



# Newsletter

The monthly joint publication of the NPM Arlington and DC chapters  
*Fostering the art of musical liturgy*

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**St. Cecilia, pray for us!**



### Article submissions:

Do you have an event or virtual choir performance coming up in your parish? Do you have an idea to share with other Chapter Members? Please submit all articles and inquiries by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to: Katie Evans at [music@ccjgs.org](mailto:music@ccjgs.org). All submissions subject to review. Thank you.

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER:



At the end of February, I was privileged to take part in a Zoom meeting with our Executive Director, Jennifer Kluge, and other Chapter Directors from around the country. The chapter directors were given the opportunity to ask questions about plans for the future relationship between the national organization and the local chapters. There are many exciting resources for local chapters coming very soon, but for now I want to share with you about the new membership structure.

Many of you have already joined or renewed your NPM membership since the roll out of the updates.\* Thank you! For those who are hesitant, hopefully I will be able to answer your questions and encourage you to take the final step to join NPM. The updated structure replaced approximately 15 various combinations of membership making it very difficult for the national office to manage. The new system is simple and streamlined into three options: Basic, Standard and Premium. [Click this link](#) to view what benefits are offered for each membership type.

The biggest and most positive change is that by becoming a national member you are now automatically made a member of your local chapter. (Be sure to choose your local chapter when joining!) For those who have never been members at the national level, this is a wonderful opportunity to become even more connected to NPM and to take advantage of what it can offer members at all levels.

With this membership you will still enjoy all the benefits at the local level which you have come to enjoy over the years, including discounted fees for events. (Again, be sure to choose your local chapter when joining!) When you choose your local chapter DC or Arlington will receive a portion of your membership fee. In addition to local benefits, you will now have access to programming at the national level. [Here is a link](#) to the webpage which highlights all upcoming programs and events from the national office.

Why is it essential that all NPM members join at the national and local level? First and foremost, we are a *national* organization as our very name signifies. As Catholics, we naturally recognize the mutual strengthening of the local Church toward the universal and vice versa. Likewise, the NPM national organization cannot survive without the local chapters and the local chapters would not exist without the national organization. By combining the memberships into one, we are saying as a group that we need each other to ensure a healthy organization which can meet the needs of pastoral musicians for many years to come.

\*Never been a member at the national level? Click [here](#). Are you a current member of NPM and need to renew? Click [here](#).

- Amy Massey, DC Chapter Director

## HOW ARE YOU OPENING YOUR PARISH?: A CANDID CONVERSATION WITH DIRECTORS

**As Music Directors, we wish to share what is best practices for parishes and what is happening with the music in parishes.**

**Join the conversation and add to the answers for June!**

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**I. What are you doing in your parish to get people back in the church?**

**Are you using hymnals or worship aids?**

**Are you encouraging gentle singing?**

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**2. How are you getting your parishioners from the sofa to the pews? How are you transitioning those that have been virtual for over a year?**

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**3. How can we improve the virtual sound of our music? There seems to be focus on clarity of video and spoken word, but the online musical sound is very poor by comparison. Is this the same for your parish?**

Please submit your comments or thoughts to [music@ccjgs.org](mailto:music@ccjgs.org) by May 15<sup>th</sup> for the June Newsletter.

The Faces of  
Music Ministry 



# VIRTUAL CHOIR FOR EASTER!

We asked for videos from your Holy Week and Easter Octave from the DC and Arlington Chapters. Enjoy, and if you would like to submit a video for the May Newsletter, please submit by May 15<sup>th</sup> to [music@ccjgs.org](mailto:music@ccjgs.org). Please include your church name, your name, and title of piece, and hyperlink.

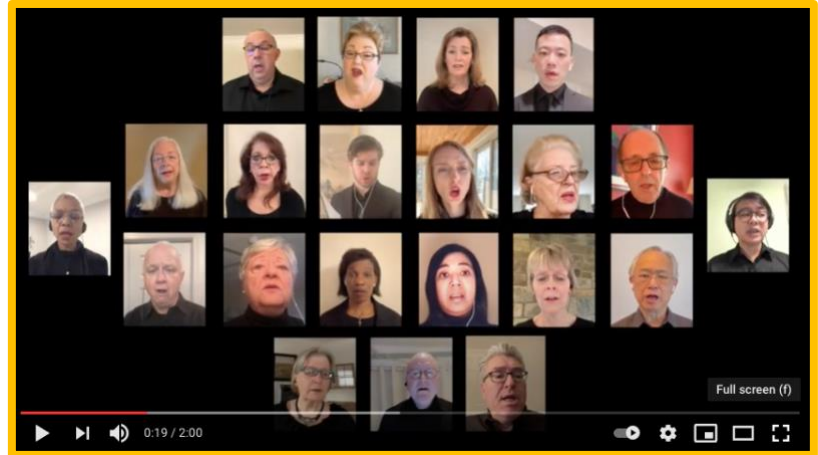
The Mocking of Christ:

<https://youtu.be/eoxx7YTi518>

Hallelujah Chorus:

<https://youtu.be/r1VVSM9OJZ4>

Our Lady of Mercy, Jayne T. Rose



Behold the Lamb of God:  
<https://youtu.be/tZILQzwbBU>  
St. Patrick's Church,  
Patti Sullins, Music Director

Give Me Ears to Listen:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bzzmy6YIMwM>

St. Rose of Lima

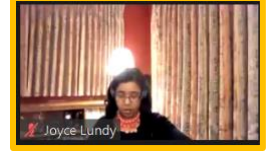
Remi Bauer, Music Director



# MASTER TECHNIQUE FOR THE CHURCH SINGER



44 singers from 14 parishes gathered via Zoom on Wednesday, April 14, for Master Technique for Church Singers, a workshop given by Joyce Lundy and James Myers. Joyce and James are both wonderful singers themselves, as well as seasoned



teachers of voice.

Joyce began by reminding participants that “your entire body is your voice.” Then she led a warmup, including how to stretch the body and the neck muscles and how to open up the abdomen. She instructed all to “feel the buzzing in the mask,” a concept we are all much more familiar with after 14 months of COVID-19. Joyce also spoke about body alignment. If you are sitting to sing, be sure your earlobes are over your shoulders and shoulders are over your hips. If you are standing, keep your head over your heart and heart over your pelvis.

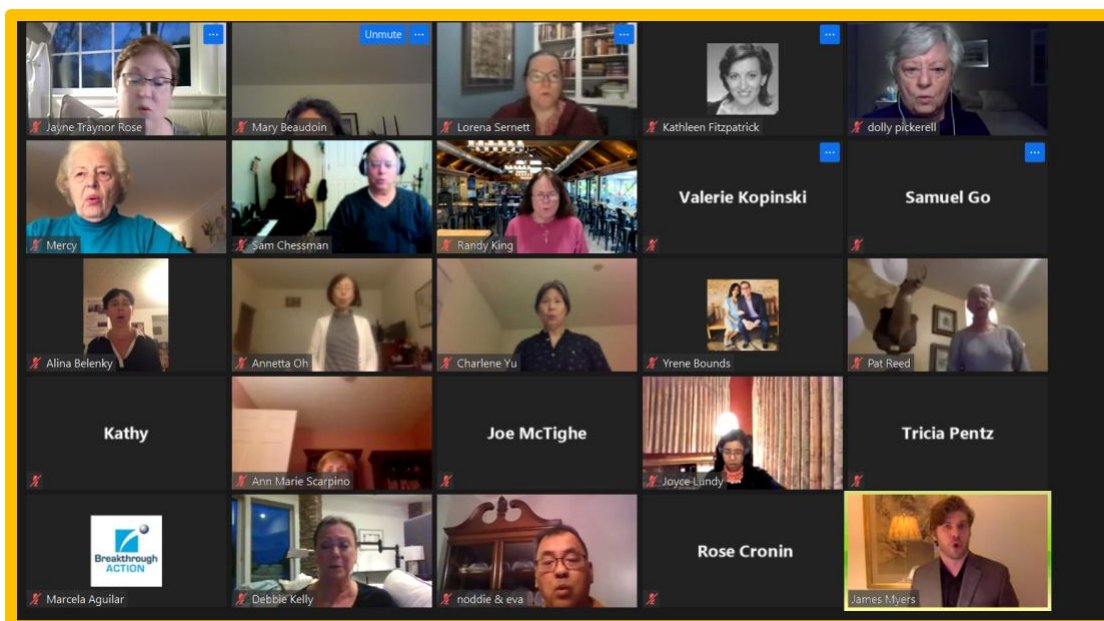
James led participants through a vocal warm up. He provided a masterful explanation of *appoggio* in breath support. He also discussed laryngeal position and how a calm breath allows the larynx to relax. James spoke about vibrato and how to engage vibrato, as well as the importance of having a straight tone for choral singing.

A portion of the workshop was done in separate breakout rooms - women with Joyce, and men with James.

The question on all our minds now is how and when we will be able to return to in-person pastoral music. After many months of beginning liturgies with an announcement of “Please do not sing,” we look forward to inviting all to make a beautiful noise together.

Much of the workshop is available for viewing at: [Master Technique for the Church Singer](#)

- Mary J. Beaudoin, DC Chapter Program Coordinator





44TH NPM ANNUAL CONVENTION + NEW ORLEANS + JULY 27-30, 2021

**CHRIST**  
BROKEN ✦ SHARED ✦ SENT

## 44<sup>th</sup> NPM Annual Convention, New Orleans

July 27-30, 2021

**80% of those currently registered plans to attend in person!**

The Annual Convention is planned to be a hybrid experience. Whether you join in person in New Orleans, or virtually, the NPM Convention has something for all members!

[Registration Link is here.](#)

[Online brochure click here.](#)



During Women's History Month, NPM recently took a moment to reflect and celebrate the many women that uplift in ministry, and those who will lead us at the 2021 National Convention!

[https://youtu.be/c\\_n17DEk69M](https://youtu.be/c_n17DEk69M)

## DC/Arlington Chapter Dinner July 28, 2021!



Each year our joint chapter members come together for a meal during the convention. This year we will gather on Wednesday, July 28th at 5:30 at Palace Cafe, a fabulous restaurant within a block of our hotel.

Please contact Remi Bauer ([npmembership@gmail.com](mailto:npmembership@gmail.com)) if you would like to attend. All are welcome!





Media Ministry! Check out a new 3-part series on technology and outreach!

[#151: Media Ministry with AJ Holmes](#)

To Subscribe, [click here.](#)

### Lunchtime Concert Series:



Every week, NPM holds Thursday Thoughts at 3! Here are the latest and greatest in case you missed it! The videos are also archived and can be viewed [here.](#)

[Alleluia! Love is Alive with Sarah Hart!](#)

[We Are and Easter People with Nick & Nikki Garza](#)



## MEMBERSHIP



### Which membership is best for you?



**BASIC** The BASIC membership is \$39. This is also a good option for those who feel philanthropic about our organization and want to continue supporting us.

**STANDARD** The STANDARD membership is \$119. For those planning liturgies, professional growth opportunities, receive *Pastoral Music* magazine, and are likely to want a discount on attending conferences.

**PREMIUM** The PREMIUM membership is \$169. For Directors of Music Ministries Division (DMMD). They receive all the above-mentioned benefits, as well as access to more premium content and the colloquium, among other professional events.

*It is vital that you choose your local chapter in order for us to be notified of your registration and receive a portion of your dues to support local events.*

We encourage you to take the leap and register for your national membership at [www.npm.org/membership](http://www.npm.org/membership).



### **Our Lady of Fatima**

Dates: 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Feast Day: May 13<sup>th</sup>

Mary appeared to three peasant children near Fatima, Portugal, six times between May 13 and October 13, 1917, and asked for prayers for world peace and an end to World War I, for sinners, and for the conversion of Russia. She entrusted the children with three secrets, regarding devotion to her Immaculate Heart, a vision of hell, and a “bishop in white” shot by soldiers firing bullets and arrows. Many connect the third secret to the attempted assassination of Blessed Pope John Paul II on May 13, 1981, and the pope thanked Mary for guiding the bullet and saving him. At the Vatican last October 13, Pope Francis stood before the statue of Our Lady from the Fatima shrine and formally entrusted the world to Mary.

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