



# NEWSLETTER

The monthly joint publication of the NPM Arlington and NPM DC Chapters.

*Fostering the art of musical liturgy.*

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*Jesus walked this lonesome valley;  
He had to walk it by himself.  
Oh, nobody else, could walk it for him;  
He had to walk it by himself.*



*May your Lenten journey lead to the joys of the Easter Season!*

Consider making NPM part of your Lenten experience - check out information on **DC cantor workshops** and a joint Arlington and DC event with **Charles Thatcher**.



*St. Cecilia,  
pray for us!*

## Annual Shrove Tuesday Luncheon

**Tuesday, March 5, 2019**  
**12:00 NOON**



**Cost: approx. \$16 per person**  
(includes: buffet, soft drink, and tip -  
or you can order off the menu)

*Brion's Grille*

10621 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22032



*Share a meal and relax with friends, old and new,  
before we plunge into our Lenten preparation for Easter.*

RSVP via our [Facebook event](#) or  
E-mail us at [arlingtonnmp@gmail.com](mailto:arlingtonnmp@gmail.com)

## Director's Corner

**F**aith is a team sport," Fr. Bill Byrne declared in a recent daily WTOP radio reflection from the Archdiocese of Washington.

Here it is March, the start of Lent, daylight-saving time, spring and college basketball's March Madness tournament. Fr. Bill got me thinking about my past Lenten journeys through music and basketball. "I try to live my faith through music, and basketball is my favorite team sport," I reasoned. Like a frenetic layup drive to the basket, I conjured up a connection through a timeline.

1959: Weekday after-school practice included those dreaded, hand-numbing scales and arpeggios up and down the living room piano keyboard. All the while, my neighborhood buds dribbled up and down the basketball court across the street within 3-point range of my front porch. They could

hear the piano; I could hear the bouncing ball. My plan was to be out there with them; God had another plan.

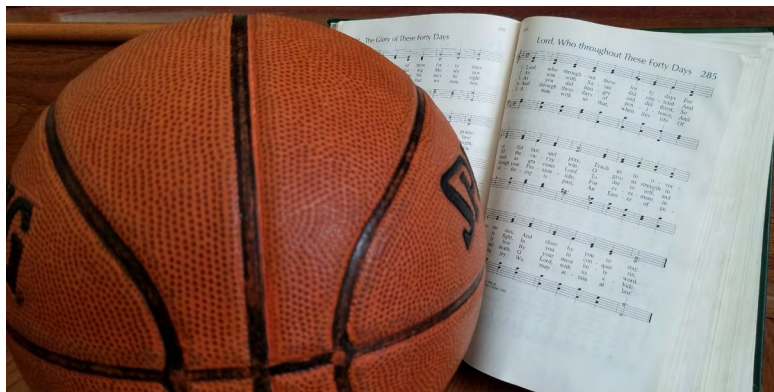
1966: By now, all those years of disciplined piano and organ practice had elevated me into positions of parish assistant organist and boys' choir accompanist. That same hard-scrabble tenacity got me onto the high-school varsity basketball team, the year the Portsmouth Catholic Saints won the state championship! I also gained the respect of my neighborhood hoopsters: In pickup games, they'd chant "Liberace" whenever I'd score a basket or snatch a rebound from the rim, a street-wise connect of my hoop skills to that then-piano phenom.

1983: I had packed away hymnals and other music books to concentrate on all-consuming family and career priorities. But I carved out time to coach my then-9- and 10-year-old sons in community-league basketball. I named the team after the North Carolina State Wolfpack, 1983 college basketball champions. I would lead my

young hoopsters in a frenetic litany: "Whaddaya got!?" I'd yell. "Pack power!" they'd shout back. "Whaddaya got?" "Pack power!" "Whaddaya gonna do?" "Pack attack! Go Wolfpack!" Within a few seasons, we too would win a championship.

2014: I had resumed all aspects of liturgical music and reduced family basketball to attending grandsons' youth league games. One choir rehearsal night I found myself comparing the finer points of team basketball play to team choir singing: "Everyone on the court has an important role; so to does every choir member. Check. It starts

with the coach/director and flows through the players/members. Check. Star players and vocal soloists have special roles. Check. Just like there's team-play fluidity, there's choir-molded sound. Check." Aside from a few bizarre stares, my points seemed to be well-taken.



Thanks to Fr. Bill Byrne for inspiring me to conjure up a kinship between music in our faith and a celebrated team sport – both during the Lenten season.

Oh, one last dot to connect: Fr. Bill pastors Our Lady of Mercy parish in Potomac, MD, site of our chapters' upcoming Saturday March 30 workshop entitled *Psalms, Canticles and Antiphons: Singing the Word of God*. Go to details on [page 3](#). Hope to see you there! And afterwards you can join me in final prep for Palm Sunday Hosannas and the Sacred Triduum along with hoops action in this year's Final Four games.

Eugene Harper  
NPM Arlington,  
Chapter Director



# Psalms, Canticles, and Antiphons: Singing the Word of God



*This workshop will focus on practical answers to the “Who? What? When? Where? Why? and How?” of singing the word of God in liturgy. Workshop leader Charles Thatcher will examine these questions on singing the psalms at Mass (processional chant and the responsorial psalm) and the psalms and canticles of the Liturgy of the Hours. This is an active workshop for music directors, choir directors, singers, and accompanists. Participants will sing various musical examples.*

***A joint NPM Arlington and NPM DC Event.***

**Date:** **Saturday, March 30, 2019**  
**9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Where:** **Our Lady of Mercy Church**  
9200 Kentsdale Drive  
Potomac, MD 20854

**Cost:** **\$20.00 per person/member**  
**\$25.00 per person/non-member**

**Deadline to receive RSVP March 20, 2019**  
*(scan or click the QR code, bottom right, to RSVP)*

**Payment (cash or check, payable to NPM  
Arlington) accepted at the door!**

*Register now by clicking  
or scanning this code:*



*Charles Thatcher recently retired from a career as a full-time church musician, having served in parishes in Southwest Virginia and Florida, most recently as Director of Music for the Diocese of Orlando and St. James Cathedral. He remains active as a volunteer in music ministry at St. Margaret Mary Church in Winter Park, Florida, and as a composer of liturgical music.*

## NPM/DC Cantor Workshops

### **\*\*Intermediate/Advanced Workshop**

**Monday, March 18, 2019, 7:00 - 9:00 pm**

**St. Patrick's Church**

**4101 Norbeck Rd., Rockville, MD**

### **\*Beginner Workshop**

**Monday, March 25, 2019, 7:00-9:00 pm**

**St. John the Evangelist Parish**

**10103 Georgia Ave. Silver Spring, MD**

**Presenters: Amy Massey and Valerie Kopinski**



*Cantors are called to be psalmists, song leaders, animators of the assembly and musical presiders for our Catholic assemblies. They fill essential roles for vibrant worship. Come to learn and practice techniques that will strengthen your skills, so that you can unleash the song in the hearts of your assemblies.*

*Amy Massey has been working with liturgical musicians and training cantors in the Archdiocese of Washington DC for over 15 years. As a life long music educator, she looks forward to working with cantors of all levels. Amy is the director of music ministries at Mother Seton Parish in Germantown, MD.*

*Garnering praise for her “rich-voice, energetic stage presence and vocal grandeur,” dramatic soprano, Valerie Kopinski, has been a cantor and section leader at Mother Seton Parish in Germantown since 2015. Prior to joining Mother Seton, she was the soprano section leader and soloist at Church of the Little Flower in Bethesda for ten years. A native of Germantown, MD, Ms. Kopinski graduated as a Pressor scholar in Voice from the University of Maryland. She completed her Master’s degree at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York under the tutelage of Rita Shane. While in Rochester, Ms. Kopinski both cantored and directed an all-Eastman choir at St. Anne’s Church for three years.*

**Registration link:** <https://goo.gl/forms/4gMZLrsimVZNef0n1> (Registration deadline is March 15)

**Fees - Members: \$10 Non-Members:\$15**

Payment in cash/check accepted at the door. If you wish to mail a check, please do so by March 11.

NPM/DC

c/o Amy Massey

19951 Father Hurley Blvd.

Germantown, MD 20874

*We encourage everyone to come prepared to sing a psalm or antiphonal communion song. Accompanist will be provided.*

Questions? Contact Amy Massey by email: [music@mothersetonparish.org](mailto:music@mothersetonparish.org)

**\*Beginner:** new to cantoring, little or no formal voice training, interested in cantoring in the future

**\*\*Intermediate/Advanced:** have been cantoring for several years; interested in improving technique, diction, interpretation



## 2019 National convention

### #NPM42

**W**e hope to see many of you in Raleigh this summer! For full convention details see the digital [Convention Brochure](#). See bottom of this page about our two Chapter Dinners this year!

better than the \$280 early bird fee:  
 10-19 Members (15% off): \$268  
 20-29 Members (20% off): \$252  
 30+ Members (25% off): \$270

#### Is this 2019 Raleigh 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



#### 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 to do:

1. Complete a [registration form](#). (The form is a fillable PDF, fill it out on your computer, print and send to us!)
2. Make a check payable to NPM / Arlington (\$268 - plus any extras you've chosen)
3. Mail both to **Anne Shingler, 3146 Woodland Lane, Alexandria, VA 22309** postmarked by **Friday, April 26, 2019**.

\*Questions, including how to join the National organization or your local chapter? Please email [arlingtonnpm@gmail.com](mailto:arlingtonnpm@gmail.com) (Arlington) or [npmcdmembership@gmail.com](mailto:npmcdmembership@gmail.com) (DC)

## Convention Chapter Dinners

At this year's #NPM42 Convention, the Pastoral Musicians' Dinner will be held after the Convention Eucharist see page 35 of the [Convention Brochure](#). All are welcome to participate. **This dinner requires pre-registration.** Please mark your [registration form](#) (on page 2) to attend the dinner. Cost is \$49 per person.



**Separate Chapter Dinner for the DC & Arlington Chapters** on Wednesday, July 17. Plans are being made with a restaurant, close to the Convention Center. We hope to keep the cost down so that you can attend both dinners. Details should be finalized in time for the April Newsletter. Please note that you will register directly with us for this Dinner. There is no place for this on the Convention registration form.

## Southern Maryland Gathering 2019



The musicians who gathered on **January 26** for the Annual Southern Maryland Gathering identified themselves as directors, cantors/psalmists, accompanists, choir and ensemble singers. No matter their specific titles, however, everyone laid claim to being a liturgical minister. And that became the focus of the day: How does our ministry serve the people in our assemblies?

Discussion included:

- Are we following the basic guidelines found in the 2007 US Bishops' document, *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship*?
- Do we honor the principle of progressive solemnity?
- What Mass settings are being used in local parishes? Settings most often mentioned were the Chant Mass, *Mass of Christ the Savior* (Dan Schutte), and *Mass of Renewal* (Curtis Stephan).

*Mass of Creation* (Marty Haugen), *Heritage Mass* (Owen Alstott) and *Mass of Wisdom* (Steve Janco) are also being used.

- How do we evaluate the music we ask the assembly to sing?
- Do our parishes have a stable repertoire, especially for special seasons?
- Does the assembly know the sound of its voice (best recognized through a cappella singing)? To demonstrate this point, we sang – without accompaniment – the *Mass of Christ the Savior* and two dozen hymns/songs found in most hymnals.

When asked what other concerns attendees had, all agreed that recruiting new members and getting everyone to regular rehearsals (on time) topped the list. Topics for next year?

### Introductions, Modulations, and Cadences

*As a regular feature of the newsletter, we will recognize those who begin new positions, are new chapter members, or retire from positions. If you, or someone you know, begin a new position, retire, or move away, let us know.*

Welcome . . .

to **Mrs. Hannah Masson**, newly appointed member of the Arlington NPM Board; she serves as Music Director at Precious Blood Catholic Church in Culpeper, VA.



## Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 3, 2019

2:30 PM

### Musicians of Mercy Great Masterworks



9200 Kentsdale Dr., Potomac, MD.

[WWW.OLOM.ORG](http://WWW.OLOM.ORG)

The tenth annual program in this series features the many and varied talents of the musical staff at Our Lady of Mercy in a program of Symphonic Masterworks. A free will offering will be collected for a Mercy Charity. Works will include Villa-Lobos, Rachmaninoff and Vierne, among others.



#### MUSIC DIRECTOR (PART-TIME)

Holy Face Church  
20408 Point Lookout Road  
Great Mills, Maryland 20634  
[www.holyfacechurch.org](http://www.holyfacechurch.org)

Holy Face Church in Great Mills, MD (St. Mary's County) is seeking a part-time Music Director responsible for the planning and execution of music for parish liturgical celebrations. Dependable professional with strong musical and vocal skills, choral directing experience, proficiency in playing piano or keyboard, and a working knowledge of the Roman Catholic liturgy. Must be a practicing Catholic who supports the teachings of the church, with good organizational and collaborative skills, pastoral sensitivity, a sense of ministry, and a willingness to foster a spirit of harmony with other liturgical ministers, the pastor and parish staff. Please submit a letter of interest and resume to [holyface.md@adw.org](mailto:holyface.md@adw.org).

**LRC Lake Ridge Chorale**  
*Under the direction of Terry Stackley*  
Presents  
**Requiem**  
by Gabriel Fauré  
Featuring: Pipe Organ, Harp  
String Ensemble and Soloists

**Friday, March 29, 2019 - 8:00 PM**  
**St Elizabeth Ann Seton Church**  
12805 Valleywood Dr, Lake Ridge, VA 22192

Our concerts are free We are supported in part by:

Your food and financial donations support these local charities:  
ACTS, HUGS, Kara Foundation

Visit us at:  
[www.LakeRidgeChorale.org](http://www.LakeRidgeChorale.org)

arts PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY  
NGVCC  
STORAGE DIRECT  
PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY  
CHAMBER

#### 2018 - 2019 CALENDAR of EVENTS



**March 2, 2019**  
**DC Annual Retreat**  
**Fr. Paul Colloton,**  
*St. Rose of Lima,*  
*Gaithersburg, MD*

**March 5, 2019**  
**12:00 PM**  
**Arlington Shrove**  
**Tuesday Luncheon**  
*Brion's Grille, Fairfax,*  
*VA*

**March 18, 2019**  
**DC Cantor**  
**Workshop**  
**(Intermediate/**  
**Advanced)**  
*St. Patrick Church,*  
*Rockville, MD*

**March 25, 2019**  
**DC Cantor**  
**Workshop**  
**(Beginner)**  
*St. John the Evangelist,*  
*Silver Spring, MD*

**March 30, 2019**  
**Joint Arlington/DC**  
**Event**  
Mr. Charles Thatcher,  
*presenter*  
*Our Lady of Mercy*  
*Church, Potomac, MD*

**July 16-19, 2019**  
**NPM National**  
**Convention**  
**(#NPM42)**  
*Raleigh, NC*



### Hats Off!

The following choirs have provided music for the Sunday TV Mass recently. Mass is celebrated in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, and broadcast on WDCW-TV (DCW50) each Sunday at 10:30 AM. Check your local cable or satellite provider's listings. Click the image of the Shrine's dome to view recordings of these Masses.

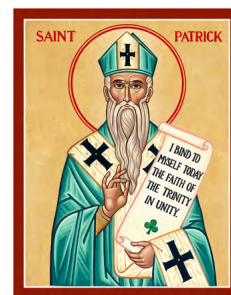
**Jesus the Good Shepherd Parish Choir, Owings, MD**  
**St. John Neumann Parish Choir, Gaithersburg, MD**

+

**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
LET US  
PRAY**

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,  
 Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
 Christ on my right, Christ on my left,  
 Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,  
 Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,  
 Christ in the mouth of every man who speaks of me,  
 Christ in the eye that sees me,  
 Christ in the ear that hears me.

*from the Lorica of St. Patrick (c. 377), St. Patrick's feast day is March 17*



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PASTORAL MUSICIANS**  
*Members of the Board - Arlington, VA and Washington, DC*

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