



NPM Event for Youth big success!

One reaches a certain age when the sight of youth carrying on a work that is near and dear to your heart is like water to the thirsty. That was the case on October 4 when 40 teens and 20 adult leaders gathered at St. Rose of Lima in Gaithersburg for the NPM Youth Event. Steve Petrunak, nationally known musician and clinician, led the day of music-making and workshops for youth (grades 8-12) and adults interested in teen-led music ministry. Participants explored aspects of liturgical music and the unique gifts young people in this ministry bring to the community. The day began at 10 a.m. with a jam session during which young people shared music that works well in their parish communities. Next, Steve shared his story of how he was called to music ministry at the age of 15, and helped others consider how they have been called and gifted for this ministry.

After lunch, participants broke into smaller workshop groups for choir, cantors, guitarists, violinists, and music directors. Workshop leaders included Steve, Jeannie Vanover (director of music for youth at St. Rose), John Bauer, Mary Beaudoin, and two talented young adults, Rebecca Vanover and Aaron VanDanacker. After honing skills in small groups, all the musicians came together to rehearse music for a 5p.m. Mass. Musical selections included familiar favorites (like a brilliant setting of One Bread, One Body) and some newer pieces. Steve led the choir from his guitar with the help of 5 young guitarists, 2 pianists, 2 terrific violinists, and a Conga player.

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Youth Went Forward and Made a Joyful Noise

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St. Rose pastor, Fr. Agustin Mateo, spoke to the participants in the morning session and returned later in the day to preside at Mass. His warm and welcoming presence set the tone for the day. Msgr. Ray East concelebrated at Mass and served as homilist. In his inimitable way, Fr. Ray brought together the wonderful strands of that particular day -- the prayer and inspiration of St. Francis of Assisi, the Yom Kippur blessings for the new year, and the power of music in worship.

The "mature" liturgical musicians who participated in the day were filled with hope and graced with the knowledge that pastoral music and NPM have taken root and are being well-nourished in our teens and young adults. Special thanks to Remi Bauer, director of music at St. Rose, who shepherded this event from the earliest planning stages through the postlude and clean up, and to St. Rose of Lima Parish for hosting. Thanks too to NPM/DC board members, Hank Bauer and Tom Stehle, for their presence and assistance, and to Peter Maher, who came to cover the event for Pastoral Music and to assist with guitarist workshop.



DIRECTOR'S CORNER



I am –as the saying goes – “preaching to the choir.” Bear with me, please.

If you're reading this, you already know the importance of membership in NPM at the national and chapter levels.

1. We focused on membership in the September issue.
2. In this space last month, David Mathers reminded us of the passages in Vatican II's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy that inspire us to continue the work of NPM.
3. The National Office is focusing on a Recruit - Renew - Discover campaign, asking us to spread the word; the work is not yet done.

At last summer's convention in St. Louis, interviews of NPM members were shown on the big screens prior to the general sessions. They told what membership in NPM has meant to them. Again and again we heard of growing in their ministry through workshops, institutes, conventions, and **Pastoral Music Magazine**. Many emphasized the value in knowing that they are not alone. Others share their experiences, and can offer understanding and new ideas. As an old friend of mine used to say: All of us is smarter than each of us!

It's no secret that we are living in transitional times. Founding members of NPM are retiring, and in too many cases their successors are not joining NPM. Many church musicians do not know the benefits of the Association. It's our job to tell them. It's our job to tell them.

In our own parishes, do people know about NPM and of its mission to foster the art of musical liturgy? When we experience a great workshop or event, do we tell the parish priests about it? Do we encourage our youth to consider becoming pastoral musicians?

What about a neighboring parish? Are its musicians on board? Most churches are struggling to balance budgets, yet \$105 enrolls a parish at the national level. It could be a start.

NPM.org has the national details; NPMDC.org or NPMARlington.org has the local scoop.

What if everyone of us recruited just one new member?

*Charlene Dorrian,
Director, Washington DC Chapter*

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
www.npmarlington.org

Liturgy Day 2014 Roundup

Another Local Chapter Success!

Pastoral musicians from around the area came together for our NPM chapters' Liturgy Day gathering on October 18 at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington. Fr. Michael J. Flynn, Executive Director of the Committee on Divine Worship at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops delivered the opening talk. From the start it was clear that he understands the role of pastoral musicians in today's church and challenges we face.

Excerpts from the Church Documents, especially the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy - Sacrosanctum Concilium (SC) and Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship (StL), formed the core of Fr. Flynn's presentation, with emphasis on the participation of the assembly. He shared his own experiences, beginning with his entry into the field of music ministry. Like many of us, it began in elementary school when a teacher handed him a copy of "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" and told him to be prepared to accompany the student body at Benediction. While he ultimately chose the priesthood, not music ministry, his interest in musical liturgy has never waned. It was an important part of his work on the faculty of Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans and St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Florida.

Fr. Flynn sees three important areas of concern, "mandates," as he put it, for the church today:

1. Participation of the entire assembly (as noted in SC 12, 14, 18) is first and primary, "the aim to be considered above all else." Fr. Flynn encouraged choirs to recognize their obligation to enable assembly participation, as well as fulfilling its own necessary functions.
2. Preservation of the Liturgical Legacy of the Roman Rite (General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM 32 and StL 61). Fr. Flynn noted the necessity of finding balance when including Gregorian chant and other music from the historical treasury of our Roman Rite in our liturgies, as we continue to make music accessible to assemblies. The current translation of 41 of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal indeed says that Gregorian chant has the main place, not pride of place in the Roman Liturgy. This, nevertheless is modified by, "all things being equal." In the end, when planning music for liturgy, the issue is not either/or chant and other music, but both/and and how chant and other music from past centuries can be used in a way that fosters true spiritual participation.
3. Inculturation, the most challenging of the three, is still a work in progress (SC 31-33). Adaptations in language, music and rites appropriate to local cultural needs have been introduced to one degree or another around the world. The question remains open how can the precious historical legacy of our sacred music influence our liturgical spirituality and how does the genuine worship needs of our own local cultural situation determine what is most useful to our worship.

In conclusion, Fr. Flynn encouraged us to be patient in our efforts, and to beware of parish divisions along musical lines. We should look for opportunities to worship together, to foster a parish sense of belonging, and above all to be a singing church.

Continue reading on page 4, with a rundown of each of the break out sessions

Liturgy Day Another Local Chapter Success!

Continued from page 3

After a break, participants went to one of three breakout sessions:

Breakout One

David Mathers' presented "Where does it say that? Liturgy documents basics" focused on five key documents that all pastoral musicians should be at least aware of, the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, the 1967 instruction *Musicae Sacram*, the US Bishops guidelines, *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship* and the Introduction to the Lectionary for Mass. A gave a brief overview of the history and contents of these documents and reviewed those passages most crucial to our ministry.

Breakout Two

Paul Skevington presented a variety of organ music for Advent and Christmas in a session squeezed between two Baptism in the Cathedral! Dr. Skevington tailored his presentation to the organists present and highlighted collections that have endured the test of time. The variety of music will serve our variety of worshipping communities. It was session filled with good music, suggestions, and advice.

Break out Three

Kathleen DeJardin's wonderful breakout focused on good singing technique and vocal health, especially related to the older voice. This informative, relaxed, and comfortable session was divided into work with the whole group and work with specific singers, whom Kathleen coached as a model for the group. Kathleen also provided a handout filled with insightful tips for producing the best sound possible. Several participants were invited to try out some of the tips to give the group a real-life visualization of what Kathleen was suggesting – for example, to become mindful of the soft palate and its function. Kathleen also emphasized proper breathing, relaxation, and the need to practice daily. Her positive and encouraging made everyone want to keep striving to help us sing our best. "I look forward to taking another session with Kathleen!" said Vickie Semeia of St. Mary in Fredericksburg.



Announcements of items of interest to Pastoral Musicians such as concerts, transitions, or special activities are welcome in the monthly newsletter.

Deadline for articles, announcements, etc. remains the 15th of each month. Please email Jim Wickman directly at James.Wickman "at" georgetown.edu



2015 Calendar

January 17
Cantor Workshop
 Holy Redeemer, College Park, MD

January 24
Annual Gathering of Southern Maryland Musicians
 Breton Bay, Leonardtown, MD

February 17
Annual Shrove Tuesday Lunch, Arlington

February 21
Lent Retreat with Sr. Honora Werner, O.P.
 Theological College, Washington, DC

March 14
Choral Workshop with Michael Kemp
 Our Lady of Mercy Church, Potomac, MD

The NPM St. Louis Convention at your fingertips!

Thanks to St. John's College Seminary and Liturgical Press, the Keynote Address and four Plenum Addresses are available online via YouTube. Simply type Pray Tell Live - NPM Convention, and the list appears. The talks took place in the main Hall of the Convention Center, and a variety of discussions and interviews were filmed in the Liturgy Publications area of Exhibit Hall.

Plenum Addresses are:

- "Good News for a Wounded People" - Jerry Galipeau
- "Claim Your Art, Proclaim Good News" - Paul Westermeyer
- "Embracing Good News: The Call to Conversion" - Ann Garrido
- "Vatican II and the Church as Bearer of Good News" - Sr. Honora Werner, OP
- "Go and Proclaim the Gospel of the Lord" - Msgr. Ray East

Topics for the half-hour discussion included Where is Liturgical Music Going Today, Liturgy and Creativity, and Pope Francis and the Church. There are interviews with our new president, Msgr. Hilgartner, David Haas & Fr. Mark Francis.

Upcoming Concert Opportunities

November 7, Friday, 7:30p.m. • Dahlgren Chapel of the Sacred Heart, Georgetown University

37th and O Streets, NW, Washington DC. Pass through Healy Building to Chapel, information: 202-687-0078

Blessing and Dedication Recital

The newly installed Schoenstein Organ, named the Lewnowski Family Organ at Dahlgren Chapel, will be blessed and dedicated. Dr. Lynn Trapp, of Minneapolis, MN, well known recitalist and artist, and a member of NPM National Board is Directors, is the guest recitalist. Admission is free, all are welcome.

November 7, Friday, 7:30 pm • Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community

1427 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria - 703 998-6100 ext 103.

Service of Remembrance - We remember the deceased, especially those from the past year, in our annual service of prayer and music. The Blessed Sacrament Adult Choir and Festival Orchestra will present the Requiem by Maurice Duruflé. The Bells of Blessed Sacrament will also be featured.

November 14, Friday, 8:00 p.m. • All Saints Catholic Church

9300 Stonewall Road, Manassas, VA - more information: 703-393-2146

A Concert of Hope and Remembrance

The choirs of All Saints Church, Manassas and St. Veronica Church, Chantilly and the Manassas String Quartet perform the Faure Requiem and other choral works.

Admission is free, with a free-will offering taken. All are welcome.

November 14, Friday, 8:00 p.m. • Cathedral of St. Thomas More

3901 Cathedral Lane, Arlington, VA

Organ Recital, Dr. Mary Beth Bennett. Works by Bruhns, Buxtehude, Bach, Beethoven, Vierne, Messiaen, and an original composition. Admission is free.

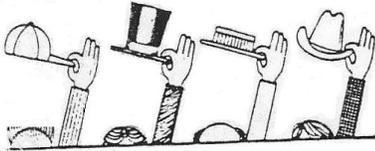
November 21, Friday, 8:00 p.m. • Saint Mary Catholic Church

1009 Stafford Ave., Fredericksburg, more information, David Mathers at dmathers@stmaryfred.org or (540) 373-6491.

Organ concert with David Brian Lang, prominent concert organist, choral conductor, and accompanist throughout the Washington, DC area. Now in his sixth season as artistic director for the Reston Chorale, Mr. Lang also serves as keyboard artist for Washington Hebrew Congregation and has been director of music at Saint John Catholic Church in McLean, as well as organist for Saint John's Episcopal Church - Lafayette Square (The Church of the Presidents) and the Cathedral of the Assumption in Louisville, Kentucky. Mr. Lang will perform on St. Mary's organ of over 3,000 pipes a dynamic and varied program featuring three of J. S. Bach's ingenious "Schübler Chorales" and Louis Vierne's famous Carillon de Westminster. The concert is free and a delightful reception will follow where you can "meet the artist."



HATS OFF!



During the summer 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.

- *St. John Neumann Parish Choir, Gaithersburg, MD
- *St. Joseph Parish Choir, Largo, MD
- *Blessed John Paul II Seminary Choir, Washington, DC

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

Arlington Virginia Chapter

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