



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!

We are
 the **sheep**
 of **His flock.**
 PSALM 100



Do you have an event, article or idea to share with other Chapter Members? Please submit all articles and inquiries by the 20th of the month to: Katie Evans at music@ccjgs.org. All submissions subject to review. Thank you.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Alleluia! He is Risen! Alleluia!

With our newsletter deadline already past (oops!), I'm sitting down to write this column on Easter Monday. Although exhausted from the last several days, I am still basking in the glory of Triduum with my full choir, augmented for the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday with a brass quartet. How wonderful to make joyful music together again! I pray you also had a wonderful Easter, and, by the time you read this, some rest!

Each year as we recover from the music making of Lent and the Triduum, we have another round of liturgies to prepare and pray, what many of us call "Sacrament Season." Often during Easter, parishes celebrate the first reception of Holy Communion by those in the parish school or Religious Education program, Confirmation liturgies of eighth graders and high school students, and sometimes other Initiation liturgies for those in RCIA or RCIC who didn't receive sacraments at the Easter Vigil. (And, of course, May begins wedding season too!). The Easter season is certainly an appropriate time for these celebrations.

This got me thinking about our role as musicians in welcoming so many visitors during these celebrations. I don't need to tell you that often First Communion Masses are comprised of many who haven't been to church (much) since their second grader was baptized seven years ago, or that many from out of town whose parish celebrations differ from ours, or those whose primary language is not English. Sound familiar? How then are we to foster community and full, active participation in the liturgy? I offer a few questions to help find a solution:

1. **Is there a welcome announcement before the Entrance procession?** If so, there should be a mention of the worship aid (if there is one – if there's not, why not?).
2. **Is the music chosen familiar in the parish or diocesan community?** When I meet with couples to select music for their wedding liturgy, I include a list of hymns and songs; I call them "the top 10." These hymns are well known in Catholic and Protestant churches, which gives us a chance that the assembly has at least heard them before.
3. **Does the accompanist lead effectively from the piano/organ or other instrument? Does the cantor or choir lead it confidently?** Having well-rehearsed or familiar music will help those who may not have been to church in a while. Be sure the parish musicians are rehearsed and have talked through any questions. Are the introductions or interludes to the hymns/songs clear? It's a basic question, but something to not be overlooked.
4. **Do those receiving the sacraments know the music?** One of the Confirmation guidelines from our Bishop in Arlington is that the students should know the music sung at their Confirmation. It even suggests practicing the songs at a class or the Confirmation rehearsal! While this may not be practical, choosing music that's used regularly in parish liturgies will likely mean the candidates have sung them before.

These are just some questions I consider when planning music for Sacrament Season. I'm sure you have some too. Music is certainly a component in welcoming visitors, making people feel comfortable to pray and sing, and sharing the joy of the Gospels.

May you have a blessed Easter season and continue to make beautiful music as we encounter the Risen Christ in one another this Spring.

- Tim Lewicki, Arlington Chapter Director

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Cantor Workshop: Sunday May 1, 2:30-4:30pm

Join us on Sunday, May 1 at 2:30 pm for a cantor workshop led by Lauren McCaul and Robert DeCarlo (From Christ Cathedral, Orange, CA) at Cathedral of St. Thomas More, Arlington. Cost is \$10. Please prepare a psalm to present. Payment accepted at the door. Questions? Contact us at arlingtonva@npm.org. Facebook Invitation: <https://fb.me/e/2n16FU9ZK>

Sunday May 1, 3:30pm: Recital by Edward Alan Moore, organist

Cathedral of St. Matthew, Washington D.C.
Commemorating the 200th Anniversary Year of the Birth of
César Franck (10 December 1822 – 8 November 1890)





TESTED BY FIRE

RENEWED & TRANSFORMED

45TH NPM ANNUAL CONVENTION
LOUISVILLE, KY • JUNE 28-JULY 1, 2022
VIRTUAL • JULY 5-7, 2022

Advanced Registration ends May 6!
Lock in your registration now!

In-Person Convention Information

When? June 28-July 1, 2022

Where? The Galt House Hotel
140 N Fourth St, Louisville, KY 40202
<https://www.galthouse.com>

[NPM Convention Registration](#)

Booking Your Room at the Galt House Hotel

Scan the QR code to book your room at the Galt House, or call 502-589-5200 and mention code **0623NAPM**.



An excerpt from the Convention Brochure:

“The past few years have tested us as a Church—the pandemic, the call to racial justice, the need to end abuse—we are well poised to respond. We have been “tested by fire,” and we have been “renewed and transformed”. We invite you to embrace the theme of this year’s National Convention with us, as we know the work of the Holy Spirit is never complete, just as we are never complete in our spiritual journey. The city of Louisville and its surrounding area offer so much to us. Louisville is enriched by the people who call the area home, and you’ll get to meet many of those people who are serving on our local committee or as volunteers during the week.”

In-person institutes for the first time in three years:

- Choral Institute
- the Handbell Festival
- the Organ Crawl
- the Chant Institute
- Spanish-language Instituto

Beautiful sites and spaces:

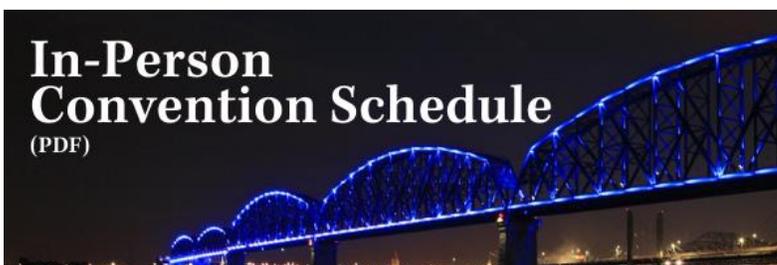
- [Kentucky Downs](#)
- [Bourbon Hall Tours and Tastings](#)
- [Louisville Slugger Museum and Factory](#)
- [Abbey of Gethsemane](#)
- [Gravesite of Thomas Merton](#)
- [Bardstown: second Catholic Archdiocese in the United States.](#)

For more information on Cancellation Policy, Local Fun, Virtual Option and more, please check the NPM Convention website [here](#).

[NPM Frequently Asked Questions Page](#)

[NPM Brochure](#)

[NPM Schedule of Events](#)



**Instituto
Information
(English)**

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](#).

[Outpoured: Josh Blakesley](#)

[An Afternoon with Thomas Muglia](#)



Ministry Monday #197: Exploring The Spirituality of Sequences (with Fr. Roc O'Connor)

Ministry Monday #196: The Historical Foundation of Sequences (with Fr. J. Michael Joncas)

MEMBERSHIP



Which membership is best for you?



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 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 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



Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion!
Sing joyfully, O Israel!
Be glad and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has removed the judgment against you,
he has turned away your enemies;
The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.
On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged!
The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a mighty savior;
He will rejoice over you with gladness,
and renew you in his love,
He will sing joyfully because of you,
as one sings at festivals

The Board of Directors for DC and Arlington

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