



NEWSLETTER

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

Fostering the art of musical liturgy.

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November was a busy month for both chapters! **NPM Arlington** (above) hosted its annual Liturgy Day on November 9 at St. Bernadette Church in Springfield. **NPM DC** (right) hosted Fr. Ricky Manalo on November 15 and 16 for a weekend of events about intercultural and multicultural communities. See inside for more!



*St. Cecilia,
pray for us!*



*Your local chapters wish you a
Merry Christmas and a Happy and
Blessed New Year!*



*We hope to see you at our events
in the New Year!*

Director's Corner

Another liturgical year has come and gone. As I have shared in the past, I always look forward to the first week of Advent, even more than January 1st. As pastoral musicians we are deeply tied to the rhythms of the liturgical year. Advent brings the hope, joy, and promise of a new and deeper connection with the story of Christ, and the reminder that we are a Paschal people from start to finish. This year we also have the privilege of experiencing the start of the three-year cycle by going back to the Gospel of Matthew in Year A.

On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we hear the announcement of the angel to Joseph as recounted in the first chapter of Matthew:

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly.

Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,
which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

Poor Joseph. How often do we as Catholics give any time and thought to his critical role in the story of the Nativity? Joseph did what many would not do. His "yes" rescued Mary from being an unwed mother and the punishment and ostracization that she surely would have endured, and he saved Jesus from the lifelong taint of an illegitimate birth. As a Jewish man he was certainly familiar with the prophet Isaiah foretelling the birth of the Messiah, but what a shock to learn in a dream that he would become the legal guardian of the Savior of the Jewish people. Only an extraordinarily godly and loving man would get up from his dream and do exactly as he was told! And how different would our story have been if he wasn't obedient to the angel?



So, we have the opportunity this Advent to ponder the story of Joseph. Take some time to understand his plight as a Jewish betrothed man, his obedience to the angel, and his absolute trust in God in the face of certain adversity. (Composers, we need some more liturgical music about the Advent story of Joseph.)

As we journey into this new liturgical year, may we find new places to say yes to Christ's call in our lives. May we be open to growth in our music ministries and to those in need around us and may

we learn from the Holy Family in a new and beautiful way this Christmas.

Blessings to you and all those you love as we anticipate and prepare for the arrival of our Savior as a child and coming King.

Saint Joseph, pray for us.

Amy Massey
NPM DC, Chapter Director



A WEEKEND WITH FR. RICKY MANALO

by CHARLENE DORRIAN

A pastoral musician attending a workshop on intercultural competence might expect to come away with some new ideas for liturgies that include various languages, customs, or musical styles. Or maybe new ways to reach out to members of unfamiliar cultures. Or maybe some great resources that will solve all his or her problems. At last month's event at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Potomac, MD, Fr. Ricky Manalo, CSP did provide all of the above – but oh, so much more!

After a fine dinner on Friday evening, Fr. Ricky asked us to consider what we think culture means. Did we include nationality, ethnicity, religion, gender, profession, special interest, age, socio-economic status, etc. in our understanding of the term? How would we describe ourselves culturally? And just as important, how do others describe the culture(s) they see in us?

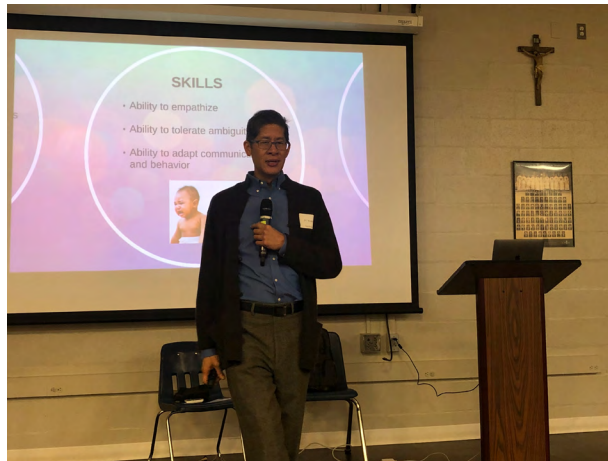
Saturday's two sessions challenged us to consider the cultural lenses through which we approach our ministry. How do we approach interaction among cultural groups? There is more than one way. Are we humble enough to admit that our way may not be the one that works in every situation?

In the final session Fr. Ricky got to the specifics of music in intercultural settings.

* He urged flexibility over rigid uniformity, and asked us to consider:

- building bridges among cultures with our music
- becoming bi-, tri-, multi-cultural in our thinking

- developing and nurturing the core group of cultural leaders in our parish
- building unity in our repertoire throughout the liturgical year, rather than waiting for special occasions
- becoming aware of the 2nd and 3rd generations of various cultures, and their music.



* Other basics we were asked to remember:

1. Recognize cultural bias in choosing music.
2. Build a common repertoire for the parish, including all cultures.
3. Pay special attention to simple musical forms, like litanies and acclamations.
4. Be aware of emergent musical forms.
5. Consider a smooth flow for all elements of a liturgy.
6. Ask. "Are our liturgies relevant?"

Throughout his presentations, Fr. Ricky shared with us the results of many studies and surveys – data that focus on what is happening in our churches (and our world) today, especially among the young and disaffected who are not going to church. He encouraged us to recognize

that there are signs of hope in these crazy days. And while there is lots of science analyzing it all – in the end, it's faith that counts!



NPM Arlington Liturgy Day



Dr. James Starke, Director of the diocesan Office of Divine Worship, addresses local pastoral musicians.



Arlington NPM Director Eugene Harper welcomes participants to Fall Liturgy Day.



On August 6, 2019, Bishop Michael Burbidge issued new liturgical documents for the Diocese of Arlington. NPM Arlington, in conjunction with the diocesan Office of Divine Worship, desired to gather pastoral musicians to review these liturgical norms and discuss issues facing them.

Dr. James Starke, Director of the Office of Divine Worship led the morning workshop on Saturday, **November 9**. Nearly 50 pastoral musicians from across the diocese (from as far away as Orange, VA to much closer Arlington County!) gathered at **St. Bernadette Church** in Springfield.

After morning prayer lead by David Mathers, director of music at St. Bernadette, Dr. Starke led us through an explanation of the diocesan Liturgical Commission, the mandate from Vatican II for it and how it is enacted in the Arlington Diocese. This included many questions from those gathered about the process and how these can be implemented.

The second half of the morning involved discussion about music for Funerals and Weddings, whose guidelines are the next task for the Liturgical Commission.

To read the *Norms for the Celebration of the Eucharist according to the Third Typical Edition of the Roman Missal in the Diocese of Arlington* in the Diocese of Arlington, click [here](#).

Questions? Contact us!

ARLINGTONNPM@GMAIL.COM

2019 - 2020 CALENDAR of EVENTS

2019 - 2020 EVENTS *at a GLANCE*



January 25, 2020 – 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Southern Maryland Gathering

Ann Duchesne's Home on Breton Bay

Registration details next month

Saturday, February 22, 2020

Pre-Lenten Retreat for Pastoral Musicians

St. Camillus Church, Takoma Park, MD

led by Fr. Jacek Orzechowski, a Franciscan Father who works for Catholic Charities

February 25, 2020 12:00 NOON

Arlington Shrove Tuesday Luncheon

Brion's Grille, Fairfax, VA

March 13 & 14, 2020

Joint Arlington/DC Event - Peter Kolar

Save the date! Watch this space in future newsletters for more information!

Thanks to All Who Paid Their Chapter Dues This Year!

*Your membership keeps our chapters alive and helps fund our many events each season! **Invite someone new to join our local chapters!** See our websites (NPMarlington.org or NPMDC.org) for the membership forms. If you have questions, please contact a member of either the DC or Arlington Boards (details on the back page of the newsletter and on the websites).*

A Call for Photos

As we enter into a new church year, ensembles, cantors, and other musicians are busy preparing for Christmas! Would you share your celebrations with us?

An ongoing feature in these newsletters is *A Look Around Our Chapters*. Please consider taking a few photos of your ministry, parish, and sanctuary and sharing them with us.

Share JPEG or TIFF files with the newsletter editor, tlewicki@allsaintsva.org.



Louisville Kentucky

NPM 43rd Annual Convention • July 7-10, 2020

Upcoming Events

16th Annual Sing-Along
MESSIAH
 Friday, December 6
 7:30 p.m.
 Saint Luke Catholic Church
 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA
 Tickets: \$20 online or at the door
 Youth 17 and under: Free
 Tickets available at MusicInMcLean.org.
 Scores available for those who would like to
 sing along.



Sunday, December 15, 2019
 THE SYMPHONIC CHORUS,
 MASTER SINGERS AND CONCERT CHOIR
 present
**BACH CANTATA 140 AND
 TRADITIONAL CAROLS**
 4 PM
 Saint Luke Catholic Church
 7001 Georgetown Pike
 McLean, VA
 Thomas Colohan
 Director, Symphonic Chorus
 Patrick Vaughn
 Director, Youth Choruses

ONLINE TICKET PRICES

Ticket Prices	
Reserved Seating	\$40.00
Adult General Admission	\$25.00
Student (Age 14 – College with ID)	\$10.00
Kids 13 and under	FREE

Buy Your Tickets Today! www.fairfaxchoralsociety.org
*ONLINE TICKET SALES WILL CLOSE 48 HOURS PRIOR TO CONCERT START.
 ONLINE TICKET PURCHASES OF 10 OR MORE FOR ANY SINGLE ADULT
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presents

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS
 Monday, December 9, 2019 • 7:30 PM

Join the combined choirs of All Saints Church and St. Veronica's Church
 in this evening of joyful expectation. Enjoy the service of Scripture
 readings, hymns, and choral anthems to prepare our hearts for the
 coming of Christ at Christmas.

This concert event is free and open to the public. A free-will offering will
 be taken to off-set the cost of this and other events.
 A reception will follow.

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH
 9300 Stonewall Road Manassas, VA 20110
WWW.ALLSAINTSVA.ORG • 703-393-2146

**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.

Holy Redeemer Parish Choir, College Park, MD
Our Lady of Hope Parish Choir, Potomac Falls, VA



Lord our God,

we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:
 he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,
 he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,
 he is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God,

let your blessing come upon us
 as we light the candles of this wreath.

May the wreath and its light

be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.

May he come quickly and not delay.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

- Blessing of an Advent Wreath; *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*

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