

# NPM NEWSLETTER



### Looking Ahead to the Convention

If you plan to attend the NPM Convention July 6-10 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, please check the information regarding the chapter discount. The deadline for the regular early bird discount has passed, but not ours.

\$293 is even a few dollars short of the regular early bird fee; but the cost goes down as more of you sign on with us. We ask for \$293, but send a refund, if more members come on board. Go to [npm.org](http://npm.org) for a registration form and to page 3 for directions to sign up with the chapters.

**DEADLINE IS MAY 15! ACT NOW!**

### Convention Dinner

Don't forget our invitation to dinner on Wednesday, July 8. It's tempting to put off making a reservation until the last minute, but we need a count for the restaurant. Please note:

- the cost is lower than recent years
- the meal includes soup or salad, choice of five entrées, a dessert, coffee, tea, or soda
- a cash bar available. (keeps the cost down for all.)

The restaurant was recommended to us by locals; the food should be good; the company, superb; and the chance to mingle with others folks from our area, priceless! Hope you can join us.

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## DIRECTOR'S CORNER



On a recent broadcast of the PSB show, Studio 360, the topic was “Redesign Challenge: Bringing Joy to the Everyday.” Design director, Ingrid Fetell, was interviewed, and she noted that certain things seem to universally make people feel a sense of joy — like confetti, balloons, and bubbles. Why, she asked, do certain things make even babies smile? She spoke of Edi Rama, now prime minister of Albania, who was named the World Mayor in 2004 after painting much of Tirana in bright colors. The results were remarkable. People actually started paying their taxes after the painting. They stopped littering as much, and the shopkeepers started taking the metal grates off their windows and opening glass window fronts back out to the street.

Fetell also asked us to consider the difference between being on an airplane and at a music festival. Both are environments where people are often crammed in with strangers. But sitting in coach is horrible, whereas you might look forward to a summer music festival all year. You have people dancing with each other, you have people offering things from their picnic blankets to one another and the vibe is completely different, even though people are crammed in just as much.

While the program was about bringing joy into everyday life (there’s even an app for it), I got to thinking about our liturgical celebrations. Pope Francis focuses on joy, referring to the Gospel of Joy. How do we musicians contribute to a sense of joy in our liturgies? Not the raucous scene one might find at an outdoor concert, but one filled with the sense of joy that comes with our proclamation of the Resurrection.

At our Lenten retreat in February, Sr. Honora Warner asked us to consider what type of person Jesus must have been to have attracted all those followers. He certainly could not have been a gloomy, grumpy man. Life may not be all balloons and bubbles, but we should find joy in our faith and reflect it in our music ministry. After all, we are an Easter people, and “Alleluia” is our song.

Happy Eastertide!

*Charlene Dorrian*

*NPM Washington, DC Chapter Director*

Be sure to visit the Washington, D.C. and Arlington Chapter Websites for the latest information on Chapter happenings, registration forms, and events:

[www.npmdc.org](http://www.npmdc.org)

[www.npmarlington.org](http://www.npmarlington.org)

**38th Annual Convention**  
**National Association of Pastoral Musicians**  
**“Called to Hope and Joy: Let the Servant Church Arise”**  
**July 6-10, 2015 – Grand Rapids, Michigan**  
**De Vos Place Convention Center**

All of the details on how you can be part of this wonderful week are below!

DEADLINE IS MAY 15! ACT NOW!

<http://www.npm.org/EducationEvents/convention/ConventionBrochure.pdf>

***Is an NPM Convention for you?***

YES If you are a pastoral musician: director of music ministries - psalmist - cantor - bishop - priest - deacon - seminarian - choir director - ensemble leader - organist - keyboardist - guitarist - player of another instrument - youth pastoral musician - music educator - or anyone seeking time away in a retreat environment filled with prayer, filled with music, filled with the support of other ministers.

***Is there a local Chapter member discount?***

YES – Before you send in that registration form, we hope you will consider registering through the local chapters (Arlington & DC are considered as one). The Chapter Discount is the best available, even better than the \$295 early bird fee:

\$293 - for 10-19 members

\$276 - for 20-29 members

\$259 - for 30+ members

***Please note:***

1. Again this year there is a \$20 discount if you choose an Electronic Program Book
2. Registrant must be a parish/individual member of **both** National AND the local chapter (Arlington/DC).
3. Only one discount per registrant (e.g. cannot be combined with Clergy/Musician Duo)
4. Chapter discount is not available on Youth, Daily, Companion, or Child registrations

***Here's what you do:***

1. Complete a registration form (available at [www.npm.org](http://www.npm.org))
2. Make a check payable to NPM/Arlington (\$293\* - plus any extras you've chosen)
3. Mail both to Anne Shingler, 3146 Woodland Lane, Alexandria, VA 22309 to be received by May 15.

\*If 20 or more sign up with us, you will receive a refund in the mail.

Questions, including how to join your local chapter? Please email

[npmarlington@gmail.org](mailto:npmarlington@gmail.org)

**Convention Chapter Dinner**  
*Washington, DC and Arlington Chapters*  
**Wednesday, July 8, 5:45pm**  
**Bobarino's Restaurant, Grand Rapids, MI**

Place: Bobarino's at The BOB, 20 Monroe Ave. NW

Date: Wednesday, July 8, 5:45 p.m. (before the special Symphony Concert at 8 p.m.)

Cost: \$32 (includes tax & tip)

Menu: Salad or soup; Choice of Entrée (Pot Roast - Classic Mac & Cheese - Chicken Marsala  
Falafel "Meatballs" & Linguine - Grilled Wild Alaskan Sockeye Salmon)  
Dessert (Strawberry Shortcake - Chocolate Brownie), Coffee, Tea or Soda

Details of each of these dishes can be found on the restaurant's website - [www.thebob.com](http://www.thebob.com). Click on "food," then "Bobarino's. Because they pride themselves on fresh food, some ingredients may vary as local produce comes in. They will accommodate special needs on site.

Pre-registration is necessary and should be mailed by June 22.

While it's wonderful to meet folks from near and far at the Convention, there's nothing like getting to know musicians from our own region.

Please mail this form with a \$32 check payable to NPM/DC to:  
Charlene Dorrian, 15300 Graaf Place, Silver Spring, MD 20905

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**Reservation for the Chapters Dinner**  
**Bobarino's at the BOB, Grand Rapids, MI - July 8, 2015**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Parish \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is my check for \$32

## Recent Events in Our Chapters

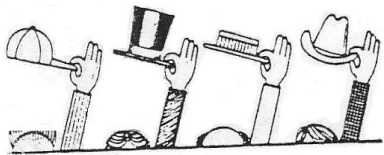
January 24 - The weather cooperated and Southern Maryland Musicians gathered for their eleventh annual gathering at Ann Duchesne's house on Breton Bay. Discussion included the possibility of sharing coverage for special liturgies (e.g. funerals), and efforts being made to attract young folks to music ministry.

February 17 - Mother Nature was not so kind for the Arlington Chapter's annual Shrove Tuesday Luncheon. Since few could plow through the snow that day, a "make-up" date may be scheduled in the Easter Season.

February 21 - Snow again! Sr. Honora Warner was able to come to town before the storm hit, and the retreat went on as scheduled. Her reflections on joy, especially as presented in Pope Francis' *The Joy of the Gospel*, were inspiring. As the morning progressed, and the heavy snow began to fall, participants were treated to a wonderland vista outside the windows of the Theological College. The experience made the long trek home a bit more bearable.

March 14 - Lots of rain – but no bad roads – and 50 singers were able to come to the Choral Workshop at Our Lady of Mercy Church. Michael Kemp was wonderful and a very inspired choice for clinician. He is so in tune with and sympathetic toward the amateur choral singer; able to communicate on their level but never patronizing. Everyone who participated was so happy to have been a part of this experience. We all will have to look for Michael's upcoming book. The day ran so smoothly, morning prayer was wonderful, lunch was perfect, and the Mass was beautiful. We had an excellent presider in Fr. Michael Witzak. See pictures below of this great experience!





### HATS OFF!

The following choirs have provided music for the TV Mass for Shut-ins, celebrated in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, and broadcast on WDCW TV each Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

- \* The Institute for Psychological Studies Schola, Arlington, VA
- \* Sacred Heart Parish Worship & Praise Choir, La Plata, MDSt. Catherine Labouré Parish

## Want to become a member of NPM National?

There is a membership drive happening right now for the National Membership in NPM. Please join if you are not already a member. See this link for more information:

<https://www.npm.org/member2.html>

National Association of Pastoral Musicians  
Members of the Board - Arlington, VA and Washington, DC

#### Arlington Virginia Chapter

- David Mathers**, Director  
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- Fr. Donald Rooney**, Chaplain  
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- EJ Cochran**, Membership  
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#### Washington DC Chapter

- Charlene Dorrian**, Director  
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- Jim Wickman**, Newsletter Editor  
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202-687-0078

#### **Asst. Directors/Recruitment:**

- **Susan DeCamp**, Mont. Co.  
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301-622-1122
- **Joan Laskey**, Pr. Geo. Co.  
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- **Ronald Stolk**, DC  
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- **Mary Stevens**, So. Md.  
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