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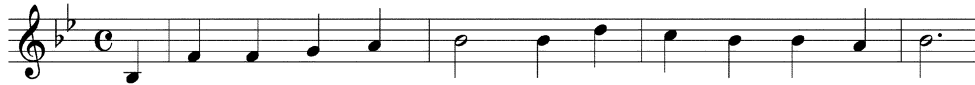
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# Arlington Washington D.C. Newsletter



VOL. 12 NO. 7 CHAPTER NEWSLETTER MARCH 2008

## AFTER-EASTER TREATS

### Friday, April 11 – 8 pm – ORGAN RECITAL

*by Dr. Charles Callahan at St. Thomas More Cathedral, Arlington Va.*



Charles Callahan is one of America's leading organist-composers. A native of Cambridge, Massachusetts, he is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music and the Catholic University of America. Well-known as an improvisateur, he made his debut in this realm at the International Eucharistic Congress in 1976.

Orchestras, choirs, chamber music ensembles and soloists all over the world have performed compositions by Dr. Callahan. He has been commissioned to compose music twice by Harvard University. In recognition of his service to the Church and his commissioned compositions for Papal visits to the United States, he was awarded in 1999 the Papal Honor of Knighthood in the Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

In addition to compositions and performances, Charles Callahan is a noted educator and author; his two books on American organ building have become standard reference works.

### Saturday, April 12 – 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon – TWO LITURGICAL MUSIC WORKSHOPS

- \* For Organists - leader - Dr. Callahan
- \* For Singers - leader - Timothy Reno, M.Mus., Vocal technique specialist Timothy Reno is Music Director, Our Lady of the Fields Parish, Millersville, MD. This workshop will address healthy singing in choral, cantor, and contemporary settings.

Location of Concert and Workshops:

**St. Thomas More Cathedral**, 3901 Cathedral Lane, Arlington, VA

Fees: Concert - free.

Either workshop - \$10 for members (individual or parish, NPM/Arlington or NPM/DC) - \$15 for non-members [Checks payable to Arlington Chapter NPM.]

Please send this form to: Bob Malinowski, 7920 Lobelia Lane, Springfield, VA 22152.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parsh \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Organ workshop \_\_\_\_\_ / Vocal Workshop \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**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 *from DC* *An Instrument of God*

One of the fabulous things about the internet is that allows us to access incredible amounts of inspired thinking. Of course, there is also plenty of uninspired and downright bad thinking posted on the internet, but with care and discipline we can use it as a great positive tool in our spiritual and musical lives.

While rushing to check and triage my email before I dash off to work (where another batch of email awaits me), I am frequently slowed down by a message that a spiritually astute friend has sent me. Recently my friend forwarded to me an article by Joyce Rupp, OSM, entitled "An Instrument of God." As I read the following passage I was immediately struck by this image as an accurate and poignant icon for the ministry of pastoral musicians:

In his collection of Bengali poems, Gitanjali, Rabindranath Tagore writes that the song he wanted to sing has never happened because he has spent his days "stringing and unstringing" his instrument. Whenever I read these lines a certain sadness enters my soul. I think of how busy my days and nights are, of how I cram my calendar and my life so full at times that my glimpses of God are like a rare and endangered species. I yearn to have the song of God sung in my soul but I, too, keep stringing and unstringing my instrument. I get so preoccupied with the details

and pressure of my schedule, with the hurry and worry of life, that I miss the song of goodness which is waiting to be sung through me.\*

Rupp goes on to say, "The song of God needs an instrument to give it shape and voice . . . We are all called to be the instruments through which the melody of God takes shape."

This image is fitting for pastoral musicians on two levels. First, we need to hone our musical talents in order that the song of God be heard, unencumbered by our lack of skill. (I must remind myself that this is not about keeping busy, but about vision, patience, and discipline.) Second, we need to keep our spiritual selves in touch and in tune with the Holy Spirit who sings God's ageless song through us in our music and in all our communication. For me, prayer is the time when I stop stringing and unstringing my instrument, and turn my life over to the one true Musician.

Wishing you a Lent of quiet prayer and fruitful practice,

*Mary Beaudoin*  
NPM/DC Chapter Director

\* Joyce Rupp is a member of the Servites (Servants of Mary) community and the author of many books. This is an excerpt from her book called *May I Have This Dance?*

## NPM NATIONAL NEWS

### NPM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Sixteen scholarships totaling \$34,000 are available from NPM this year for undergraduate and graduate study in pastoral music and related fields. The deadline for scholarship applications is March 7. Download an application at [www.npm.org/Membership/scholarship.htm](http://www.npm.org/Membership/scholarship.htm).

### NPM REGIONAL CONVENTIONS

#### **Register through Chapter and Get a Discount!!**

Have you decided which of the three fine regional conventions you will attend this summer? Did you know you can receive a special discount by registering

through your local chapter?

Any chapter that sends ten or more NPM members as full conference participants to one of the NPM 2008 Regional Conventions – Cleveland, OH, East Brunswick, NJ, and Los Angeles, CA – will save those members 10-25% on their registration fee. The discount increases with the number of chapter members who register together as a group. For this discount NPM/DC and NPM Arlington count as one chapter. (Yes, you can register for any one of the three regional conventions.)

More info.? See the April edition of this newsletter for details or send an e-mail to [beaudoinm@stpetersolney.org](mailto:beaudoinm@stpetersolney.org).

## NPM MEETINGS ... A RECAP !

### *A Beautiful Day on Breton Bay*

The twenty-five musicians who gathered for the Annual Southern Maryland Neighborhood Meeting on January 26, were treated to a lovely sunny day, a delicious lunch provided by our host, Ann Duchesne, and three hours of animated chatter and sharing. Local participants were happy to welcome six musicians who came all the way from Fredericksburg, VA.

This year's focus was Singing Psalms in Our Parishes. After reviewing the history of psalm singing, the nature of various psalms, and the importance of psalms to our praying assemblies, the group looked at the 46 psalms assigned to the major seasons. The questions become: How many of them are familiar to our assemblies? Are we developing a repertoire of psalm refrains which our parishioners can sing by heart? The Lectionary calls nine psalms "common." Of these, how many could our parishioners call to mind when presented with the refrain texts?

It was time to sing! As the group sang through the list of seasonal and common psalms, it quickly became easy to tell which worship aids were being used in which parishes, as the singing fell into sections. And it was interesting to note which settings were known to all – e.g. **Psalm 23: My Shepherd is the Lord** by Joseph Gelineau, **Psalm 27: The Lord is my Light and my Salvation** by David Haas, and **Psalm 118: This is the Day** by Marty Haugen to name a few.

The final part of the afternoon was spent singing from a list of songs based on psalms, songs that are not intended to be used during the Liturgy of the Word, but are important sources for encouraging people to pray the psalms.

Final task: Think about a topic for next year's meeting.

### *The Lenten Retreat*

Early on a crisp Saturday morning in the "porch" of Lent, 40 NPMers met at The Our Lady of Mattaponi Retreat Center. Sr. Sheila Browne, RSM, (also past Retreat facilitator) enlightened and enlivened us for the Lenten journey of conversion and transformation ahead.

She helped us to explore anew the meaning of two of the Gospels used for two of the Scrutiny Sundays – The Woman at the Well and The Raising of Lazarus. We were grateful to be able to take a little time away from our busy rehearsals and preparations for Lent, Triduum, Easter and the Great 50 Days. We searched inside ourselves: to ask those important questions about beliefs and practices of our personal faith, and to assess our place on the journey; as well as, how we might become more aware of the transforming power of God.

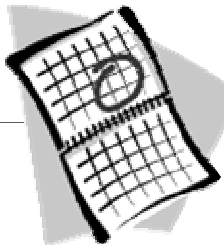
To this end, we also examined two Scriptural pericopes referring to the Eucharist; the Didache [150AD], a prayer used in early Christian worship; and today's Eucharistic Prayer II – tracing the roots of the ritual actions of the Eucharist: "take, bless, break, and give/eat".

This prayerful experience renewed my appreciation of the richness contained in "The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy" from Vatican II, and the value of the church's history in our Rituals today.

Thank you to the event planner: Mary Lu Hartsell. The beauty of this brief experience affected everyone present on a different level, which is why the opportunity for these Lenten retreats is so valuable.

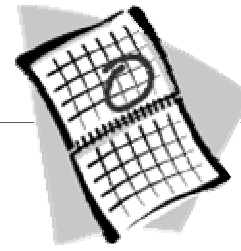
Joan M. Laskey  
Director of Liturgy and Music  
Holy Redeemer  
College Park, MD





## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

*for these upcoming events ...*



**Sunday, March 2, 7:30 p.m. – GREGORIAN VESPERS**  
St. Matthew's Cathedral in Washington DC. Please join the Schola Cantorum of St. Matthew's for Laetare Sunday. The liturgy will be sung entirely in Latin, in the simple beauty of Gregorian chant and the sumptuous harmonies of Spanish Renaissance composer Tomas Luis de Victoria. Complete texts and translations will be provided. A voluntary collection will be taken.

**Saturday, March 8, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.**  
**WHAT EVERY MUSICIAN NEEDS TO KNOW ...**  
**ABOUT THE BODY**

Andover Educator John McCrary will present this workshop at Blessed Sacrament Church, 1427 West Braddock Rd. in Alexandria, VA. The cost for the six-hour class is \$75 plus purchase of the textbook if you do not already own it. To register or for more information, call John McCrary at 703 998-6100, ext. 13. For more about the course content and its value for musicians, visit [www.bodymap.org](http://www.bodymap.org).

**Wednesday, March 19, 7:30 p.m. -**  
**TENEBRAE LITURGY** - Join the Schola Cantorum of St. Matthew's Cathedral for the ancient liturgy of Tenebrae, featuring a blend of psalms, chanted Lamentations, Renaissance polyphony, readings from Scripture and the Church Fathers, and congregational hymns...as each candle is extinguished one by one. The liturgy is a wonderful way to meditate upon the upcoming celebrations of the Passion and Resurrection of Christ. Voluntary donation. Location: 1725 Rhode Island Ave. NW, Washington, DC 202-347-3215.

Metro: Dupont Circle, Farragut North, or Farragut West. Parking for a small fee in a garage across the street.

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## THE MINISTRY OF CANTOR

A weekend workshop for cantors aimed at helping them grow in understanding the responsorial psalm, in vocal and gestural skills, and in cantor spirituality.

Friday, April 4, 7-9:30 p.m. & Saturday, April 5, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Mary of the Mills Church, 114 St. Mary's Place, Laurel, MD 29797.

Presentor - Kathleen Harmon, S.N.D. de N., M.M., Ph.D

\$ 25 per person - includes lunch on Saturday and a copy of *Living Liturgy: Spirituality, Celebration and Catechesis for Sundays and Solemnities*.

Sr. Kathleen Harmon, S.N.D. de N., M.M., Ph.D., is music director for programs of the Institute for Liturgical Ministry, author of the "Music Notes" column in *Liturgical Ministry*, and a co-author of the annual publication *Living Liturgy: Spirituality, Celebration, and Catechesis for Sundays and Solemnities*. She holds an M.M. in Church Music from Westminster Choir College and a Ph.D. in Liturgical Studies from Drew University.

Please mail name, address, parish & checks (made payable to St. Mary of the Mills Church) to the above address – attention: Gina Marie Iampieri. For additional information, please contact: Gina Marie at 301-725-3080, ext. 212.

Arlington Washington D.C.  
Newsletter **NPM**

NPM/DC

14727 WEXHALL TERRACE

BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866

<http://www.npmdc.org>

## LOOKING AHEAD ...

### Concerts at St. Jane Frances de Chantal Church,

9601 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda MD 20814.

A free-will offering is taken up during the concert and a reception follows.

- \* **Sunday, April 6, 2 p.m.** — ORGAN CONCERT by Julie Evans, an active recitalist and featured soloist with The Washington Bach Consort, Bach Sinfonia, and Masterworks Chorus.
  - \* **Sunday, April 20, 2 p.m.** — A FORTIES CONCERT by the delectable voices of “Seraphim.” Join us as we remember our men and women serving in the armed forces overseas.
  - \* **Sunday May 18, 2 p.m.** — THE PSALTER: *Our Common Prayer Book*
  - \* **Sunday, June 1, 2 p.m.** — JULLIARD REUNION CONCERT; *Artists of Today and Tomorrow*. Further details next month.
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- \* **Friday, May 16, 7:30 p.m.** — RISE UP AND SING - presented by St. Francis de Sales Music Ministry (Purcellville, VA). The evening will feature the Schubert "Mass in G" in a concert of music performed a combined choir of singers from local parishes. The concert will be directed by noted composer Christopher Walker. Admission is free! Goodwill offering at the door. Please call Cindy Cummins (540-338-6381) for more info.