



THE BASILICA OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

DATE: May 26, 2015

TO: All Basilica Music Ministers

RE: Sacred Music Program News - Summer 2015

Thanks to all of you for offering your time and talents during the Easter season, including the beautiful Confirmation and First Communion Masses, when we combined choirs. Our Easter music schedule takes us through June 7, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi. Father Carter has approved a new schedule of music for this summer through August 30. It includes the cantor schedule and links to scores and audio/videos of the choral music we will be offering during the season. Hardcopies of the music schedule will be handed out during choir rehearsals. Please look to see what is coming up, and use it as a guide to prepare for each Mass. 9:00 choir pieces are not listed, but will be given by Debi Crabtree. For your convenience, this list is also posted our parish website under "Volunteer Schedules."

<http://www.stspeterandpaulbasilica.com/volunteers>

The first page shows the basic plan of music for our summer Masses. We will continue singing the propers of the Mass mostly in the same format we have been singing them during Eastertide, but we will simplify the entrance and place greater emphasis on the Introit by omitting the prelude hymn. After two high seasons of singing the Ordinary in Latin, for Ordinary Time we are returning to a simpler English setting of the Ordinary, the *Missal Chants*. This Ordinary is familiar to us at the basilica, and it uses the same ancient melodies as *Missa Jubilate Deo*, which we sang during Lent. We can look forward to *Missa de Angelis* again during the Christmas season and other special celebrations.

This summer we will try a new Gospel Acclamation that gives the choir the option to sing the refrain in parts and hum chords under the cantor on the verse. We are also branching out to using more of the hymns from our new St. Michael hymnal. Both choirs will get a chance to learn new choral pieces and recycle favorites. I hope everyone will find plenty to enjoy in our summer music!

Father Carter wants to makes sure we all find some well-deserved rest this summer in a slightly less demanding workload for the choirs that what we experienced during the first half of the year as we transitioned into a fuller sacred music program. The 11:30 choir is getting several mornings off, as noted in the schedule, with cantors taking the lead on those Masses. Debi may offer the same to the 9:00 choir. Another important theme this summer will be music education. We hope to develop our skills together and attract more singers in the process.

Please "save the date" for the following music-related events and educational opportunities coming up this summer:

Sun., June 7 at 11:30 am - Corpus Christi Procession - On June 7, Corpus Christi, there will be a Eucharistic procession at the end of the 11:30 Mass. The youth schola will sing *O Salutaris Hostia* during the incensation of the Blessed Sacrament, and then all choir singers will lead the *Pange Lingua* as the procession begins. The choir will follow the Blessed Sacrament directly behind the sacred ministers, singing several songs as we go around the block. We can carry our hymnals with us, and someone will announce each song number. I will send out a list of the hymns/numbers soon. There may also be recitation of Rosary decades and the Divine Mercy Chaplet during this time. Please let me know if you would like to help lead those prayers. When the procession returns to the church, choir will move into the pews and join in singing *Tantum Ergo* at the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Sun., June 21 after the 9:00 Mass – Coffee and Donuts honoring Tim Daugherty – Our organist, Tim Daugherty, has accepted a full-time position as organist at a church in Atlanta. Before starting his new job, he will play at our 9:00 Masses on June 21 and June 28, and he has chosen some of his favorite hymns to play those days. The parish will honor him and his five years of service to us at the Coffee and Donuts in the Varallo Parish Hall after the 9:00 Mass on June 21. All parishioners and especially music ministers are invited to attend, show him our gratitude, and bid him farewell in his new adventure.

Mon.-Tues., June 15-16 and June 22-23 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm - Beginning music reading class – Our organist and music teacher, Andrea Tierney, with the help of a couple of other musicians, is offering a series of four sessions on Monday and Tuesday evenings for these two weeks in June. This class will focus on modern staff notation and hymns sung in parts. Everyone who would like help with sight singing is encouraged to come. This includes choir singers as well as anyone in the congregation who wants to sing. Please see the bulletin for more information, and please contact me to register for the class. We need a good number of folks to make this class worthwhile. Depending on how this class goes, we may offer more classes following this one, to continue developing skills.

Sat., August 15, 8am - 5pm - Summer Sacred Music Workshop in Jasper, Georgia - Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church in Jasper, Georgia, less than two hours' drive from the basilica, has successfully implemented a traditional sacred music program like we are starting at the basilica, including the singing of the propers and the Ordinary in Gregorian Chant, with polyphony. They are hosting a one-day workshop this summer for people of all levels of experience to gather, learn and enhance our skills in chant and polyphony, and sing an Ordinary Form Mass together. Father Carter will be giving the keynote address. This is a wonderful opportunity for all of us - including those with no chant/polyphony experience - and I hope you'll each consider attending. The cost is only \$25 for the day, which includes lunch, refreshments, and materials. (The workshop hosts are volunteering their service.) I am currently collecting registrations, through June 7, to mail in as a group. Copies of the registration forms will be available in the choir loft this weekend. You can turn them in to me or Debi Crabtree, or of course you can mail your own form in. Here are links to more information and a flyer:

<http://www.olmjasper.com/2015/05/summer-sacred-music-workshop/>

<http://www.olmjasper.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Summer-Sacred-Music-Workshop-2015-Blue-Poster.docx.pdf>

If you want to drive down to Jasper that Friday night, I believe there will be the opportunity to stay in a dorm-style facility overnight, though I don't see mention of it on the website yet. I will try to find out more about that. You can contact Bridget Scott: olmchoirs@gmail.com or 770-830-1523, for more information.

June 27 at 7:00 pm - Organ recital by Jim Fry - The basilica is honored to host Catholic organist Jim Fry, who served us at the 11:30 Mass on Easter Sunday, for an organ recital honoring the 125th anniversary of the basilica. His concert will feature arrangements of Gregorian chant and Baroque trumpet music. There will be a welcome reception afterwards. Sts. Peter and Paul has not had many events like this in recent history. Since we are blessed with a wonderful organ and space for making music, we hope this will be the first of many concerts to come, highlighting our organ, choirs, other instruments, and other regional ensembles. In fact, a minor basilica has the privilege and duty to serve the community as a center of culture and fine arts, and this is one way we aim to start doing that. Please help to make this event a success by attending and by inviting your family and friends to come. Watch for announcements to come, and flyers to distribute. Also, if you have any ideas to help us advertise this concert, please send them my way!

June 28 at 5:00 pm - 125th Anniversary Mass - Bishop Stika will celebrate this Mass of the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, in honor of the 125th anniversary of the dedication of our church building and Father Carter's 10th anniversary of priestly ordination. This is a combined choir event, and all musicians are encouraged to participate. The 11:30 choir will be given the morning off to make it easier to attend this evening Mass. The 9:00 choir may also discuss this possibility. We will plan to rehearse the music for this Mass on the two Thursday evenings before the Mass. Details to come.

Joy of Tradition educational materials - Please visit the *Joy of Tradition* page on the basilica website to find catechetical articles about the Mass and sacred music that we have published this year. The latest addition to this page is a set of videos of three Ordinaries (Mass settings) that we sing at our Ordinary Form Masses: *Missa de Angelis*, *Missal Chants*, and *Missa Jubilate Deo*. These videos highlight the score so that you can follow along and learn. In the future we plan to expand and offer a whole music section on our website with material like this. We hope our musicians and the whole congregation will take advantage of these resources.

<http://www.stspeterandpaulbasilica.com/joy-of-tradition>

Thank you all for your service to our music ministry, and please pray for our continued growth!

Sincerely in Christ,

Maria Rist
Sacred Music Coordinator
865-335-0588
MariaRist@comcast.net