



# 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!**

Lenten Evening Prayer in COVID - times  
Out of the Depths We Cry to You, Lord

*From Lament  
through Faith  
to Hope*

Msgr. Ray East, preaching

**LIVE**

CATHEDRAL OF ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE  
1725 RHODE ISLAND AVE NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

MARCH 2, 2021 @ 7:00PM  
LIVE AND LIVE-STREAMED

NPM  
DC Chapter

The service will be led by cantors, readers, a vocal quartet, strings, guitar, piano and organ accompaniment with Msgr. Ray East presiding and preaching.

Tuesday March 2 @ 7:00pm Live and Livestreamed:

<https://youtu.be/7ZB7NcL63y0>

Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle  
1725 Rhode Island Ave NW Washington, DC 20036  
(seating limited)

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER



The Third Sunday of Lent 2020 was the first Sunday of the pandemic shutdown in the Archdiocese of Washington. When life came to a screeching halt almost exactly one year ago, there was no way to imagine what we would all face in the coming months. Yet here we are one year later. We have grieved the loss of so much throughout the past year that it feels as if we have been in a perpetual season of penitence.

Our collective and individual suffering has changed us forever. As my pastor reminded our congregation on

Ash Wednesday, we didn't need to come to church to be marked with a sign of our mortality as we have all been wearing one on our faces daily in the form of a mask. So, as we enter our second official Lenten season during the pandemic, let us do so with much more hope than last year. This Lent feels more like its original Old German meaning of "spring season", with the possibility of a new beginning, a thaw from the long hard season of the pandemic and the promise of beautiful new flowering in the world. This Lent, rather than a season of giving up or going without, is a gateway to the true joy and hope in the promise of Easter. Hope truly springs eternal because of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord.

Because of the road we have all traveled over the past year, the DC chapter wanted to offer something other than our usual Lenten retreat. A moment that would allow us to reflect on this year and look forward in faith. Join us on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at seven o' clock in the evening at St. Matthew's Cathedral as we pray [From Lament Through Faith to Hope](#). Beyond this moment of reflection, you all will be in my prayers as we journey toward a season of re-birth, singing together again, planning rehearsals, learning new music, welcoming more parishioners in the pews, and managing life as we find our footing in a post-pandemic existence.

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May the hope of our shared faith continue to bring peace and comfort until we find ourselves loudly singing *Alleluia!* together once again.

- Amy Massey, DC Chapter Director

## Out of the Depths We Cry to You, O Lord From Lament through Faith to Hope

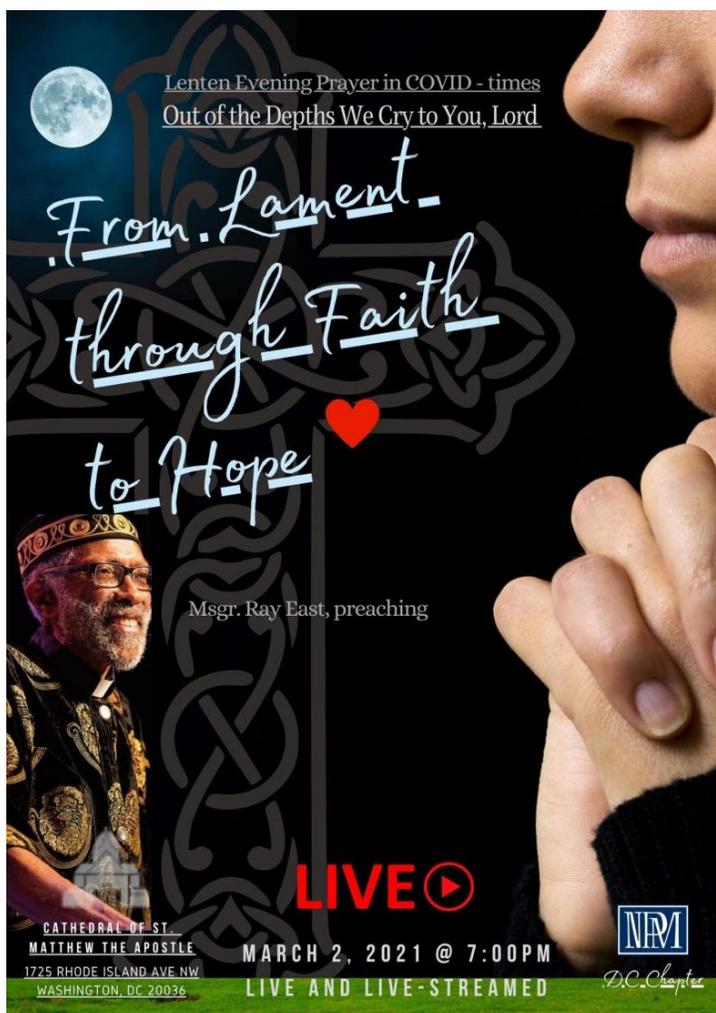
**Special Lenten Prayer Service**  
Tuesday March 2, 2021. 7:00pm  
(In-person and live-streamed)

**Special guest:**

Monsignor Ray East, presiding and preaching

We have entered a Lenten season like no other in recent times. With so much sorrow, uncertainty, fear and injustice in our world today, our faith compels us to call out in the words of the psalmist: "Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord." And yet we also know in the depths of our being that "With the Lord there is mercy and fulness of redemption."

Join us as we proclaim and sing prayers of lament, but also ones of faith and hope. This Taizé influenced service, with themes from Pope Francis' writings, is jointly sponsored by National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPMDC) and the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle. The service will be led by cantors, readers, a vocal quartet, strings, guitar, piano and organ accompaniment with Msgr. Ray East presiding and preaching.



Donations for the Social Justice ministries of the Cathedral will be welcomed.

Masks and social distancing will be observed for in-person participation.  
For more information contact Tom Stehle at [tstehle@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:tstehle@stmatthewscathedral.org)

Tuesday March 2 @ 7:00pm Live and Livestreamed:

<https://youtu.be/7ZB7NcL63y0>

Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle  
1725 Rhode Island Ave NW Washington, DC 20036  
(seating limited)

**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.

# MUSIC MINISTRY IN THE SILENCE:

*A reflection on the virtual workshop given by LTP in February 2021*

During Lent, we as music ministers are called to pull back and consider how silence can be a reflective part of the liturgy. How is this done during COVID-19 when singing already is limited? Michael Ruzicki and Wendy Silhavy recently addressed this question and other elements to a virtual platform of eager music ministers called, “Ministering to the Silenced Assembly.” Ruzicki and Silhavy shared pastoral advice, Holy Week preparations and Lenten ideas in this time of COVID-19.

We in the music ministry have been under a Lenten veil for some time. With congregational singing “prohibited,” capacity of our worship spaces capped by social distancing, and woodwind/brass instruments strongly discouraged, we have lived the “Days of Lenten Journey” in a way Ricky Manalo never envisioned. Most of us have been struggling with balancing a virtual reality in our choirs, yet a full conscious (maybe active?) participation in our live liturgies.

Michael Ruzicki stated in his opening of this presentation, “in the face of adversity our truest identity shines forth.” For good or for bad, the COVID pandemic made us look at what was working in the church and what needed work. The old plans we have put away may never be dusted off again if we wish to move forward in evangelization and ministry. It is important to evaluate and assess what we are doing NOW, what could be added, and what will remain ever ancient, ever new. Pope Francis has even remarked on this time for musicians as a time for listening so that something new can be reborn:

*“Is the Silence we’re living in an emptiness, or are we just in a phase of listening? Will the silence let a new song emerge afterward?”*

- *Pope Francis, on the celebration of World Day of Consecrated Life, Feb.4 2021*

As the presentation turned to Lent and Holy Week, Silhavy offered some ideas for incorporating the music ministry beyond the Mass. For instance, have an “off-duty” choir member write a blog about why the music is selected and how it fits with the readings. Or, maybe there is a music minister with an enormous amount of music appreciation or history, and they can lead a virtual presentation on music for your parish. Better yet, have what Wendy called a “Canto Divino” where the music ministry can break open the word with a drink over Zoom! While these ideas do not necessarily assist the Mass, they do support the liturgical community that is the parish.

As Wendy took us on a walk through Holy Week, she shared some elements to consider when planning during 2021. One element to consider is how to use the sound of the liturgy “aurally.” Find creative ways to place a few choir members in different parts of the church if the space allows, so that you hear songs antiphonally. Or, use bells and handbells more for the Gloria on Holy Thursday and make it a point to ask your parishioners to bring anything to ring this year - shake your keys! - to participate in the aural sounds of Holy Week. If your parish is daring, perhaps use body percussion as an aspect of participation within the music (claps, snaps, stomps, etc). She also reminded us to consider using chant, which brings the text more forward in the music and “draws us in.” Wendy advised us that Good Friday can have “noble simplicity” and that a pregnant silence can mean even more this year.

Also consider those coming on Easter for the first time when programming the hymns. The familiar music of “Jesus Christ is Risen Today” could be a lovely instrumental piece so that the assembly does not resent their non-participation in the singing of this age-old hymn.

In all aspects, we must use our digital communications to prepare our parish for the music, readings and rites of Holy Week. They will better know what they can and cannot do during the liturgy and will be drawn into the Paschal Mystery. As it is ever ancient and ever new for 2021.

- Katie Evans, NPM DC/Arlington Newsletter Editor

## WELCOME NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR!

Join NPM on Thursday, March 4 at 3 pm ET/12 pm PT for a live Q&A with Executive Director, Jennifer Kluge! Jennifer will sit down on the [National NPM YouTube channel](#) live and answer the questions you have about NPM. Mark your calendars and join us then!

(Show Notes from the Ministry Monday Podcast recorded on February 8, 2021)

Jennifer Kluge, NPM’s Executive Director, lives in Silver Spring, MD. She brings over 20 years of management experience in higher education and nonprofit organizations.

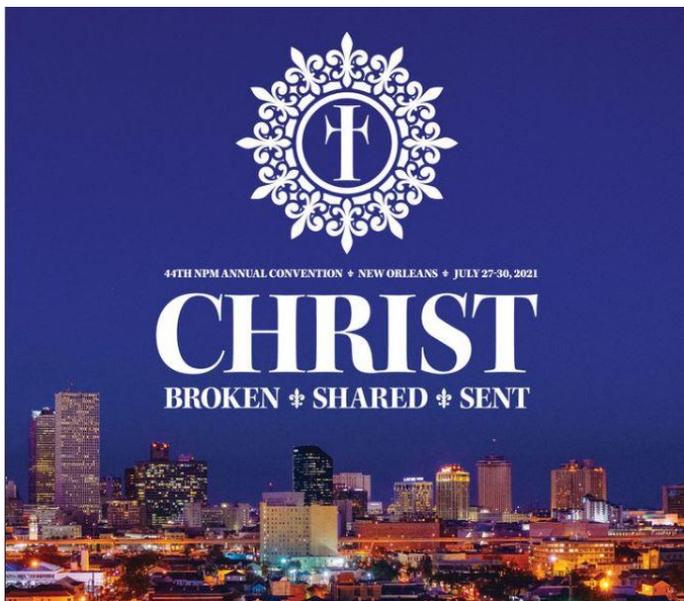
Most recently, Jennifer served as the Chief of Staff, Office of the Dean of Research at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, where she managed the administrative functions of the office, worked with the Dean to develop strategies for increasing investigator resources at Georgetown University Medical Center, and coordinated communications, development activities, strategic planning, and relationships with internal and external constituents.

Jennifer has her BA in International Affairs from the George Washington University in Washington DC, an MS in Management from Emmanuel College in Boston, MA. She is completing her dissertation for a Doctorate in Liberal Studies at Georgetown which focuses on the impact of the Restored Order of Initiation.

In her ‘free time’ Jennifer enjoys spending time with her family, gardening and singing in the choir at St. Bartholomew’s parish in Bethesda, MD.

Jennifer officially began her position at NPM on January 11, 2021 and she can be reached at [director@npm.org](mailto:director@npm.org).





## 44<sup>th</sup> NPM Annual Convention

New Orleans

July 27-30, 2021

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.](#)



[Ministry Monday #141](#): Meet NPM Executive Director, Jenifer Kluge. Hear about the new executive director, her background, and get to know more about her personally.

Ministry Monday is the podcast for today's parish minister. Weekly episodes provide opportunities for anyone engaged in pastoral ministry to learn, engage, grow, and be renewed.

To Subscribe, [click here.](#)

### Thursday Thoughts at 3:00pm:



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.](#)

- [Be Who You Are: Artwork and Reflection by Brother Mickey McGrath](#)
- [Black Faith Matters with Dr. Ansel Augustine](#)
- [Live Q & A with Executive Director of NPM: Jennifer Kluge](#)



## MEMBERSHIP

## New Membership Structure for Local and National NPM Members



## Which membership is best for you?

## BASIC

Are you a cantor or choir member who likes to keep up to date with what is going on, receive newsletters and reflections, and perhaps attend local offerings? Maybe you are just interested in the basics of music ministry without necessarily being part of the ministry at your church. The \$39 BASIC membership should be perfect for you. 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 for those who are more invested in planning liturgies, more interested in professional growth opportunities, enjoy receiving *Pastoral Music* magazine, and are likely to want a discount on attending conferences. The STANDARD membership is \$119.

## PREMIUM

The premium membership is geared toward those who hold professional music and liturgy positions, and encompasses benefits covered by the former 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. Cost for the PREMIUM membership is \$169

We realize there will be a transition time as the new system replaces the old. You might ask how we will handle the cross-over. Some local members are still up to date on their dues. Have no fear. Your local chapters will continue to honor those memberships until they expire, at which time we encourage you to log on to [NPM.org](http://NPM.org) to register. ***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 will send out more information and reminders, but encourage you to take the leap and register for your national membership at [www.npm.org/membership](http://www.npm.org/membership).



KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
THANK GOD FOR  
GOOD FRIENDS



## ***Reflection Prayer For Lent:***

*Lord of heaven and earth,  
clear our minds and soften our hearts,  
to use our lives as a means to complete  
your plan for the world.  
May we seek the cry of those in need each day.  
We wait in hope for your kindness and  
trust in your word being faithful to you in life.  
It is truly a time to offer thanksgiving!  
Amen.*

Rosemarie Gondek  
St. Andrew Catholic Church  
Roswell, GA  
NPM Intermediate Cantor Certificate Administrator

## **National Association of Pastoral Musicians**

### *Members of the Boards*

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