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# Arlington Washington D.C. Newsletter



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CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2007

## Let's Get Together With Our Neighbors...

### Who's invited?

Anyone involved with music for parish liturgies – choir and ensemble directors, organists, guitarists, cantors, singers instrumentalists! It's a time to strengthen friendships, learn new music, and hear about the resources NPM offers.

### This year we are asking:

"What music has worked well at your parish during the last year?" This could be anything from a particular hymn or Mass setting to responses for special Rites or celebrations.

If possible, bring copies of the music for all to try – you'll get them back.

There will be complimentary packets of music furnished by the major publishers.

First and foremost, however, neighbor meetings give us chance to celebrate our ministry with those who share in it!

For more information about a particular meeting, please contact the NPM/DC board member whose name appears in (parentheses).

Come to the site nearest you. Please take note of the different dates and times ...

### Saturday, January 27 — 12 pm - 3 pm

- Home of Ann Duchesne  
(w/ Charlene Dorrian)  
41024 Cryer Ct., Leonardtown, MD  
*(Ann Duchesne has once again graciously offered the use of her home this year for lunch and musical fellowship for our southern Maryland Neighborhood Meeting. Lunch will be served, please RSVP to 301-475-6915.)*

### Monday, January 29 — 7:30 pm - 9 pm

- St. John Neumann (w/ MaryLu Hartsell)  
9000 Warfield Road, Gaithersburg, MD

- Cathedral of St. Matthew  
(w/Bill Culverhouse)

1725 Rhode Island Avenue NW,  
Washington, DC

- St. John the Evangelist (w/ Frank Cybulski)  
8908 Old Branch Avenue, Clinton, MD

### Tuesday, January 30—7:30—9 pm

- St. John the Evangelist (w/ Michael White)  
10103 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD

### Sunday, February 4 - 7 pm

- Holy Redeemer Parish (w/ Joan Laskey)  
4902 Berwyn Rd., College Park, MD



### Children's Choir Workshop

Saturday, February 3 — 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.  
St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Falls Church, VA

Workshop Director: David Nastal

See page 3 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.*

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER - "Conversion, Not Diversion"

Since the beginning of Advent we have heard once again the Gospel according to Luke. In the first few chapters of Luke, Jesus quickly progresses from the babe in the manger adored by all, to the precocious youth busy doing his Father's work, to the trouble-maker whom the good synagogue-goers in Nazareth try to push off a cliff!

*When the people in the synagogue heard this, they were all filled with fury. They rose up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town had been built, to hurl him down headlong. (Luke 4:29)*

I guess they had not considered that Jesus had all the fire of his cousin John the Baptist. Jesus could have been the miracle-worker, healer, and charismatic preacher whom everyone loved and adored, but he knew the Father was calling him to do much more.

Lately I have been pondering what Jesus would say to us. Do we pastoral musicians tend to say and do the "right things" that will keep people happy? It seems to me that we, like Jesus, are continually faced with what we might call "the entertainment challenge." For instance, when selecting music for liturgy, should we choose music that people like so that they will sing? Not necessarily. Should we choose music that makes the choir and cantor sound good? Not necessarily. Like Jesus, our real challenge is to lead people to continuing conversion. Conversion of heart is the true "full, conscious, active participation" that the documents of Vatican II are seeking. We are not called to provide entertainment or diversion from the demands of Christian life; we are called to be prophets who challenge others and ourselves to a change of heart, every week.

And so, as this new year of 2007 begins, I resolve to reflect – in my music planning and in my choir rehearsals – the call that Jesus heard: *to bring glad tidings to the poor . . . to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord. (Luke 4:18-19)* because until the poor have truly heard the glad tidings, and the oppressed throughout the world are free, and we are healed of our blindness, the work of building God's reign is not complete.

Wishing you wisdom for the New Year,  
Mary Beaudoin  
NPM/DC Chapter Director

## Upcoming Events at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community, Alexandria VA

### AN EVENING OF VIOLIN MUSIC

**Friday, January 5 — 8:00 p.m.**

An Evening of Violin Music Violinist Sonya Hayes will be joined by pianist John McCrary in a concert featuring works by Mozart, Beethoven, and Franck. A free-will offering will be taken up to support the musical offerings at Blessed Sacrament. Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community, 1427 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA - 703 998-6100 ext. 13.

### AN EVENING OF BEETHOVEN

**Friday, February 2, 8:00 p.m.**

Henry Sgrecci, director of the Bells of Blessed Sacrament, will conduct the Blessed Sacrament Festival Orchestra in an all Beethoven concert. The program will include the Piano Concerto No. 5 with John McCrary as piano soloist, the concert aria Ah, Perfido! with soprano Michelle Kunz, and the Symphony No. 1. A free-will offering will be taken up to benefit the work of the Sisters of Our Lady of La Salette. Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community, 1427 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA - 703 998-6100 ext. 13.



# CHOIR

It's not too late to Register for the  
Children's Choir Workshop on February 3rd!

The NPM Arlington and NPM/DC Annual Children's Choir Day will be on Saturday, February 3, and it's not too late to register yourself or members of your children's choir. The children's choir workshop is open to children's choir members, choir directors, and all pastoral musicians.

The day – full of fun and learning – will conclude with the festival choir leading music at the Saturday evening liturgy. Singers and choir directors will gain confidence and hone their skills as they tackle challenging music as part of a large choral ensemble. This event is geared to the long-range growth of young music ministers and their directors.

This year's workshop director will be Mr. David Nastal, Director of Performing Arts at Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School and Director of Music at St. Joseph Catholic Church, in Washington, DC. Mr. Nastal is the author of *Children's Choir Basics*. He teaches voice and piano students, directs five performing groups, serves as a clinician for regional choir workshops, and presents lectures and concerts around the world.

Registration forms and further information will be sent by email or postal mail to all directors who request it. Below is a list of the anthems which the choir will sing. These can be purchased through a music store or directly from the publisher:

<p>1. <i>God of Grace and God of Laughter</i> (Beralot) Agape AG 7287 - \$1.70 from Hope Publishing Co.</p> <p>2. <i>A Prayer of Saint Patrick</i> (DeLong) ECS 4798 - \$1.45 from ECS Publishing</p> <p>3. <i>Declare God's Glory</i> (Patch) CGA 716 - \$1.40 from Choristers Guild</p>	<p>DATE: Saturday, February 3, 2007 TIME: 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. LOCATION: St. Anthony of Padua Parish, 3305 Glen Carlyn Road Falls Church, VA 22041 FEE: Individual participant - \$30 Parish rate - \$75 for up to 3 participants, \$15 for each additional participant. <i>No charge for choir directors attending with their children's choir members, or for adult chaperones.</i></p>
<p>REGISTER NOW: To obtain a registration packet, please contact Susan Trainor — <a href="mailto:strainor@saintjn.org">strainor@saintjn.org</a></p>	

## Quick check-list for filling out that new 2007 Calendar ...

January 27, January 29, January 30 or February 7 — YOUR LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

February 3 — CHILDREN'S CHOIR WORKSHOP with David Nastal

February 20 — SHROVE TUESDAY LUNCHEON with NPM/Arlington

March 3 — PASTORAL MUSICIANS' LENTEN RETREAT at Our Lady of Mattaponi

For further details on any of the above, or if you're planning a formative event at your parish to which you'd like to invite fellow chapter members, please contact MaryLu Hartsell ([mlh827@comcast.net](mailto:mlh827@comcast.net))

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 14727 WEXHALL TERRACE  
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## Celebrating the Feast of St. Cecilia

On Friday, November 17, more than fifty pastoral musicians gathered at St. Patrick Parish in downtown Washington for Vespers and a social to celebrate the feast of St. Cecilia. Bishop Martin Holley presided at Vespers. He was joined by retired Bishop Leonard Olivier, Msgr. Salvatore Criscuolo (pastor of St. Patrick), Deacon John McGinnis, servers, cantor, and parishioners of St. Patrick.

Ronald Stolk, parish organist and music director, led the music from the acclaimed Lively-Fulcher organ; a schola of six singers provided support and harmony to the already vigorous congregational singing. Ronald shared his gift of improvisation in three musical meditations and a stunning postlude. The liturgy was beautiful, prayerful, and moving.



Musicians from St. John Baptist (Silver Spring) prepared and served food at the reception which followed the liturgy. All gathered in the magnificent rectory dining room where treats from *The NPM Cook Book: With Lyre, Harp and Spatula*, as well as plenty of wine, awaited us. Rick Gibala, author of the cook book, was on hand to sign copies of the book, which he completed in 1986. Rick promised to work on a lower-calorie version of the book for today's more health-conscious pastoral musicians. In the meantime, no one complained about the rich fare.

The reading selected for the evening's liturgy was 1 Corinthians 4:1-5. The first verse sums up well the role of pastoral musicians and all liturgical ministers, and indeed all who call themselves Christians. It reads, "*Thus should one regard us: as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.*"