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# Arlington Washington D.C. Newsletter



VOL. 13 NO. 6

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2009

## THE FRENCH CONNECTION

*All are invited to a program on French liturgical organ music!  
Saturday, February 21 – 10 a.m.—St. Patrick Church in the city*

In most places today, the main function of the organ is to accompany the singing of the cantor, the choir and the assembly, but it was not that way from the beginning. As the use of the organ spread across Europe during the Middle Ages, its main function became to perform the chants of the Mass and of the Hours (especially Vespers, but also Lauds and Compline) in alternation with the choir.

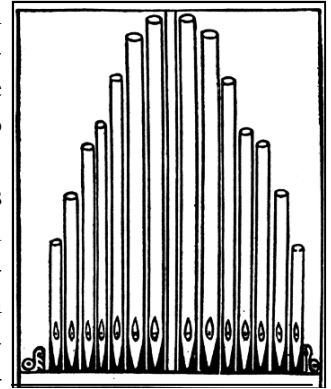
One of the earliest printed collections of organ music was published by Pierre Attaignant in Paris in 1531. Four hundred years later, Marcel Dupré wrote his famous treatise on organ improvisation: it contains an appendix for Catholic organists, which Mr. Attaignant would have easily recognized. Given this long tradition, our program will primarily focus on France, without completely ignoring other traditions.

While much of this repertoire does not fit in today's liturgical context (the Gloria from Couperin's Mass for the Parishes alone takes 20 minutes!), with a little imagination things can be adapted to provide very attractive music for today's worship. As an extra bonus, much of this music can be freely downloaded from the internet.

On February 21 we will listen to some interesting recordings, discuss present-day possibilities, and, last but not least, engage in live alternatim performance, for which St. Patrick's and the Lively-Fulcher pipe organ provide an ideal ambiance.

For further information, please contact [rstolk@saintpatrickdc.org](mailto:rstolk@saintpatrickdc.org).

The church is located at the corner of 10th and G Streets, NW. There are parking garages nearby, but street parking is not impossible, and there is a big parking space on the site of the old Convention Center two blocks north of the church. All Metro lines stop in the immediate vicinity of the church: green and yellow lines a Gallery Place/Chinatown (take 9th St. exit) and red, blue, and orange lines at Metro Center (take 11th St. exit).



## ANNUAL SHROVE TUESDAY LUNCHEON

*Now at Brion's Grille*

**The Arlington Chapter** invites all NPM members and friends to its annual Shrove Tuesday Luncheon - this year to be held at Brion's Grille in Fairfax - on February 24 at noon. \$10 will cover their fantastic all-you-can-eat-buffet and one soft drink/tea/coffee. We have a nice semi-private area, so we can socialize in a relaxed environment. Brion's Grille is at 10621 Brad-dock Road in Fairfax, VA, near Rt. 123 and right across from George Mason Univ. - so it's easy to get to from I-66. Visit the website - [www.brionsgrille.com/Menu/lunch.html](http://www.brionsgrille.com/Menu/lunch.html). Please e-mail Bob Malinowski at [bob.malinowski@verizon.net](mailto:bob.malinowski@verizon.net) if you plan to attend. Come share good times with colleagues and make some new friends as we celebrate the last day before Lent begins. We'll be at Brion's because our traditional place is closed due to a fire.

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER *from DC*

### *For this Purpose I Have Come*

The first two chapters of the Gospel according to Mark, which we hear from mid-January until Lent this year, are exciting. Jesus is always on the move. On the four Sundays in February we hear:

1. Jesus arrives in Capernaum and teaches in the synagogue. He becomes an instant celebrity. He uses his authority to drive an unclean spirit out of a possessed man. The spirit recognizes Jesus as the Holy One of God. Jesus' fame spreads far and wide.
2. Jesus goes to the house of Simon and Andrew for dinner. He heals Simon's mother-in-law. People bring more ill and possessed people to him. Jesus takes care of everything. The next day he tries to take a little early morning retreat, but Simon and the others pursue him. When they find him they say "Everyone is looking for you." Jesus, still fresh, decides to go to nearby villages to preach. "For this purpose have I come," he says.
3. A leper comes to Jesus begging to be healed. Jesus heals him, but warns him sternly to tell no one anything. (Was this because Jesus already had plenty of work to do, or because he knew the religious authorities would be upset?) The man went and publicized the whole matter so that Jesus could not enter a town openly.
4. Jesus goes home to Capernaum. So many people gather around him that four men need to lower the paralytic from the roof. Jesus makes the fatal "mistake" of forgiving the sins of the paralytic man. The scribes are very unhappy about this. Jesus has stepped into their area of expertise, and a turf war has begun!

As I read these stories from the perspective of a pastoral musician, I cannot help but see the parallels. Where do you find yourself and your music ministry in these chapters? What would Jesus do in your situation? Are you . . .

1. popular and loved by the people in your parish?
2. full of energy and faith, ready to take on the world?
3. looking for some anonymity, peace, and solitude?
4. in a battle zone?

No matter what the current climate in our ministry, we need to be clear about the purpose for which we have come. We can find direction and inspiration in **Sing to the Lord**. Have you read it yet? Here is a portion of paragraph 49: "Liturgical musicians are first of all disciples . . . [P]astoral musicians need to hear the Gospel, experience conversion, profess faith in Christ, and so proclaim the praise of God. Thus, musicians who serve the Church at prayer are not merely employees or volunteers. They are ministers who share the faith, serve the community, and express the love of God and neighbor through music."

Wishing you deep joy rooted in faith,

*Mary J. Beaudoin*

NPM/DC Chapter Director

**"Sing to the Lord"** the USCCB Publication is available in a FREE PDF document:  
[www.usccb.org/liturgy/SingToTheLord.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/liturgy/SingToTheLord.pdf)

## NPM NATIONAL CONVENTION & CHAPTER DISCOUNTS

*July 6-10 at the **Stephens Convention Center** in Rosemont, IL  
(5 min. from Chicago's O'Hare Airport)*



Complete information (DC & Arlington are considered one chapter for the convention).

(including a registration form) is available on the website - [www.npm.org](http://www.npm.org).

Chapter discounts are available for ten or more members attending from the same chapter.

Simply send your form with a \$248 check, payable to NPM/DC (plus whatever extras you may have chosen) Mary Beaudoin, 10114 Portland Place, Silver Spring, MD 20901-2116 **before May 15**.

*N.B. If many register and fee is less than \$248; overpayment will be refunded.*

## ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT — MARCH 14TH

### *With Msgr. Ray East*

The annual NPM/DC Lenten Retreat provides pastoral musicians with the time, space and inspiration to re-commit and be re-energized. Make time for this important event. You and your parish will be rewarded.

We are delighted to have **Msgr. Ray East** as our retreat leader this year. Msgr. East, nationally known inspirational speaker and revivalist, is Executive Director of the Office of Black Catholics, and Vicar for Evangelization of the Archdiocese of Washington. He is also pastor of St. Teresa of Avila Parish in southeast DC, a vibrant African American Catholic community deeply engaged in a plethora of ministries for its members and for its surrounding neighborhood.

Come prepared to have your mind and heart opened.

- When:** Saturday, March 14, 2009  
9 a.m. Registration/Breakfast — 2:30 p.m. Closing
- Where:** **Saint Mark the Evangelist**  
7501 Adelphi Road  
Hyattsville, MD 20783  
301-422-8300
- Cost:** \$ 25 NPM DC Members, \$30 non-member  
To register, send form below and check to:  
NPM/DC, 14727 Wexhall Terrace  
Burtonsville MD 20866.
- Deadline:** March 6, but don't delay. This event usually fills up early.

### NPM/DC LENTEN RETREAT REGISTRATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Member \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

Please send this form to : NPM/DC,  
14727 Wexhall Terrace  
Burtonsville MD 20866

**Deadline: March 6**

## MEET THE COMPOSER—TIM HOWE

*by DC Chapter Director, Mary Beaudoin.*

*The Schola Cantorum of the Cathedral of Saint Matthew sang Tim's composition, "Remembered Music" at last November's St. Cecilia Sing.*

- M Your name is Thomas, but you go by Tim. Is there a story behind that?
- T I have no idea. I was baptized Thomas, but have been called Tim (or Timmy) by my family since I was in the cradle. No-one can tell me when or why it happened. But, I am glad for it. My father and his father were Thomases, and there were many more on the patrilineal side. Being a Tim saved me from the indignity of being a "junior" or worse, like say, "Little Tom".
- M You are a singer. Do you also play any instruments?
- T I do. I was a low brass player throughout high school and college: tuba and bass trombone. I play guitar and bass, these days.
- M When did you begin singing in church?
- T Pretty much since birth. In my family there was no option: you sang, and you better be an instrumentalist, to boot.
- M How long have you been singing at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew? In which groups do you sing there? Are you a cantor?
- T I'm in my eleventh year at St Matt's. I sing solely with the Schola these days. I've sung or played with the Contemporary Choir many times. Not a cantor, although therein lies a tale I could tell you another day about a gig elsewhere.
- M What other musical activities are you involved in? Do you sing in any choral groups outside church?
- T I play bass and sing the Real High Notes for the Cousin John Band. See our website: [www.cousinjohnband.com](http://www.cousinjohnband.com)
- M When did you begin composing music?
- T I have been writing songs since I was a child. I continue to write solo pieces, and songs for my band. I only began writing arrangements and new compositions in the last ten years or so.
- M Describe "Remembered Music," your composition which the Cathedral Schola Cantorum sang at the St. Cecilia Sing Evening Prayer in November.
- T That's a hard question. Once I found the text, it seemed that all of the things that I've favored over the many years that I've been a singer said to me "put me in there". So, there's the parallelism that I love from writers like Holst and Vaughn Williams and Howells. There had to be a hemiola. I've always loved sequences, especially Bach's, so the middle section had to have one. And as the piece wrote itself, it seemed that I was in fact remembering these things. Harmonically, the simple concept is upwards modulation at every textual opportunity, reaching toward the heavens. I'm inclined toward 7ths and 9s, so the piece is larded with them, not only because I think that they're "pretty", but because they make sense as both the "jangling" of the spheres, and as resolving intervals to modern ears. The scalar motion of the melody is intended to be both accessible to the ear and singable for the performer.
- M What other choral pieces have you written? Please describe them.
- T My time working at St Matt's has granted me the pleasure of writing for technically proficient singers with whose skill and range I'm intimately familiar. But I've always previously arranged extant pieces, often with small jazz groups in mind, such as my "Away In A Manger", which was written for a quartet, DC Express, with whom I sang for many years, but lends itself beautifully to a full choral rendition. On the other hand, my setting of "Of The Father's Love Begotten", written for the St Matt's choir, starts with double SATB choir and ends in 12 voices. So, I write to hopefully utilize the resources at hand.
- M When you write for choir do you always begin with a text or do you sometimes begin with a musical idea? Where do you find texts that inspire you?
- T I've always, until "Remember Music," been an arranger rather than a composer, so it hasn't been an issue. I've always started with melodies and their associated texts that matter to me. For instance, the "Of The Father" I mentioned above is based on one of my favorite chant melodies.

## MEET THE COMPOSER—TIM HOWE

- T** The refrain "Evermore and evermore" seemed to want a "space music" repetition, and harmonically the melody itself outlines a "A major 9 chord", so the structure of the arrangement was laid out for me.
- M** Have you composed instrumental pieces also? How about pieces for solo voice? Please tell us about them. Are they published and if so by which publisher?
- T** No, I've only written for voices, but I'm hoping to expand, given enough time. I remain unpublished at this time.
- M** Where did you receive your musical training?
- T** I have a BA in music from Hamilton College. I've learned much more in my experience as a professional singer than my degree might say.
- M** Who were your most important music teachers and musical mentors?
- T** First, my Mother. Singing and musicianship were simply a part of the household from the day I was born. Names since then: John Cooper, my childhood director; Ms. Posey, my High School director, who taught me that music making was a craft; Lee Spear, Charles England, and Steven Bonta, who demanded more of me than I knew I had in service of that craft; Leo Nestor, for teaching the fine attention to detail that the craft of music making requires. My colleagues at St Matt's, above all. Like, for instance, my mother's name! Elsie Howe. Also, John Cooper was my choir director at St. Anne's Church in Annapolis, MD. Yep, the one in the center of Church Circle. Messrs Spear, England and Bonta were professors of mine at Hamilton College.
- M** Did you grow up in the Washington DC area?
- T** My family moved here when I was 7, so, I guess I did.



## SUMMER INSTITUTES

*For more information... [www.npm.org/EducationEvents/institutes/](http://www.npm.org/EducationEvents/institutes/)*

### **CANTOR EXPRESS**

June 19–21 • Dallas (Plano), Texas @ Prince of Peace Catholic Community  
 July 17–19 • Lakewood, New Jersey @ Georgian Court University  
 July 24–26 • Gaylord, Michigan @ Gaylord Diocesan Pastoral Center  
 July 31–August 2 • Clarion, Pennsylvania @ Clarion University

### **24TH ANNUAL CHOIR DIRECTOR INSTITUTE**

July 20–24 • Houston, Texas @ The University of St Thomas

### **INSTITUTE FOR MUSIC WITH CHILDREN**

July 27–29 • Lansing (DeWitt), Michigan @ The Bethany House at St. Francis Retreat Center

### **GUITAR AND ENSEMBLE INSTITUTE**

July 13–17 • Erlanger, Kentucky @ The Marydale Retreat Center

### **PASTORAL LITURGY INSTITUTE**

July 27–31 • Greensburg, Pennsylvania @ the Bishop William G. Connare Center

### **PASTORAL LITURGY EXPRESS: BILINGÜE**

August 14–16 • Albuquerque, New Mexico @ Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Catholic Community

## YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN...

### D.M.M.D. LUNCHEONS

The **Director of Music Ministries Division** (DMMD) includes professional pastoral musicians who hold or share the primary responsibility for music in a variety of settings - parish, diocesan, and other church institutions. For nearly twenty years DMMD has provided a network of support for professional directors and addressed their particular needs in the areas of education and professional concerns.

Local members of DMMD meet on the third Tuesday of each month to have lunch and discuss issues related to our profession.

If you are a person responsible for directing the music in a parish either full-time or part-time, you are welcome to join us.

Occasionally, speakers are brought in to talk to us about pertinent issues, e.g. new liturgical translations.

*To receive information about luncheon meetings, email Henry Bauer at [Hbauermus@aol.com](mailto:Hbauermus@aol.com)*

### FROM THE MAILBOX

Dear NPM/DC

I just wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the Spanish cantor workshop on Saturday, October 25, at Our Lady Queen of Peace. Jose Sacin and Adriana Balzan were terrific and so generous, sharing knowledge, advice, and encouragement.



Magalie Salas  
(St. Camillus)

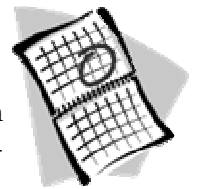
### WHAT ARE YOU SINGING?

We are still collecting ideas for music to be sung during the 12 Days of Christmas. What does your assembly sing for Holy Family, Epiphany and Baptism of the Lord? Do you continue the favorite carols? Do you use the limited pieces that specifically address those feasts?

Please share your lists with us ([mcdorrian@yahoo.com](mailto:mcdorrian@yahoo.com)), We hope to publish your ideas next month.

### HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR NECK OF THE WOODS...

- Sunday, February 15, 6 p.m. — **Organ Recital** by Richard K. Fitzgerald at Resurrection Catholic Church in Burtonsville MD. This concert is part of the Inauguration Series of Concerts on the new '100 Rank' digital organ by Walker Technical Organ Co.
- Friday, February 20, 8 p.m. — **Annual Orchestral Concert:** An Evening of Concerti - Henry Sgrecci conducts the Blessed Sacrament Festival Orchestra. Featured works are Beethoven's Triple Concerto with Triptych as soloists, the Concerto for Organ and Strings by Francis Poulenc with organist Ann Carney, and Cantata 51 by Bach with soprano Anastasia Robinson. Free admission; free-will offering. Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community, 1427 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA - 703 998-6100 ext. 13.



# Arlington Washington D.C. Newsletter



NPM/DC — 14727 WEXHALL TERRACE — BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866  
<http://www.npmdc.org>

**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.

## UPCOMING NPM/DC CHAPTER EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDARS

Saturday, March 14, 9 am ... **Lenten Retreat**

Tuesday, April 28, 7:30 pm - **A Hymn/Song Festival** at St. Luke's in McLean, VA.

Come and lift your voice in texts of today using treasured tunes to create fresh hymns of praise and prayer with ...

**Robert Batastini**, conductor & retired senior editor for GIA Publications

**Paul Skevington**, organist & Minister of Music and Liturgy at St. Luke's

**Phil Snedecor**, trumpeter, member of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra & co-founder of the Washington Symphonic Brass

*\$ 5 or a free will offering.*

## MEMBERSHIP

Our chapters depend on dues to function. The minimal fees charged for an event barely cover its cost. Please renew your membership today. It's only \$15 for an individual; \$55 for a parish.

Not sure if your membership status? Just e-mail [jlo@umd.edu](mailto:jlo@umd.edu) (DC) or [trudychoirdir@aol.com](mailto:trudychoirdir@aol.com) (Arlington) for confirmation.

## REMINDERS:

... **Newsletter deadline** — 15th of the month, but it's never too early to submit an item. Please send them to [mcdorrian@yahoo.com](mailto:mcdorrian@yahoo.com), [mary.beaudoin@stpetersolney.org](mailto:mary.beaudoin@stpetersolney.org) or [dmathers@stmaryfred.org](mailto:dmathers@stmaryfred.org).

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