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Arlington Washington D.C. Newsletter

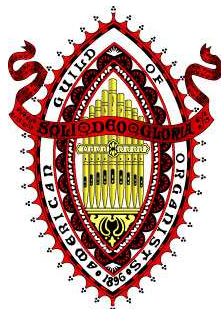


VOL. 11 NO. 7

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2007

FROM THE ORGANIST LIAISON



During the last couple of decades denominational musical organizations, including NPM, have flourished. Interestingly, NPM is the only one of these organizations that maintains an official relationship with the American Guild of Organists (AGO). The NPM/AGO dual certification program for organists puts special emphasis on the demands of the Catholic liturgy; both organizations have joined forces in helping musicians in the Gulf Coast in the wake of hurricane Katrina; and NPM organist liaisons are required to be AGO members in good standing.

In my dual role as NPM organist liaison and dean of the AGO District of Columbia chapter I wrote earlier in *The Coupler*, the chapter's newsletter, encouraging members to consider joining their denominational organization in addition to the AGO: now I am writing you to encourage you to consider joining the AGO in addition to NPM.

Information about the national organization and local chapters can be found on www.agohq.com. You will also find names and contact information for officers of those chapters: if you have questions, do not hesitate to contact them. And, as your organist liaison, I am available to discuss questions with regard to the organ and its music as well.

Ronald Stolk
rwarbler@aol.com
202-347-2713

Don't forget ... The NPM Choir Director Institute will be held at Bishop Ireton High School in Alexandria, July 16-20. The Institute begins Monday at 9 a.m. and ends Friday at noon.

The Faculty will be:
Rob Glover - Choral
Paul French - Choral
Kathleen De Jardin - Choral
David Philippart - Liturgy

Check the NPM website (www.npm.org) for details.

Mission Statement: *The National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) fosters the art of musical liturgy. The members of NPM serve the Catholic Church in the United States as musicians, clergy, liturgists, and other leaders of prayer.*

THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER ... FROM ARLINGTON

"Easter Every Eighth Day"

Both John's Gospel and Luke's have the disciples meeting together, after the death of Jesus, on the evening of the "first day of the week." In the communities of these two Gospel writers, the first day of the week is obviously held in reverence. It is the day that the community of Jesus' followers gathers, both the first disciples and those later addressed by Luke and John. We can imagine them sharing stories of Jesus' healing, teaching and forgiving. Luke has them sharing a meal, and we can imagine that in John as well; since they are in hiding, someone brings food. For John and Luke, the first day of the week is also the day that the work of the Spirit and the mission of the Gospel to the world are revealed.

The first day of the week is the day everything changes. On the first day of the week God's work through Jesus is made clear. On the first day of the week the Spirit breathes life into the people called by God. On the "first day of the week" the mission of the Church is revealed. On the "first day of the week" the purpose of our lives is discovered. The first day of the week is the first day of a world restored to life, of a universe made new, of the Kingdom that is coming-but-already-here. This is the day the Lord has made!

We who have bound ourselves together in Christ's body through the one baptism and in the one Spirit continue to gather on the first day of the week to deepen and renew our incorporation into Christ's Body. We thank and praise God for creation and for saving us through his Son. We participate in Christ's death and resurrection by the offering of our lives to the Father. We affirm and strengthen our unity through the blessing and sharing of Jesus' Body and Blood. Every first day of the week is the Pasch of Christ and the Church: a passing over, a transitus, through death into a new reality, a new life together as God's children in Christ Jesus.

So Easter comes not once a year. Rather, the one first day of the week is every eighth day and is with us always. Our work as Pastoral Musicians and our lives as Christians must take account of the new reality into which we have entered through our baptism, the reality we encounter every "eighth day." Through sung prayer, we want to deepen our fellow disciples' experience of the Kingdom of God and to proclaim the Gospel message to those who have not yet heard it. May the grace we experience every "eighth day," the grace of God's Kingdom, always empower and sustain us for the good work God has called us to.

David Mathers

NPM/Arlington Chapter Director

2007 NPM CONVENTION & THE CHAPTER DISCOUNT

Don't forget: You can receive a discount of 10-25% when you register for the Indianapolis Convention (July 9-13) via the local chapter. Encourage others to join you, especially those who have never attended an NPM convention. If you have not received a registration form, contact the NPM National Office. Information about the convention is also available at www.npm.org.

By registering through the NPM/DC and NPM Arlington chapters, you will receive a discount of 10-25%! To receive this discount you must send your completed registration form and fee to the coordinator before May 15.



- You must be a member of NPM (national) as well as one of the local chapters (NPM/DC or NPM Arlington). Either or both of these can be parish memberships.
 - Complete a convention registration form in full.
 - Send your convention registration form and fee to the address below by May 15. (All the registration forms with one check will be sent to the national office on May 20.)
 - Enclose your check for \$230 (plus fees for any extra events you are attending).
 - Make the check payable to "NPM/DC."
- Send to: Mary Beaudoin, 10114 Portland Place
Silver Spring MD 20901-2116

NPM/DC'S LENTEN RETREAT: A RECAP

On Saturday, March 3, Fr. Larry Madden, S.J. of the Georgetown Center for Liturgy led our Lenten Retreat for Pastoral Musicians.

The focus: Musicians and Prayer. The day was divided into two sessions of presentation, silent reflection, sharing, and prayer. The first presentation was about recognizing the presence of Christ. The question for us is, "How does Christ reveal himself to us through his Body (the Church) and how do we see him when we pray?"

Father Madden distributed a set of artists' depictions of Christ to start our thinking:

- an early 3rd-century fresco of the Good Shepherd
- Christ Triumphant as depicted in two Byzantine mosaics
- the Church Triumphant in a 16th-century fresco by Raphael
- and Christ as seen in all of us, the Body of Christ.

The second reflection was on the Eucharistic Prayer. Although it is the center and highpoint of the Mass, we often "doze off" and fail to give this prayer our full attention. Yet it is full of beautiful theology that should ground our prayer and our lives as Christians. The Eucharistic Prayer invites us to a sacramental view of all life. As St. Irenaeus said, "Nothing is a vacuum in the face of God. Everything is a sign of God."

The beautiful weather and peaceful surroundings at Our Lady of Mattaponi Retreat Center were perfect for private meditation. Fr. Madden gave us sheets of brief reflections from authors, ancient and current. One person commented that, as she walked around the grounds that were still awaiting the first buds of spring, her favorite line was from a quote by Thomas Merton, "Love winter when the plant says nothing."

At the end of the day, it was rewarding to hear the positive comments, especially from first-time retreatants.

NPM RETREAT IN LAUREL

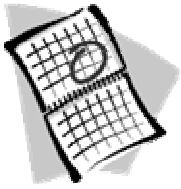
The Baltimore Chapter of NPM has invited us to lead them in sung prayer at their Annual Retreat on Monday, April 30. The theme of the retreat is "Co Mission" — emphasizing the need of dialogue in the ministry of the parish pastoral musician.

We are looking for vocalists who are interested and available to assist Baltimore musicians on their spiritual journey. Night Prayer begins at 8:15p.m. and the retreat is held only minutes away at Resurrection of Our Lord Parish in Laurel, Maryland.

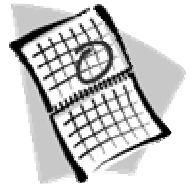
Please contact Michael White (301-681-7663, x 17 or whitem@sjeparish.org) if you are interested in this opportunity to minister to other local musicians.

F . Y . I

1. The musicians in Clinton were unable to hold their Neighborhood Meeting at St. John the Evangelist on February 27. It will be re-scheduled.
2. NPM/DC now has a Website. Check us out at www.npmdc.org.
3. Local chapters exist to meet local needs. If there's something you would like to see offered by the DC or Arlington chapters, please contact the chapter directors (see p. 1). You may have a great idea no one else has ever considered.
4. Some folks choose to receive this newsletter via e-mail (and it is on-line at the NPM/DC website). If you would rather not receive a hard copy in the mail, simply let us know, 301-384-5796 or mcdorrian@yahoo.com and we'll comply with your wishes.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS !



* **Friday, April 27, 8 p.m.** – AN EVENING OF PIANO MUSIC

John H. McCrary, Director of Music at Blessed Sacrament, will perform works by Beethoven, Debussy, Chopin, Liszt and Prokofiev. A free-will offering will be taken up to support the musical offerings at Blessed Sacrament. Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community, 1427 West Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA - 703 998-6100 ext. 13

* **Friday, May 18, 8 p.m.** – EASTER SEASON CONCERT

(also at Blessed Sacrament in Alexandria) The Easter Season will be celebrated in this concert featuring the Blessed Sacrament Choir and Festival Orchestra, and the Bells of Blessed Sacrament. The program will include Part III of Handel's Messiah and Veni, Creator Spiritus by Carl Johengen.

* **Saturday, May 19, 5 p.m.** — ORGAN DEDICATION

Archbishop Donald Wuerl will preside at the dedication of a new Allen 345, 3-manual French console organ at St. John Neumann Church in Gaithersburg. The 5 p.m. Mass will be followed by a reception and a concert on the new organ.

* **Monday, June 18, 8 p.m.** — ORGAN CONCERT

David Higgs in Concert – at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington. Mr. Higgs is Chair of the Organ Department at the Eastman School of Music.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. MATTHEW

725 Rhode Island Ave. NW, Washington, DC

* **Saturday, April 14, 5 p.m.** —

MASS PRELUDE - The St. Eulalia Choir, Boston, Massachusetts. Deborah Moscuso, director

* **Sunday, April 15, 8 p.m.** —

THE COLLEGIUM MUSICUM of Oberlin Conservatory Works by Palestrina, including the Missa Tu Es Petrus. Directed by Dr. Steven Plank. Voluntary donation

* **Friday, April 27, 7:30 p.m.**

SPRING TOUR CONCERT
Central Bucks High School, Pennsylvania
Joseph Ohrt, director
Voluntary donation

* **Friday, May 11, 7:30 p.m.**

HARP RECITAL in honor of John Paul II
Elzbieta Szmyt, Indiana University
Voluntary donation

* **Friday, May 18, 7:30 p.m.**

CHORAL CONCERT for the Solemnity of the Ascension. Featuring works by Lassus, Gallus, and Palestrina, as well as Gregorian chant for the Solemnity of the Ascension. Performed by the Schola Cantorum and Gregorian Scholars; William Culverhouse, director. Suggested donation \$20

* **Saturday, May 19, 5 p.m.**

MASS PRELUDE
The Holy Cross College Choir
Pamela Getnick, director

* **Saturday, June 2, 5 p.m.**

MASS PRELUDE
The Georgetown Visitation Choir
David Nastal, director.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE PEW

A series of articles – for those who are new to Pastoral Music Ministry – focusing on the music used at Mass – no matter how large or small the assembly. Included in the series: An Introduction ... Who Makes Decisions & Parish Repertoire ... Mass Settings ... Psalms ... Hymns & Songs ... Triduum & the Parish ... Using Worship Aids Well

Part 4 - Psalms

As with Mass Settings, the questions are: How many psalm settings does the parish know well? And which ones are used at the various Masses? The issue of seasonal planning is different when considering psalms.

Charting parish-wide use of psalms may be trickier than charting hymns, but do the best you can. The big question is how well the people sing psalms – i.e. the antiphons/refrains. (Learning to sing the whole psalm, as did our ancestors in Israel, is a goal for the future.)

We can test of how well a psalm is known by reciting a refrain to parishioners and asking if a tune comes to mind. Once it's determined which psalms the parish "owns," it's time to look at the whole picture.

A word about psalm choices. Most worship aids have simple settings of the psalm of the day and many are quite good. Some, unfortunately, are eminently forgettable. If our goal is to have the parish own and love singing psalms, they have to be good. Thus begins the task of identifying what psalms will best serve our parish communities.

As always, we look first to the major seasons. A three-year chart can be made from information in the worship aids or lectionaries. It is then correlated with parish favorites, and a plan made to begin filling out the psalm repertoire.

P.S. It should be noted that there is a variety of ways to sing the psalms at Mass, and that's worth exploring. Perks up the folks in the pews!

The same can be done with Ordinary Time. It soon becomes obvious that there are psalms for which the parish has no setting. Not to worry – the Church provides the handy list of Common Psalms – usable for many occasions. They are the starting point in any attempt to embellish a parish's psalm repertoire. Common psalms are listed in lectionaries and worship aids. Included will be:

Psalms 25 & 85 (Advent) ... 98 (Christmas)
51, 91, 130 (Lent) ... 118 (Easter)
104 (Pentecost) ... and for Ordinary Time,
19, 27, 34, 63, 95, 100, 103, 145
& 122 (for the last weeks of the year).

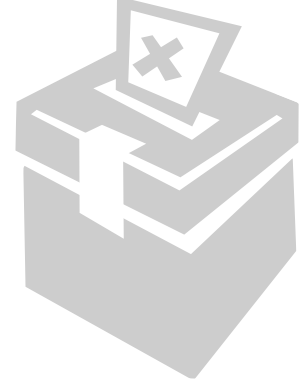
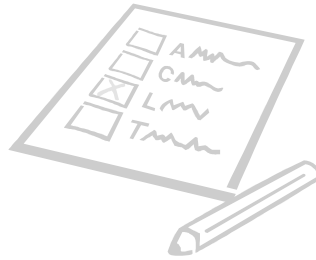
A word about seasonal psalms. While it's always preferable to use the psalm of the day since it's been chosen with those readings in mind, if a parish is just beginning to establish a psalm repertoire, seasonal psalms work well. That means one psalm for the four weeks of Advent, one for the five weeks of Lent (with Ps. 22 on Palm Sunday), one for the seven weeks of Easter.

A special psalm for Ascension and for Pentecost, and matching common psalms as they are learned to the weeks of Ordinary Time. In a few years the assemblies will have learned a good body of psalms, so that you'll be able to sing the psalm of the day more frequently.

The final challenge is to select a setting for each psalm that can be used at all the Masses, and to agree that the same one will be used by the whole parish. Of course, it is hoped such a spirit of collegiality and good will has been established among the music ministers of the parish, that this would be no problem at all.



2007 NPM/DC CHAPTER ELECTIONS



POSITION

NOMINEE

WRITE – IN

Chapter Director	Mary Beaudoin	_____
Co-coordinator of Planning	MaryLu Hartsell	_____
Co-coordinator of Planning	Ronald Stolk	_____
Assistant Director of Recruitment for Montgomery County	Henry Bauer	_____
Assistant Director of Recruitment for Prince Georges County	Joan Laskey	_____
Assistant Director of Recruitment for the District of Columbia	Bill Culverhouse	_____
Assistant Director of Recruitment for Southern Maryland	Carol Connolly	_____
Secretary/Treasurer	Jeanette Oliver	_____
Animator of Koinonia	Tom Stehle	_____
Co-editor of Newsletter	Charlene Dorrian	_____
Co-editor of Newsletter	Michael White	_____

*Please print out this page and either acknowledge the current Nominee or
Write-in your own candidate.*

*Ballots should be mailed to NPM/DC,
14727 Wexhall Terrace, Burtonsville, MD 20866 by April 19.*

NPM/DC
14727 WEXHALL TERRACE
BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866

JOBS AVAILABLE

⇒ **ORGANIST** — St. Mark the Evangelist Church (Hyattsville, Maryland). Play for three Sunday morning Masses, holy days, accompany choir at weekly Thursday rehearsal (September-May). Weddings/Funerals extra. Please contact Jeannette Oliver (301-405-5565 - work; 301-890-8223 - home; jlo@umd.edu).

⇒ **FULL-TIME DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC AND LITURGICAL MINISTRIES** — All Saints Catholic Church in Manassas, VA, is seeking a full-time Director of Sacred Music and Liturgical Ministries to lead an established, dynamic, faith-filled liturgical ministry team. Successful candidate will oversee the parish liturgical music program, direct adult choir, train cantors, coordinate with other choir directors, and assist in planning funerals and weddings. Position is also responsible for assisting the Pastor with supervising and coordinating the various liturgical ministries in the Parish.

Successful candidate will be a practicing Catholic with a deep commitment to the principles of Vatican II and to the diversity of musical styles expressive of excellent Roman Catholic liturgy. Musical proficiency in organ, piano and conducting, as well as substantial prior experience in pastoral music is required.

Academic background in liturgical music is a plus, as is ability to speak Spanish. The successful candidate will also possess strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work collaboratively with clergy, staff and parishioners.

The position qualifies for a full Diocesan benefits package and salary is commensurate with experience and qualifications. 3 manual combination organ (w/14 ranks of pipes), Kawai grand piano, 3 octaves handbells. Interested candidates may apply by sending a resume and cover letter to: Sacred Music Search Committee, All Saints Catholic Church c/o Rev. Robert C. Cilinski, Pastor 9300 Stonewall Road, Manassas, VA 20110 – buonocore@allsaintsva.org