



NEWSLETTER

In this issue...

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Director's Corner
- 3 - 4 Papal Mass Choir Reflections
- 5 Arlington Diocesan Choir/Save the Date/Help Wanted
- 6 - 7 Upcoming Concert Opportunities
- 7 Retreat
- 8 Hats Off!/ Board Member List

We are still joyfully remembering the pastoral visit of our Holy Father, Pope Francis.

See page 3 for Part II of Mary Beaudoin's article ,Music for the Mass with Pope Francis, and page 4 for other reflections about singing in the first-ever canonization Mass on American soil.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Have you renewed your chapter membership yet? Forms for the Arlington Chapter and the Washington DC Chapter are found on each chapter's website. **Renew today!**

Are you a member of **both** your local chapter and of the national organization? There are great benefits to both:

National membership supports the annual convention, institutes, etc.; *Pastoral Music* magazine; the bi-monthly on-line *Notebook* and, of course, the staff who makes it all happen!

Chapter membership makes possible the educational, musical, and spiritual support you receive close to home!

Consider a parish chapter membership. Both Arlington and DC offer a parish membership for groups of musicians, clergy, liturgists, or really every parishioner, to take advantage of our programming. It's a great way to stretch your music budgets and get more of your members involved! Click [here](#) for the DC form. Click [here](#) for the Arlington form.

Director's Corner

Our region can be proud of the reception given to Pope Francis on his September visit. There's no doubt that he has the respect and admiration of people in the U.S. and around the world. In light of his popularity, it will be interesting to see the response to his call for a Holy Year of Mercy, beginning December 8. In the past, initial response to *special years* has been enthusiastic, but, as the year wears on, that interest usually flags. Will the Holy Year of Mercy be different? What role can pastoral musicians play in their parishes to keep his vision alive?

1. We can become acquainted with the details of the Holy Year of Mercy. Typing www.im.va on a computer is a first step. It's the site of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, full of information, including a logo.
2. The papal bull calling for the Year of Mercy has 25 paragraphs, and is written in simple language. We can read it and become advocates for awareness in other phases of life in our parishes.
3. Publishers will be selling materials for the Holy Year. Good stuff, no doubt, and many will take advantage of it. But lack of funds should not be a hindrance to a parish's involvement. Much can be done – free of charge – with materials from the Pontifical Council. We can help our bulletin editors access materials that might provide an on-going series of articles on the Year of Mercy.
4. Our big contribution, of course, will be musical, and here is the real challenge. The official hymn for the Holy Year of Mercy is *Misericordes sicut Pater*, written by composer Paul Inwood with text by Jesuit Fr. Eugenio Costa, may be [downloaded](#) free of charge, no copyright involved! The simple refrain ("Misericordes sicut Pater" – "Merciful like the Father") is simple and catchy. Verses are available in many languages, including English. The hymn is available on [YouTube](#). Just type "Holy Year hymn."

The setting (SATB & organ) may make it appear that it's only for traditional choirs. One Mass per weekend? What about the other Masses, the ones with small ensembles or a cantor? A little creativity can make the hymn available to all. While the



chords are not written on the music, they are accessible, and could be gently strummed on a guitar. The refrain could be used as a response to spoken prayers, prayers written on the themes of the hymn's verses. And most assemblies could sing the simple refrain a cappella. Each parish will decide how and when to use the hymn, and it would be wonderful if

ideas were shared via our newsletter.

Some questions to ponder: Just what is a Holy Year? What's its history since the first one in 1300? Does it impact ordinary folks? Is it an antiquated concept? What questions will it provoke? And finally, can we use it as an opportunity to further the excitement this simple Pope has created – in being people of faith, and in being members of the People of God that we call our Church?

Charlene Dorrian
Director, Washington, DC Chapter

2016 CALENDAR of EVENTS

February 9 - Shrove Tuesday Luncheon
12:00 NOON
Brion's Grille, Fairfax, VA

February 13 - With Hands Lifted Up: a Journey
through Black Sacred Music
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
St. Matthias the Apostle Church, Lanham, MD

April 15 - Easter Celebration with
Christopher Walker, 7:30 PM
St. Thomas More Cathedral, Arlington, VA

April 16 - Spirituality for the Pastoral Musician
with Christopher Walker
St. Thomas More Cathedral, Arlington, VA

MUSIC FOR THE MASS WITH POPE FRANCIS (Part II)

The following is the second of a two-part series on singing for Pope Francis. The first part (see last newsletter) described the choirs, rehearsals, and music selection.

The Music (continued)

Special music was needed for the entrance of the bishops (seven glorious verses of *All Creatures of Our God and King*) and for the arrival of Pope Francis (*Tu Es Petrus* and *Messenger of Christ*). In addition, each of the five choirs contributed music of their own. Some that stood out to this writer were *Total Praise* sung by the Gospel Choir; *Mi Alma Está Sedienta de Ti* (*My Soul Is Thirsting for You, My God*) sung by the Inter-Cultural Choir; and *What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light* composed by Catholic University professor Dr. Leo Nestor and sung by the women of all the choirs.

The Experience

The presence of Pope Francis heightened awareness of the beauty of music, the awesomeness of liturgy, and the incredible work that pastoral musicians engage in every Sunday. The dress rehearsal and the liturgy were liminal moments for many, where eyes, ears, minds and hearts were opened to experience the marvel of music, as each group - so unique and gifted - touched on some part of the rich history of liturgical music. Each shared a different musical expression of our faith.

Growing and Learning

Members of the choirs grew and learned much from the experience. Some gained the confidence to sing in Spanish; most were introduced to styles of music and repertoire not used in their home parishes. Many grew in their choral singing skills - especially blend, tone quality, and balance, but also singing from the depth of one's soul and singing with heart-pounding energy. And through their shared excitement, joy, and feeling of honor, they gained friends, memories, insights, and grace.

The vision for the music was to highlight selections which the assembly could sing. As much as possible (though not always), translations of Spanish and Latin texts for the mostly English-speaking assembly were included in the program/worship aid. Although cleaner sound and video work could have also aided the assembly's participation, most everyone expressed appreciation for the wonderful variety of music.

Closing Thoughts

Pope Francis invites us to stand in a place of humility, the antithesis of the way many things are done in Washington. He asks us to see from a perspective of those on the bottom, those on the outside. With respect to liturgical music, the people 'on the outside' might be the members of our congregations, who often have little or no musical training and yet are called



to sing God's praise. We in our NPM Chapters strive to help each other in our mission to enable and encourage participation by the entire assembly.

In his homily, Pope Francis said that "we are indebted to a tradition, a chain of witnesses who have made it possible for the good news of the Gospel to be, in every generation, both 'good' and 'news.'" The music for this Mass showed this very clearly - Good News shared across the generations and centuries, each style attempting to make the Good News heard by the culture it addresses. Pope Francis also said, "The joy of the Gospel is something to be experienced, something to be known and lived only through giving it away, through giving ourselves away." It struck this writer that this is what pastoral musicians, at their best, do each Sunday.

Mary Beaudoin is a Past Director of the Washington DC Chapter of NPM. She currently serves as an At-Large Representative on the NPM Council and as a member of the NPM Committee for Chapters. She is Director of Religious Education at St. Raphael Church in Rockville, MD.

Newsletter

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 Caruso at clmcaruso@gmail.com.

PAPAL MASS EXPERIENCE REFLECTIONS

Mark Kozeal



Several members of the five choirs that sang for the Papal Mass here in DC were asked to write a short reflection on their experience. We will be sharing these throughout the year.

Roy Ramthun

I was deeply honored to participate in the Papal Mass Choir for the canonization mass at the National Shrine on September 23. The weather was so perfect that day that it seemed as if God himself had ordained it. Taking in the spectacle, the words spoken by at God at the baptism of Jesus came to my mind: “This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him.” And millions of people are doing just that. Those who came out to greet Pope Francis in Washington were drawn to him as he shared the love of God with all of us this past week.

What was so meaningful to me was to join with fellow musicians from the archdiocese’s parishes in leading the thousands present at the Mass and the millions watching on television in the music of the liturgy. Most of my family members and friends could not attend the Mass in person, but I know their spirit was with me as we sang the glorious melodies. I find myself still singing the hymns and songs in my head as I go about my daily business days after the Mass. I know they will remain with me for a long time, and the memories of this special day will linger and bring me much joy. I am so thankful that I was blessed with the opportunity to praise God by singing in the choir for this historic occasion.

As a lifelong Catholic I was excited when I first heard Pope Francis planned to visit Washington, DC. Immediately I began to seek opportunities to volunteer and get involved. I reached out to several organizations with no success, and then I received an email from my pastor Fr. Kevin Kennedy of St. Ambrose parish. The email said the Archdiocese of Washington was looking for volunteers to sing in the choir at the Papal Mass. I thought this was my chance to get involved! There was just one catch - I had to audition – yes, audition. Think of an episode of “Papal Idol” – that is, I had to audition before a panel of three judges. I was required to sing three songs one in each language, English, Spanish, and Latin. And the most nerve-racking part of the audition the dreaded “sight singing.” This is when you are given a piece of music sight unseen and you are asked to sing it on the spot “extemporaneously.”

After the auditioning I waited several weeks. In mid-June, I received an acceptance email which detailed the obligations for the 90-member Archdiocese of Washington Papal Choir. We rehearsed for several weeks every Monday prior to the Papal Mass.

We (the Papal Mass Choir) were combined with other choirs including the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Choir, Catholic University Choir, a Gospel Choir and Intercultural Choir. To this group of singers were added about 100 instrumentalists. This made a grand total of nearly 400 musicians.

When we began to sing the preludes for the Papal Mass, chills set in over my entire body. I could not believe this was finally happening and I was a part of it all. At times like this I truly understand how good my life has been – to have opportunity like this, to have been raised in a loving family of faith, to be supported by a faith community in Cheverly, MD, and to live in a city and country of opportunity. I am truly blessed.

The excitement around the arrival of Pope Francis was so overwhelming I literally forgot to sing. The two-hour Mass flew by, and before I knew it we were singing the final song. It was late evening the ochre hues bathed the Basilica and CUA campus. I thought I would be let down after that whole experience was finally over, but I was not. What I experienced was a sense of pride. I was so happy to be a part of this event. I was proud of my community and city of Washington for hosting such a joy-filled day. I was at peace!

In retrospect, what struck me the most about the Papal visit was how Francis was willing to meet people where they were. He did not seek out the perfect or those who agree with him. He met all of us just where we are in life. He truly wants to walk with us in our current situation. I am so glad I had this opportunity “to walk with Francis.”

FROM THE ARLINGTON DIOCESAN MUSIC DEPARTMENT

If you can read music and like to sing, you might consider serving the Church by singing in the **Arlington Diocesan Choir**, which is a chorus consisting of music directors, choir members, cantors, pianists, and organists, from all over the Arlington diocese.

The Diocesan Choir is open to all adult Catholics of the Arlington Diocese who have reached their 18th birthday and who commit to attendance at rehearsals and liturgies.

The choir sings at the principal Diocesan liturgies, including the Blue Mass, Marriage Jubilee Mass, Rite of Election, Diocesan Confirmation, and Ordinations.

This October, the choir had the privilege of singing for our Diocesan pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, just days after the Holy Father's visit there.

Members are selected based on their musical knowledge and vocal abilities. The Diocesan choir sings for only five or six liturgies per season, and generally rehearse on Monday evenings prior to each scheduled liturgy. This schedule should not conflict with members participating in their parish choirs.

Previous choral experience and the ability to read music are preferable. For additional information, call the Office for Sacred Liturgy at (703) 841-2552.

Practice Tips

Keep telling your choir to "practice that at home before Sunday?" Does your director keep asking you to look at music between rehearsals? Do you have a piano at home?

Rest easy! Click [here](#) for 10 things you can do at home without a piano (or even without the ability to play the piano!).



The DC Chapter seeks:

1. a photographer for chapter events
2. a webmaster

Please contact Charlene Dorrian (301-384-5796 or mcdorrian@yahoo.com) if you could help in any way.



**WITH HANDS LIFTED UP:
A JOURNEY THROUGH BLACK SACRED MUSIC**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2016
SAINT MATTHIAS CHURCH, LANHAM, MD**

Lynné Gray, Music Director at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Washington and Faculty Member (Piano Theory & Music History) of Duke Ellington School of the Arts, guides participants through the the history, richness and application of the African-American Church music genre.



U p c o m i n g C o n c e r t s
 ATTENTION PARISH CHOIR SINGERS –

*We are inviting choirs from the
 Arlington Diocese high schools, and singers from the parish choirs to
 perform with us at The Kennedy Center!*

*Represent your parish
 and have your name &
 parish listed in the
 Kennedy Center program!*

*Each adult singer will
 receive three
 complimentary tickets
 (self and two guests).*

*Additional tickets
 available for \$25 each.*

*To participate in this
 performance contact
 Brandi Vasquez*

*vasquezb@bishopireton.org
 or 703-212-5176*

BISHOP IRETON WIND ENSEMBLE
 & BALDWIN WALLACE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC
 PRESENT

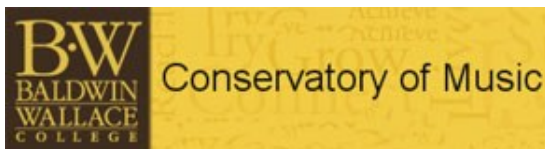
ADVANCE ALWAYS: A CELEBRATION
 OF FRANK BATTISTI
 AND GARWOOD WHALEY

AT THE KENNEDY CENTER

FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2016 8:00 P.M.

Additional Details:

- Must attend dress rehearsal in Kennedy Center Hall – Friday, March 11, 6-7 p.m.
- Optional attendance - March 7 and 8 rehearsals at Bishop Ireton H.S. 7:30-8:30 p.m.
- Scores, choral parts, and various recordings will be available by Thanksgiving.
- Performance will be the world premier of Clint Needham's "Advance Always" commissioned especially for this special concert in the Kennedy Center. The work is for full choir and symphonic band.
- Conductors from Baldwin Wallace Conservatory are available to rehearse your choir on Wednesday, March 9, or Thursday, March 10, if desired.
- Conductors from Bishop Ireton H.S., Dan Kosko and Randall Eyles, are available to rehearse your choir at a time of your choosing, if desired.



Upcoming Concerts

Friday, November 20, 2015 7:30 PM

Landon School
6101 Wilson Lane, Bethesda, MD

Music of American Composers

DMA Recital

Henry Bauer, *conductor*
Virginia Lum, *piano*

Featuring *Reincarnations* by Samuel Barber and *Frostiana* by Randall Thompson along with music of other American composers. This concert is in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Doctor of Musical Arts in Sacred Music from the Catholic University of America, Benjamin T. Rome School of Music. The concert is free and open to the public. For more information contact: **Henry Bauer** at hbauermus@aol.com.



Sunday, November 22, 2015

4:30pm

St. Ann Catholic Church
5300 North 10th St., Arlington, VA

Saint Cecilia Sing

St. Ann's will be hosting a Saint Cecilia sing, featuring sacred music from a wide range of time periods and styles. It is to be followed by a cabaret of secular music and dance in the school gymnasium. Please contact Music Director **Jamie Sample** if your parish would like to participate at (703) 528-6276.

Annual NPM/DC Retreat

It wasn't time yet to "fall back" from daylight saving to standard time, but participants at the annual retreat on October 17 were encouraged to sit back and consider these days to be "extra" ordinary time. Retreat leader, Sr. Cynthia Serjak, asked us to consider *kairos** time, allowing God to break in to our time. She used the magnificent and life-changing events of the liturgical seasons to help us do that.

We considered the holy seasons in chronological fashion, but in reverse order – Pentecost - Easter - Lent; then Epiphany - Christmas - Advent. We were asked to consider the magnificence of each season, and to contemplate how that magnificence is affecting our lives. After each of Sr. Cynthia's wonderful reflections, there was time for silence, faith sharing, communal prayer, and song. It was a time to ponder words like vigilance, hope, confidence, trust, wonder, curiosity, and to ask if they show up in our lives. And finally, we considered whether this is a threshold time for us, and if we are opening to what God wants to do next in us and through us. We concluded a blessed day in a Circle of Prayer.

*Kairos - *an ancient Greek word meaning the right or opportune moment (the supreme moment). The ancient Greeks had two words for time, chronos and kairos. While the former refers to chronological or sequential time, the latter signifies a time lapse, a moment of indeterminate time in which everything happens. What is happening when referring to kairos depends on who is using the word. While chronos is quantitative, kairos has a qualitative, permanent nature. Kairos also means season in ancient and weather in modern Greek.*

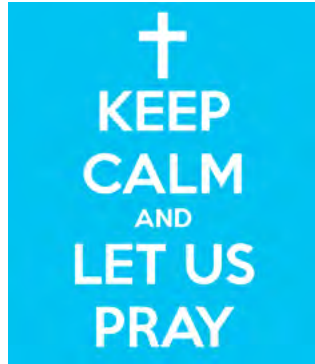
Be sure to visit the Washington, DC and Arlington, VA Chapters' websites for the latest information on Chapter happenings, registration forms, and events:

www.npmdc.org
www.npmarlington.org

Hats Off!

The following choirs have provided music for the TV Mass for Shut-ins during September. 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.

- * **St. Timothy Parish Choir**, Chantilly, VA
- * **Church of the Resurrection Adult Choir**, Burtonsville, MD



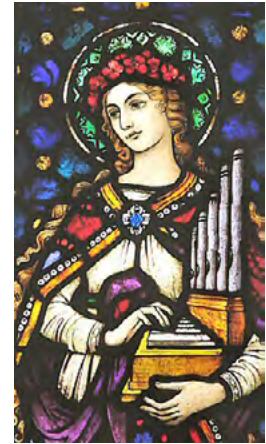
Let the deep organ swell the lay
In honor of this festive day.
Let the harmonious choirs proclaim
Cecilia's ever blessed name.

*Let the harmonious choirs proclaim
Cecilia's ever blessed name.*

Cecilia with a two-fold crown,
Adorned in heaven we pray look down,
Upon thy fervent children here
And harken to their humble prayer.

*Let the harmonious choirs proclaim
Cecilia's ever blessed name.*

Hymn for St. Cecilia's Day; Charles Constantine Pise (1802-1866)



ARLINGTON VIRGINIA CHAPTER

Eugene Harper, Director
eugene.harper@cox.net
703-862-7822

Fr. Donald Rooney, Chaplain
frooney@stmaryfred.org

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

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

Bob Malinowski, Treasurer
bob.malinowski@verizon.net
703-569-4092

Tim Lewicki, Newsletter Editor
tlewicki@saintagnes.org
703-525-1166

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

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

CJ Capen, At-large
cjcapen@saintjn.org
703-390-2352

David Mathers, Past Director
dmathers@stmaryfred.org
540-373-6491, ext. 217

WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER

Charlene Dorrian, Director
mcdorrian@yahoo.com
301-384-5796

Henry Bauer, Treasurer
Hbauermus@aol.com
301-530-1550

Mary Ann Evan, Secretary
maevan@erols.com
202-966-2448

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

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

Susan DeCamp, Hospitality Coordinator
smdecamp@yahoo.com
301-622-1122

Carol Engle, Webmaster
juluka@verizon.net
301-994-3959

Mary Stevens, So. MD Coordinator
kbstevens@verizon.net
301-862-4713

Monique Walton, At-large
mawsings@aol.com
301-437-3024

Tom Stehle, Past Director
rvs@tidalwave.net
202-587-5141

Mary Beaudoin, Past Director
m.beaudoin3@verizon.net
301-762-2143

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