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2.27.20
DEADLINE
FOR
MARCH 2020
NEWSLETTER

MARDI GRAS 2020
Dinner Dance Fundraiser

MONDAY | FEBRUARY 24, 2020
6:30pm
St. Maximilian Kolbe Church
363 West 11th Ave Ext
Homestead, PA 15102

Tom Coyne, Host

Entertainment by
The Hot Metal Brass Band

DJ for Dancing
BYOB!
Basket Raffle!

Jambalaya
Chicken with Apricot Chutney
Fried Shrimp • Crab Cakes
Rice Pilaf • King Cake
Pralines • Beignets!

Mixers
Snacks
Buffet Dinner

ALL for only $35

Dress up in your best Mardi Gras attire …
including Mask and Beads!
Table hosting for 8 is available!
MARDI GRAS REGISTRATION INFO

Try our convenient online registration, including the Pay Pal option … all found on our website.

REGISTER NOW!

DONATE A BASKET …

1. Create a basket with or without a theme. Notify Kevin Maurer by email music@diopitt.org that you will be making a basket donation and when you plan to drop off.

2. Please list basket items in a separate email to music@diopitt.org no later than FRIDAY, FEB 21 … and indicate who the basket is from.

To help the committee with the organization of the basket raffle, we ask that you:

Drop off the basket to Karen Maurer at St. Margaret of Scotland Parish Office 310 Mansfield Ave. Pittsburgh 15220 on SATURDAY, FEB 22 between 10:00am & 12 Noon.

DONATE $$$ …

If you would like to make a money donation, we ask that you …

1. Make check payable to “NPM Pittsburgh”.
2. Send to …

NPM Mardi Gras 2020
% Kevin Maurer
2900 Noblestown Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15205-4227

DONATE A GIFT CARD …

If you would like to donate a gift card for use in our basket raffle, we ask that you simply send it to the address above.

FOR INFO or to DONATE A BASKET, please call or email …

Ginny Ambrose 412-389-9933
ginnyambroseorganist@aol.com

Tom Coyne 412-496-9720
tomcoyne63@gmail.com

Kevin Maurer: 412-922-8816
kmcm1@aol.com

REGISTRATION DEADLINE
FEBRUARY 14, 2020

Let the good times roll!
On Tuesday, January 28, 2020, we gathered at Our Lady of Grace Church, Scott Twp. for a wonderful evening of food and fellowship followed by a most practical presentation on “Accompanying the Choir with the Organ” by Aaron Sproul, Associate Organist at St. Bernard/Our Lady of Grace Parish.

Aaron shared some of his favorite “tricks of the trade” when he accompanies the choir – such good reminders for all of us – that we should always strive through preparation and practice to truly provide a solid, complimentary support for any choral anthem. This can be achieved by studying the anthem and working out good registrations ahead of time. Trying to do this “on the fly” only results in sloppy playing and ultimately, a disservice to the choir’s efforts.

As always, our evening concluded with Night Prayer. Our special thanks to our co-hosts, Aaron Sproul and Kevin Trichtinger. Handouts from Aaron’s presentation are now available our website. You can also access Aaron’s presentation by clicking on the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBDeFOHYbDc

[ job posting ]

LITURGICAL MUSICIAN & ORGANIST (Part-time)

DORMONT · MOUNT LEBANON · SCOTT TWP.

St. Bernard (Dormont/Mount Lebanon) · Our Lady of Grace (Scott Twp.)

RESPONSIBILITIES:

➤ Direct parish handbell choir program.
➤ Play two (occasionally three) Masses per weekend.
➤ Provide assistance in the parish music office.

REQUIREMENTS:

➤ Exceptional organ skills are a must.

This is an ideal position for a student or retiree wanting to work in a large parish music ministry program that includes 8 Masses per weekend, 7 parish choirs, 4 music staff, annual concert series, and a semi-professional choir and cantor corps. Duties are flexible and can be determined based upon the candidate’s skills and strengths; however, organ skills are a must.

Excellent clergy team that is supportive of music as an integral part of the liturgy. Parish has three organs, including a 90/IV Casavant with Walker digital additions, an 11/III Cornel Zimmer with Walker digital additions, and a two manual Viscount digital organ.

To apply, please email a cover letter, resumé, and references to Chaz Bowers, Director of Music at cbowers@stbpgh.org.
2020 NPM Convention
Louisville, Kentucky · July 7 - 10, 2020

The brochure and registration form for the 2020 National Convention to be held from July 7-10 in Louisville, Kentucky is now available on the national website – https://www.npm.org. As in the past, we will be using the Chapter Discount form to register our Pittsburgh Chapter members at a registration fee that is significantly less than the Advance Member registration rate.

ADVANCE MEMBER = $330 | EARLY BIRD MEMBER = $295

If our Chapter group registers together, we will receive a discount of $50 to $83 per person, depending on how many register together using the Chapter Discount Form! No additions can be made to a group registration once it has been submitted in mid-March, and members cannot be included if they have already registered on their own.

NOTE: This is due 1 month earlier than in past years.

DEADLINE FOR CHAPTER DISCOUNT
— WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19 —
Please email Kevin Maurer at music@diopitt.org with your intention to be placed on the “National Convention” list.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION CHECK
— FRIDAY, MARCH 13 —
Once the “National Convention” list has been generated, you will be informed of the group registration amount.

» Check made payable to “NPM Pittsburgh”
» There will be NO BUS this year.

For a cost-saving idea on the convention, consider going to our Facebook page (See page 7 for icon link) and advertise for a roommate! You will save considerable $$$ if you are willing to share your hotel room with a friend. You can also advertise to share a ride and split the cost of transportation. More Convention email updates from Kevin will be forthcoming!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS & NOTES
MEMBERSHIP NEWS & NOTES | Youth Ministry Initiative

TRADITION vs DIVERSITY: Part II in the “Future Challenges, Future Opportunities” 3-part series, focuses on the challenge of planning liturgies that recognize the broad spectrum of musical variants such as tastes, styles, and cultures that influence our planning decisions.


I am a firm believer that the days of attending the “traditional Mass” or the “folk Mass” or the “children’s Mass” or the “Life Teen Mass” should be over.

THE challenge is:

推出了多元化的音乐风格。

Families of today are not only transient from parish to parish but also look for Mass schedules to fit their busy lifestyles. With so many activities that encroach on family time at all hours, families will go to church when it is convenient for them. Families don’t necessarily attend at a specific time because they like “this priest” or “that style of music.” We must therefore plan our liturgical music to appeal to a broad spectrum. Why not have traditional hymnody, through-composed psalmody, upbeat or syncopated contemporary music, choir anthems, or instrumentalists at all the liturgies we plan? Few of us are up to the challenge because it takes a great deal of preparation, planning, rehearsal, and implementation on our part. The rewards, though, are tremendous: fuller churches with greater participation and more satisfied parishioners.

Next month: Part III, OPPORTUNITY: Recruiting and Maintaining

Many of us live in areas where turnover in population is relatively high. I can remember growing up in a city parish, and knowing practically every family for the 12 years that I went to the parish school. If someone new moved in, it became a big news event. Today, there are few parish schools, and the number of new families entering a parish varies from month to month. When the population base becomes so variable, the needs of the worshipping assembly become challenging. Musical tastes vary tremendously. Liturgical experiences from other parishes or other cultures are made evident by the responses of the parishioners at worship.

As leaders of ministry and worship, we must be vigilant to the diversity of the people we serve and be ready to grow beyond our own parochial views.

It is interesting to go to other parishes, as I do when giving workshops, and find that despite the wealth of new music being written, many have not heard of or been exposed to it. We, as leaders, must find ways to become connected in a larger way to outside influences. We must be aware of what is going on not only in other parishes and dioceses but around the country as well. That means being involved in local chapters of national organizations. That means continuing education as part of our job. Find ways to attend seminars, lectures, conventions. Get online with national organizations and receive monthly updates in newsletters or receive free CDs from publishers.

As you become more aware of the changes in styles in music, try incorporating them into the liturgy planning of your parish.

A very happy group — Junior Cantors of Saint Kilian Parish, Cranberry Twp.
Jessie Murray is no stranger to music ministry. She began serving as a cantor at the age of 13, when her parents joined Saint Joseph Church in Coraopolis. The pastoral musician there heard her sing, recognized her ability to read music and catch on quickly, and asked Jessie to be a cantor for Mass one Sunday. The rest, they say, is history.

Serving the Church has never been anything but a joy for Jessie. She has attended Mass regularly since a very young age, alongside her parents, brother and two sisters. She loves singing in church and considers it a form of prayer, which brings her closer to God and motivates others to lift their voices in song.

Jessie currently serves as a cantor at Neighbors North (grouping 103) in the North Hills. Occasionally, she is joined at the microphone by her two sisters, Jenna and Dana, when they come home from college to visit for the holidays. Those are her fondest memories, and sometimes her funniest, especially when one of them makes a mistake, and the others try not to giggle. Their sound is blended harmoniously, whether singing unison or three-part harmony, and parishioners often remark that the young girls remind them of the Lennon Sisters, a well-known singing group that appeared regularly on the Lawrence Welk Show.

As a senior at Moon Area High School, Jessie’s commitments to volleyball, chorus, musical theater, robotics, and preparing for college next year — where she hopes to study biomedical engineering — can make it hard for her to fit in the practice time required to learn new music. But somehow it all comes together by the weekend and she arrive to Mass prepared and ready to go.

It is obvious that Jessie loves her work in the Church and will continue as a cantor for many years to come.

NOTE: If you would like to feature a young person in our “Teen Voices” column who is currently involved in your music ministry program, please let us know by sending an email to music@diopitt.org.
UPCOMING EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

PENNSYLVANIA PIPES! THREE PENNSYLVANIAN ORGANISTS IN CONCERT
DONALD FELLOWS • CHRISTOPHER PARDINI • WESLEY PARROTT
- SATURDAY • FEBRUARY 15, 2020 | 7:00pm
St. Vincent Archabbey Basilica • 300 Fraser Purchase Road • Latrobe, PA 15650
Tickets: Adult—$26 Student with ID—Free Admission

CHATHAM BAROQUE
- SATURDAY • FEBRUARY 15, 2020 | 8:00pm
East Liberty Presbyterian Church • 116 S. Highland Ave • Pittsburgh, PA 15206
Tickets to this concert are available at chathambaroque.org. For more info, call 412-441-3800.

PITTSBURGH CIVIC ORCHESTRA
- SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 16, 2020 | 4:00pm
St. Bernard Church • 311 Washington Road • Pittsburgh, PA 15216

CARITAS CONCERT SERIES 2020
ORGAN RECITAL featuring DANIEL KOVACIC
- SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 23, 2020 | 3:00pm
St. Athanasius Church • 7 Chalfonte Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA 15229
A FREE-WILL offering will be taken to benefit the Music Ministry of Neighbors North Catholic Community.

AGO Pittsburgh MONTHLY MEETING—ORGAN MUSIC of AFRICAN AMERICAN COMPOSERS
- MONDAY • FEBRUARY 24, 2020 | 7:30pm
St. Andrew Episcopal Church • 5801 Hampton Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15206

PREMIERE of DOUGLAS STARR’S “ALL SAINTS REQUIEM”
- FRIDAY • FEBRUARY 28, 2020 | 7:30pm
St. Paul Episcopal Church
Washington Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15228
- SATURDAY • FEBRUARY 29, 2020 | 7:30pm
St. Vincent Archabbey Basilica
300 Fraser Purchase Road • Latrobe, PA 15650
This concert is presented by St. Paul's Chancel Choir, St. Vincent Camerata, and Franciscan University Schola under the direction of Fr. Stephen Concordia, OSB. Suggested donation $10.
Following its 2020 premiere, "All Saints Requiem" will be published and available at tierneystarrmusic.com.

ONE CALL, UNA VOCACIÓN
JULY 21 — 26, 2020
COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

GUITAR & ENSEMBLE INSTITUTE
JULY 27 — 31, 2020
MILFORD, OHIO

www.npm.org
Check out the NPM National website for upcoming opportunities to grow in your ministry. Something for everyone!
UPCOMING EVENTS & HAPPENINGS: FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS

2020 PITTSBURGH PUIERI CANTORES
CHORAL FESTIVAL AND MASS

SATURDAY | MARCH 21, 2020
12 Noon—5:00pm Rehearsal
6:00pm Mass
St. Paul Cathedral
108 N. Dithridge St
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

▪︎ BISHOP DAVID A. ZUBIK · Celebrant
▪︎ FR. KRIS D. STUBNA · Concelebrant
▪︎ DR. STEVEN SEIGART · Conductor

Parish and school treble and mixed choirs (gr. 4-12) are invited!

QUESTIONS? Contact AFPC at 714.633.7554 or visit pcchoirs.org.

MEET THE MIGHTY BECKERATH
An Exciting Opportunity for Young Organists

SATURDAY | MARCH 7, 2020 | 1:30pm
St. Paul Cathedral · Oakland

Meet Cathedral organists extraordinaire, Don Fellows and Ken Danchik, and play this magnificent instrument under their tutelage.
An incredible opportunity!

TO REGISTER and for more information, please visit our website www.npmpgh.org.

NPM PITTSBURGH YOUTH MINISTRY INITIATIVE PRESENTS …
A CANTOR WORKSHOP FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH
DAVID DREHER · INSTRUCTOR

COMING SOON … another great opportunity for HIGH SCHOOL CANTORS to learn from one of the best! Date and location (still being finalized) and registration details will be posted on our website … and in our MARCH newsletter! Stay tuned!
Helpful Links — CREATING WORSHIP AIDS

If you are moving into creating worship aids for your various assemblies, then here are some valuable resources that can be of help:

2. Create music TIF files to import into worship aid software (tutorials provided): https://www.finalemusic.com/
3. Download TIF files for worship aids and report music usage online with Onelicense: https://www.onelicense.net/
4. For various tutorial videos on creating worship aids, visit our YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCV2QttbA_vSa6JFSZLzMGsA/videos

Helpful Links — LITURGICAL PLANNING

Need some inspirational ideas for hymns, psalms, and choral anthems? You might want to try some of these online resources:

1. GIA — https://www.giamusic.com/store/sacred-music/music-by-day
3. OCP — https://www.ocp.org/en-us/liturgy-planning
4. OCP — https://www.liturgy.com
5. NPM — https://npm.org (members only portal gives access to planning

Keep in mind that these online resources can be tailored to search for music using the hymnals that you already use, making it much easier for you to identify hymns common to all your worship sites.

AND.... More Helpful Links

NPM National is encouraging all members to go to the special link below for an informative podcast addressing the results of the recent survey, and the progress on NPM 2.0.


https://singamen.giamusic.com

praytellblog.com

https://www.thehymnsociety.org
Yes, it’s hard to believe that our NPM Pittsburgh Chapter will be 40 years old … in 2021! And in true NPM PGH fashion, we feel the need to celebrate … for a whole year!

We are in the early stages of planning … so in the upcoming months we will be reaching out to you, our membership, to be a part of this incredible anniversary year and to celebrate the core of what NPM is all about … its members … and that is YOU!

For now, we are simply asking if you have any photos from past NPM Pittsburgh meetings, events, conventions, festivals, etc. that you’d be willing to share, we would be most grateful! Or if you have any stories, inspirational, comic, ordinary … we would certainly welcome those memories as well. Basically, we welcome any memory that is part of our Chapter’s rich tapestry! Help us make 2021 – 2022 the “Year of the Pastoral Musician” in Pittsburgh!