

Co-sponsored by the Arlington and DC Chapters of NPM



ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2025



# The Spirit *of the* Liturgy

## The Liturgical Legacy of Joseph Ratzinger-Benedict XVI

SEPTEMBER 25-26, 2025

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA, WASHINGTON, DC



**Helmut Hoping**  
*University of Freiburg*

**'THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD' (PSALM 19:1).  
JOSEPH RATZINGER-BENEDICT XVI ON THE COSMIC DIMENSION  
OF LITURGY**

PROFESSOR HELMUT HOPING is Professor of Dogmatics and Liturgical Studies at the University of Freiburg. Born in Meppen, Germany in 1956, he studied Theology and Philosophy in Münster, before completing a doctorate at the University of Tübingen in 1989. He undertook a Research Stay at The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC from 1991-1992, and received his Habilitation from the University of Tübingen in 1995. In this same year he was ordained to the Diaconate. Dr Hoping was Professor of Dogmatics at the University of Lucerne from 1996-2000, before taking up his current post in Freiburg. Amongst his numerous other accomplishments, Professor Hoping was Dean of the Faculty of Theology (2004-2008), and an Advisor to the Liturgical Commission of the Bishops' Conference of Germany (2006-2014), including from 2005-2013 on the Episcopal Commission *Ecclesia Celebrans* on the revised translation of the *Missale Romanum*. He is married with two adult children.



**Christopher Ruddy**  
*The Catholic University of America*

**THE PRIORITY OF GOD AS THE KEY TO JOSEPH RATZINGER'S  
LITURGICAL LEGACY**

CHRISTOPHER RUDDY is Associate Professor of Historical and Systematic Theology at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. A graduate of Yale College and Harvard Divinity School, he earned his doctorate in Systematic Theology from the University of Notre Dame. He specializes in ecclesiology, the history and theology of Vatican II, and the thought of Joseph Ratzinger. The author of two books, *The Local Church: Tillard and the Future of Catholic Ecclesiology* and *Tested in Every Way: The Catholic Priesthood in Today's Church* (both Herder & Herder), his writing has appeared in academic and popular journals such as *America*, *Commonweal*, *First Things*, *Irish Theological Quarterly*, *Theological Studies*, and *The Thomist*. He and his wife, Deborah, are the parents of four sons.

# What's Going on At Your Parish

Do you have an event coming up at your parish? Would you like to share something about your ministry or formation experience? We welcome your contributions to our bi-monthly newsletter. To be included, please submit your content by the 21st of the month prior to publication. Submissions should be sent to Katie Evans at [WashingtonDC@npm.org](mailto:WashingtonDC@npm.org). In addition to the newsletter, your content may be shared on our social media and communications channels right away—no need to wait for the next issue!

## 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](http://www.npm.org). If you are unsure, please contact Keisna Sosa at [membership@npm.org](mailto:membership@npm.org) and she will help you!



Renew or Become a Member? Use QR Code!

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

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### NPM DC Hospitality Coordinator Open Position

Plans and oversees refreshments and hospitality for Chapter meetings and events, drawing on the assistance of other Chapter members and members of host venue as appropriate. Current board member serving in this position is willing to help in transition to the new Coordinator, and to continue to advise and assist as needed. If interested please reach out to [WashingtonDC@npm.org](mailto:WashingtonDC@npm.org).

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