NPM◆AGO COMBINED MEETING
Monday • October 22, 2018 • St. Paul Cathedral • Oakland
108 N. Dithridge Street • Pittsburgh, PA

“The Life and Work of Rudolf von Beckerath”

IT has been too long … too long since we’ve gathered together with our music colleagues and counter-parts in the Pittsburgh Chapter of AGO! But we are excited to do just that for our second October NPMPGH meeting. We welcome this opportunity to meet, greet, and eat, with the added treat of Dr. Russell Weismann offering a PowerPoint presentation on “The Life and Work of Rudolf von Beckerath”. We hope you will join us for this evening of food, fellowship, and the scholarly presentation of Dr. Russell Weismann.

Host: Don Fellows

DIRECTIONS to St. Paul Cathedral: https://goo.gl/maps/ejkQwUHPKEz

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
6:00pm  Wine & Cheese Prelude
6:30pm  Fall Harvest Dinner
7:30pm  Meeting
7:45pm  Presentation

HORS D’OEUVRES …compliments of St. Paul Music Ministry
DINNER ………………catered by “Bistro-on-the-Go”

Dinner cost: $20  (Deadline OCT 12)
Dinner cost: $25  (After OCT 12)

For dinner reservations click on the link below:
https://pitago.org/register-for-chapter-event-or-dinner-2/

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer …
Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.
—Romans 12: 12, 15

About our presenter …
Dr. Russell Weismann

A native of Pittsburgh, Russell is the Director of Music and Liturgy at Saint Jane Frances de Chantal Church in Bethesda, Maryland.

He holds degrees from Duquesne, Yale, and George Mason Universities. His dissertation for his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from George Mason University argued the North American influence of the German organ builder, Rudolf von Beckerath.

Previously, Russell held positions at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Georgetown University, and Pittsburgh’s St. Paul Cathedral.

National Association of Pastoral Musicians Pittsburgh Chapter
2900 Noblesstown Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205-4227
Music Office: 412-456-3042
To the Membership of NPM Pittsburgh,

I am truly remiss for not expressing my appreciation to each of you at the recent meeting. I am sorry for that.

The relationship that the Department for Liturgy and Worship and I have had with all of you these past nine years has done much to bring a more vibrant liturgical life to the Diocese. It has been a pleasure working with you on so many different levels.

As I excitedly begin this next chapter of my priestly ministry, you are in very good hands with my successor, Fr. Nick Vaskov is one of your own, having been an organist prior to priesthood. His love of the liturgy will not only continue the good things that have been done, but take you to new and better places. I know you will make him feel as welcomed as you have made me.

Be assured of my prayers and thanks in advance for your prayers in return.

In His love,
Fr. Jim Gretz

The initial gathering of the new NPM year started out with a special “treat”, a retreat led by Fr. Joe Mele at the beautiful worship space of St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Perrysville. Through prayer, dialogue, reflection time and sharing, we were able to go forth refreshed, filled with hope, and ready to admit that we hear the voice of the Father in our ministries. Some salient points of Father’s talk included:

- We need to keep the flame alive in our lives and hearts.
- We are the ‘artists’ that have a role in shedding light on others, leading us through this darkened time of flux and confusion.
- Remember our paradigm shift of change - our goal is to form successful teams not just successful individuals.
- Lean into your prophetic voice which is controlled by the Spirit, let the Spirit guide you.

The sharing portion of the retreat added invaluable insights to the group. An inspirational liturgy, delicious meal and celebration of our 2018 Chapter of the Year award followed. Our hearty thanks to Ted Rybka and the Choir and Handbell Choir of St. Teresa of Avila Parish for a day of gracious and grace-filled hospitality.
NPM Pittsburgh was honored to attend the Pittsburgh Youth Chorus Troubadour Choir rehearsal under the direction of Angela Machi-Evans on Tuesday, October 2 at the Mary Pappert School of Music at Duquesne University.

The Troubadour Choir is an auditioned, entry level choir of students from grades 3-6. They are part of the PYC three-tier core program. Mrs. Machi-Evans is a very charismatic and inspirational director! She led the children in various music reading, solfege and rhythmic activities that transferred to the repertoire that they are rehearsing for the semester.

Much time was spent on basic vocal production and creating a beautiful tone. We were truly honored to be able to observe this wonderful and talented ensemble of young singers.

“It was inspiring to watch a group of children so engaged, attentive, and responsive to what they were being asked to do, and a teacher so caring for her students, and passionate about her work. The result of that interaction was a pure, unified sound of children’s voices and uplifting singing!”

-Maria D’Angelo Dougherty
Director of Music · Holy Rosary Parish, Muse

“Mrs. Angela Machi-Evans has the ability to inspire her young singers in such a way that they may not even notice they are learning repertoire! Her methods of teaching vocal health, posture, rhythm, intonation, and note reading were seamlessly intertwined with her delightful demeanor, all the while holding her students’ undivided attention. Very inspiring!”

-Ginny Ambrose
Director of Music · St. Maria Goretti Parish, Pittsburgh
THE PARISH MUSICIAN

OCTOBER MEETING #2

What’s happening with you?

Call us nebby…but we want to know what’s happening out there with you, our members! We want to promote your events, concerts, recitals, gatherings, whatever they may be, but we need you to inform us so we can inform others. Please send us your information in a brief article. We would also like to have a “Featured Choir” each month, so please send in a photo and description of your group to: Dianne Falvo - dmf653@verizon.net

DEADLINE for the November Newsletter — OCTOBER 30
NURTURING THE SONG OF THE ASSEMBLY
Steve Jance, nationally known composer and educator
Saturday · October 13, 2018 · 9:00am - 12 Noon
St. John XXIII Pastoral Center · Charleston, WVA
Sunday · October 14, 2018 · 3:00pm - 6:00pm
DWC Chancery Building · Wheeling, WVA
A FREE workshop for parish music ministers, choir directors, cantors, choir members, instrumentalists, and anyone responsible for music in a parish or school. Registration info: www.dwc.org/musicworkshops or call (304) 233-0880 ext. 289.

ST. BERNARD FALL 2018 CONCERT SERIES
Notre Dame Glee Club
Sunday · October 14, 2018
4:00pm
St. Bernard Church · 311 Washington Road · Pittsburgh, PA 15216
Admission is FREE; a free-will offering will be most gratefully accepted. For more info, visit stjamesmusic1@gmail.com

LOVE LETTERS “Letters of Wartime” – Premiere Performance
Donna Groom · pianist, featured vocal artist, and vocalist with the Skyliners
Sunday · October 14, 2018
5:00pm | Doors open 6:00pm | Show starts
The Bible Chapel of South Hills · 300 Gallery Drive · McMurray, PA 15317
A theatrical concert pairing wartime correspondence with music of the era and historic images and exploring the heartfelt observations and emotions of these very personal letters, highlighted by a backdrop of meaningful music and pictures. “Love Letters” was developed in collaboration with NY Times best-selling author, Andrew Carroll, Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum, Pittsburgh and donations from Veterans’ personal unpublished collections. Tickets, https://www.itickets.com/events/403089.html. More info, www.donnagroom.com/shows

“I WILL BRING YOU HOME” CONCERT AND BOOK TOUR • “SONGS OF PRAYER, STORIES OF FAITH”
David Haas
Friday · October 19, 2018
7:00pm
St. Benedict the Abbot Church · 120 Abington Drive · McMurray, PA 15317
Contact: Tom Franzak | tomfranzak@gmail.com | (724) 941-9406 ext. 108
A free will offering will be taken.
Join David Haas for this extraordinary event. David will take you on a musical journey of songs and reflections born from over 40 years of liturgical composition.

ORGAN RECITAL
Dr. Russell Weismann, Organ Artist
Sunday · October 21, 2018
4:00pm
St. Paul Episcopal Church · 1066 Washington Road · Pittsburgh, PA 15228
Russell Weismann, award winning organ artist and Pittsburgh native, will present a recital of organ masterworks and collaborate with Katy Williams, St. Paul’s Vocal Artist in Residence, in Bach’s Cantata BWV 52, Falsche Welt, dir trau ich nicht. Donation: $10

CHORAL CONCERT
The Lemington Gospel Chorale, directed by Reverend Deryck Tines
Sunday · October 21, 2018
7:00pm
St. James Parish · 200 Walnut Street · Sewickley, PA 15143
St. James Music Ministry presents The Lemington Gospel Chorale in a rousing concert of traditional and contemporary gospel music. FREE ADMISSION. Reception will follow. Questions: Call 412-741-6650 or Email Lou Valenzi at stjamesmusic1@gmail.com

NPM/AGO COMBINED EVENT • DINNER, MEETING AND PRESENTATION
“The Life and Work of Rudolf Von Beckerath”
Dr. Russell Weismann, guest lecturer
Monday · October 22, 2018
Hors d’ouevres · 6:00pm
Fall Harvest Dinner · 6:30pm
Meeting · 7:30pm
Presentation · 7:45pm
St. Paul Cathedral, Oakland
Host: Don Fellows
CHAPTER HAPPENINGS | UPCOMING EVENTS (CONT.)

FEAST OF ALL SOULS CONCERT
Mary Rita Rossetti, piano • Sue Garton, Handbells
Saturday - November 3, 2018
6:00pm
Our Lady of Fatima Parish • 2270 Brodhead Road • Hopewell, PA 15001
To commemorate the Feast of All Souls, the concert will begin with 2 meditative selections, then move on to some livelier tunes.

ST. JAMES MUSIC PLUS SERIES: “VIOLA OF MY SOUL”
Randolph Kelly, viola • Donna Amato, piano
Sunday - November 18, 2018
3:00pm
St. James Parish • 200 Walnut Street • Sewickley, PA 15143
At 2:30pm there will be a pre-concert recital given by the students of Amato Music Studio. Items for the Sewickley Food Pantry will be collected at this concert. A free-will offering will be gratefully accepted. A dessert reception will follow the concert. Questions: Call 412-741-6650 or email s.schaefer@comcast.net

ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE
St. Alexis Parish, Host
Tuesday - November 20, 2018
7:00pm
St. Alexis Parish • 10090 Old Perry Highway • Wexford, PA 15090
Rehearsal will begin at 5:45pm in the sanctuary of the new church. Questions? Please feel free to contact Randolph Kelly, viola • Donna Amato, piano
Sunday - November 18, 2018
3:00pm
St. James Parish • 200 Walnut Street • Sewickley, PA 15143
At 2:30pm there will be a pre-concert recital given by the students of Amato Music Studio. Items for the Sewickley Food Pantry will be collected at this concert. A free-will offering will be gratefully accepted. A dessert reception will follow the concert. Questions: Call 412-741-6650 or email s.schaefer@comcast.net

Pittsburgh Chapter of AGO presents “SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW”
Dr. Charles Callahan, guest presenter
Monday - November 26, 2018
Hors d'oeuvres 6:00pm
Dinner 6:30pm
Meeting 7:30pm
Presentation 7:45pm
St. Thomas More Parish
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Presentation 7:45pm
Meeting 7:30pm
Dinner 6:30pm
Hors d'oeuvres 6:00pm
November 26, 2018
Monday
Pittsburgh Chapter of AGO presents “SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW”
Dr. Charles Callahan, guest presenter
Monday - November 26, 2018
Hors d'oeuvres 6:00pm
Dinner 6:30pm
Meeting 7:30pm
Presentation 7:45pm
St. Thomas More Parish • 126 Fort Couch Road • Pittsburgh, PA 15241
Join RING PITTSBURGH as we “Ring in the Season” with a festive concert that will include some old holiday favorites. Be ready for some surprises too!

RING PITTSBURGH
“Ring in the Season”
Sunday - November 25, 2018
3:00pm
Heinz Memorial Chapel • Corner of Fifth Avenue & S. Bellefield Avenue, Oakland

FESTIVAL of CAROLS and PRAISE … hosted by the Diocese of Pittsburgh
Dear Fellow Musicians and Leaders of Worship,
Grace, peace, and joy to you in Christ Jesus our Lord! While we find ourselves in trying times, we remember that Christ is our light, peace, and joy! This year the Diocese of Pittsburgh is hosting the Festival of Carols and Praise at St. Paul Cathedral on Sunday, December 9, 2018 from 2:30pm to 4:30pm with light refreshments to follow. This will be a powerful time for our Diocese as we experience in prayer the yearning of our broken humanity, and the hope promised through the incarnation of Almighty God!

This letter is coming to you because we want to invite every choir in the Diocese of Pittsburgh to be an important part of this time of worship! There were over 200 choir members in attendance for this event last year, and they added so much to the celebration! Many thanks! The hope this year is to have 300-600 choir members filling the entire back middle section of the Cathedral, which will be reserved for choir members only. The choir will not be conducted. It will be similar to being at a music convention, where everyone is just sight-reading and the whole place is filled with harmony! There is nothing complicated, as all songs will be congregational. The order of worship and all of the hymns will be sent out in an email blast forthcoming. The general idea is a kind of Lessons and Carols in the context of adoration. That being said, we are attempting to not make this a Christmas event in Advent, but an overture to the Advent and Christmas seasons. If you choose to accept this invitation, our hope is that you will rehearse the music several times with your choir. If only a few members of your choir would like to attend, please let them know that they are responsible for learning their parts on their own. Everyone is welcome to attend a rehearsal at Holy Apostles Parish, St. Albert the Great Church, 3198 Schenck Street, for a rehearsal from 6:30pm to 8:30pm on Thursday, December 6. If you have any questions about choral matters, please contact J.R. Daniels at jrdaniels@holyapostlesparish.org or 412-884-7744. Also, we are excited about helping people find bus arrangements if that would help. These buses could bring the choir and anyone else who would like to attend from your parish. For help making bus arrangements, please contact Beverly Lankes at jlankes@comcast.net or 412-417-9361. Please pass on the word and stir the faithful up for a beautiful encounter with our Risen King! May Almighty God bless and inspire you always!

Fr. Levi Hartle
Consultant in the Office of Liturgy and Worship (effective Oct 15)
Parochial Vicar of Holy Apostles Parish
NPM PITTSBURGH 2018-19 PROGRAMS & EVENTS

MONDAY • OCTOBER 22, 2018
NPM/AGO Combined Meeting
Dr. Russell Weismann, guest lecturer
“The Life and Work of Rudolf von Beckerath”
Hors d’oeuvres 6:00pm
Dinner 6:30pm
Meeting 7:30pm
Presentation 7:45pm
Location St. Paul Cathedral · Oakland
Host Don Fellows

FRIDAY • FEBRUARY 1, 2019
A Celebration of Candlemas – Candlemas Eve Mass followed by an Invitational Choir Fest of Music for the Season
7:00pm
Location St. Kilian Parish · Cranberry Township
Host David Dreher

MONDAY • MARCH 4, 2019
Mardi Gras Celebration
6:30pm to 10:00pm
Location St. Maximilian Kolbe Church · Homestead
Back by popular demand! An NPM Pittsburgh fundraiser!
Host Tom Coyne
Event coordinators Ginny Ambrose and Kevin Maurer

SATURDAY • MARCH 30, 2019
PUERI CANTORES Festival for Mixed Voice Choirs (Grades 4-12) and Festival Mass 12 Noon to 5:00pm (Registration and Rehearsal)
5:30pm Choral Prelude
6:00pm Festival Mass
Location St. Paul Cathedral · Oakland
Host Don Fellows
To register, please visit: www.pcchoirs.org

APRIL 2019
A VIRTUAL MEETING (Webinar)
Date and topic TBA

MONDAY • NOVEMBER 5, 2018
DMMD Tour of St. Anthony Chapel · Troy Hill
12:30pm Tour
2:00pm Lunch at Penn Brewery
Location 800 Vinial Street · Pittsburgh, PA 15212

MONDAY • NOVEMBER 14, 2018
Pizza, Pipes, and Prayer: A Night for the Organist (The Advantages of Creating Hybrid Organs from Existing Pipe Organs)
7:00pm
Location Holy Name Church/Christ the Light of the World Parish · Duquesne, PA
Presenter George Pecoraro
Host Greg Lesko

MONDAY • DECEMBER 4, 2018
Music Software Tips for the Pastoral Musician
A Virtual Meeting (Technology Webinar)
7:30pm
Presenters David Dreher
NPM/Pittsburgh Director of Technology

TUESDAY • DECEMBER 4, 2018
Music Software Tips for the Pastoral Musician
A Virtual Meeting (Technology Webinar)
7:30pm
Presenters David Dreher
NPM/Pittsburgh Director of Technology

COMING SOON!
DMMD TOUR: ST. ANTHONY CHAPEL
Monday · November 5, 2018
1704 Harpster Street Pittsburgh, PA 15212
Join us for our first DMMD meeting of the NPM 2018-19 year—a guided tour of Saint Anthony Chapel which is home to the largest collection of publicly venerable Christian relics, 5,000 in total, in the world outside of the Vatican. Following the tour, we will dine together at Penn Brewery.
To register for the tour and lunch, visit our website www.npmpgh.org and sign up. Deadline is Monday · October 29, 2018

Looking ahead …
2019 DMMD WINTER COLLOQUIUM
January 14 - 16
San Antonio, Texas
Congratulations!

NICHOLAS WILL … Director of Liturgical Music – Pontifical North American College, Rome, Italy
BÉLA PATER ……….Director of Music Ministries – “Grouping 210”
(Catholic Community of Carnegie, Green Tree, and Scott Twp)
DAVID DREHER …. for the publication of his article “Technology: Give it A Try!” in the September 2018 edition of The Liturgical Singer.

[mother of sorrows parish · murrysville, pa | director of liturgy and music (full time)]
The Director of Liturgy and Music oversees and coordinates liturgies and music for all parish celebrations and events in collaboration with the pastor and parish staff, and reports to the Pastor of Mother of Sorrows Church. Salary is commensurate with education and pastoral-liturgical experience.
Contact: Msgr. James Gaston 724-733-8870 or Email: jgaston@dioceseofgreensburg.org

[membership]
Have you been on the fence about joining NPM Pittsburgh, but just can’t jump off onto our side yet? Why not come to one of our upcoming meetings? Check out our calendar of meetings on our website www.npmpgh.org. We would love to have you join us … any time! And if you can’t join us in person, please take advantage of our NPM Pittsburgh YouTube Channel, where our meetings and events are available so you can still be “with us”. For more info on our Chapter, please get in touch with Kevin Maurer, our Chapter Director, at music@diopitt.org.

[job postings]

[rack/portable keyboard]

[national membership]
If you are, or have been a national NPM member, be sure your membership is up to date. It’s a two-way street. Any association is only as strong as its membership, and its members benefit most from a strong association. If you haven’t viewed the new and improved national website, check it out here: www.npm.org

[photographer]
Have you always had that tug at your heart, that strong desire to seek out opportunities to use your photography skills, but just never knew where to start? Well … let us help you get started! We are seeking a person who truly enjoys the art of taking pictures; you need not be a professional. We’re looking to have more pictures taken at our monthly meetings and events, especially the larger ones. Please let us know if you have any interest in serving NPMPGH in this role.

— Kevin Maurer, Chapter Director
music@diopitt.org

[ VICARIATE LIAISONS]
VICARIATE LIAISONS are the foot soldiers of our chapter… the communicators, the voice and face of NPMPGH of their respective vicariates. To revisit the duties of a VL: At the request of your Vicariate Coordinator, you may be asked to convey important information to the Music Directors in your vicariate, either by phone, email, text, or in person – whatever works. With only a focused time commitment, this “job” serves as the bridge for our colleagues to be welcomed into our NPMPGH community. If interested, contact your Vicariate Coordinator for more info. (See page 10)
It's Saturday night and you get an email or text saying that the cantor scheduled for Sunday's 10am Mass is sick and you need a sub. What do you do? You can look on your Doodle poll and see who checked off that they were available, text them the link to the music pdf file, the link to the mp3 files on Dropbox, and the problem is solved in five minutes.

**DOODLE**

If you are asking yourself, “What is he talking about?” Well, friends, technology is our friend, and when you learn to use the tools available to you already, your work will become much easier! Scheduling music ministers used to be very time consuming. But now I use one of the several scheduling software platforms out there. It’s called Doodle. It is a way of creating a schedule and asking folks to show their availability instantly. As the administrator, I can view everyone’s choices of dates and Mass times available at my fingertips. No need to sift through a dozen or so emails to create a chart. It’s done automatically. Once the schedule is created by either the music director or a “lead” cantor, it may be posted to Dropbox for another cloud service for all to see. Cantors may then contact each other to get subs or to make a schedule switch.

**THE “CLOUD”**

Still making endless copies of sheet music and mailing them to all your cantors? Still making all those CDs or tapes for them to learn their music? No need to do that either! I use “the cloud”. Assuming you have already purchased the appropriate copyright licenses to make the copies (like onelicense.net ), you can upload your sheet music, make mp3 files, and upload those as well to “the cloud”. Maybe the music director is swamped with work. Why not have a tech-savvy cantor or choir member assist in making the recordings, or doing the digital work needed to help everyone learn their parts?

There are a number of cloud services to choose from and each has their own limits, based on whether you use the free service or pay. For example, I use Dropbox. It is very reliable and crosses both platforms of use – PC and MAC. I scan my sheet music, upload it to a file folder I create on Dropbox, and then “Share” that folder with my various cantors. The same can be done with mp3 files. Another “cloud” platform that might interest you is Google Drive (for those who have Gmail accounts). It is similar to Dropbox, but gives you more free storage space than Dropbox. You can create documents right in Google Drive to share with other members of your music ministry. You can upload scanned documents as well as audio files.

For Microsoft customers, I recommend using Office 365. With your account you can get your email but you also have access to OneDrive, another cloud storage service. Again, it is similar to Dropbox in that you can create files and share those files and folders with whomever you designate. If you have large audio files (e.g. over 20MB in size) you can share them in an email as a link to your folder and not worry about having the email bounce back because the file size is too large for the mail server.

**RECORDINGS**

I mentioned earlier that I make my own recordings for my cantors and choir members. I record the songs on my computer using Garageband, convert to mp3 files, and upload to my shared Dropbox folder. For PC users, there are several recording platforms to use: Audacity is a free platform; Goldwave is another platform but you have to pay a fee (around $50). I believe you can also record wav files using Windows 10 as well. I use an audio mixer, electric keyboard, and decent microphone, connecting them all to my computer using a digital interface bought for about $100. You do not need a lot of fancy equipment to make recordings. If you invest in a nice microphone with a USB connection, you can be up and running on your computer in minutes.

Making recordings and posting them in the cloud is a great way for cantors and choirs to learn their parts. It’s also a great way to help parishioners in planning music for worship. If your parish website is capable of doing this, why not create a section for sacramental music? List various selections appropriate for funeral and wedding liturgies. Then, when meeting with couples or families to plan the music for these liturgies, they can do their “homework” first and listen to these selections.

While you’re at it, create a section where you can post weekly recordings of your choirs singing at Mass or various instrumental pieces. Convince your pastor that the extra exposure will help bring more “traffic” to your website. Our parish is now offering a parish app for smartphones and tablets. You can create various content for these apps and upload your music for parishioners to hear as well.

YouTube is a great way to gain exposure for your music program. It’s very easy to create your own dedicated channel and upload your choirs, cantors, and instrumental music selections. Make sure you have the copyright information posted in the description section. To use the YouTube channel, remember that you must create video to post the music. I simply use iMovie to do that and import a picture from the internet that relates to the song so that an image appears. Then, import the mp3 recording or wav recording you’ve made. There are many tutorial videos out there that can show you how to do this.

If you’re not up to making your own recordings, you can download rehearsal tracks from services like onelicense.net. They have access to many publishers; there are many practice tracks available. The NPM national website is also creating rehearsal tracks for popular songs; they are available on the premium content section of the website.

As you can see from the examples discussed, technology can make our work much easier and more accessible to more people. There is a learning curve, admittedly, but the benefits are so numerous. Give technology a try … you’ll be glad you did! 

**CHECK OUR TECH . . .**

NPMFGH YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCV2Q06A_vSa6JFSZLzMGsA/videos
Website: www.onelicense.net
Facebook: Pittsburgh NPM Musicians’ Forum
If many have distanced themselves from the church, it is precisely because the church has somewhat estranged itself from humanity.

But a church that can feel as its own all that is human and wants to incarnate the pain, the hope, the affliction of all who suffer and feel joy, such a church will be Christ loved and awaited, Christ present.

And that depends upon us.

— Blessed Óscar Romero

( Date of canonization - October 14, 2018 )