



THE CHURCH MUSICIAN ~ *THE QUILISMA*

The Bulletin of the Church Musicians' Guild of Buffalo

A chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians

May 2015

FESTIVAL MASS AT ST. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH

The guild will gather for worship and fellowship on Thursday, May 21 at 7:00 PM. Music will be lead by Melissa Herr and the Saint Leo Church choir. CMG chaplain, Fr. John Mack, will celebrate the mass.

After mass, the guild will present awards to three recipients. Bob Kiercz and Dan Tenerowicz are retiring from the board after years of faithful service. The Cecelia Roy Kenny Award will be given to Eleanor Asklar who served for 60 years as organist at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Niagara Falls. Eleanor has been a member of our guild for a similar length of time.

The parish will host a reception for the guild after the ceremony. We thank Ann Riester for hosting our event. You may find the church at 2660 Niagara Falls Boulevard in Tonawanda.

Save the Date!

FESTIVAL MASS

Thursday, May 21, 2015 - 7:00pm

St. Christopher Church

Please note the time change!

Organ Scholarship Auditions

We have a long tradition of supporting fledging organists in their training. Jeanne Suski and Bill Fay are chairing the auditions which will be held at St. Benedict's Church on Monday June 1 at 7 PM. Applicants will have the Schlicker pipe organ and a grand piano at their disposal. Please contact Bill for the application forms. The winner of the scholarship will receive a \$500 prize and all applicants will receive a one year membership to the guild, free of charge. If interested, please contact Bill @ musicman08@verizon.net or call 761 359 0334.

Paschal Greetings!

The roots of our pastoral ministry of music may be found in the earliest times of our life. Perhaps a school teacher, piano teacher, an organist or instrumentalist, or a family member who enjoyed singing or playing music left a life-long impression on us. We encountered the beautiful, the true, and the good in many venues, including church but also in a concert hall or in the summertime at an outdoor bandstand. An interest stirred within us, emerging into a dedicated passion for music, in general and in particular. The discipline of practice, rehearsal, and presentation might have drawn us even more deeply into the heart and soul of music, even as we faced deepening challenges from time limitations and conflicting demands for our interest.

Perhaps today, our pastoral ministry of music may serve as an inspiration for others as they encounter the beautiful, the true, and the good in our music ministry of sacred song as the assembly of the faithful find their voice in praise of God. At times, we become our best selves in our humanity in the making of music and our dedication service to the people of God through and within pastoral music. As grace perfects nature, the Gift of holiness emerges within an authentic, genuinely loving, merciful, and compassionate human being.

The breathing of the Holy Spirit into our breath for the sake of sacred song gives flesh and blood to the Paschal Mystery which we celebrate throughout the Fifty Days that are Easter, as one "Great Sunday" of Alleluias.

~Fr. John Mack

St. Martin of Tours to host

John Michael Talbot

May 2016

Experience Catholic Renewal and Revival in Christ

St. Martin of Tours, 1140 Abbott Rd, Buffalo, will host a retreat Monday, May 16 and Tuesday, May 17, 2016 from 7-8:30pm. Mark your calendar for two inspirational evenings with Christian Music legend, best-selling author, community founder and host of The Church Channel's weekly TV show "All Things Are Possible," John Michael Talbot.

COME BOTH EVENINGS! Each night is different featuring a MESSAGE and MUSIC to RENEW YOUR FAITH! All denominations and ages are welcome!

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 3, 2015 - 3:00pm - *Organ Recital* given by Peter Gonciarz, Slee Hall, UB

Thursday, May 21, 2015 - 7:00pm - *Festival Mass, Awards, and Reception* at St Christopher's Church, Tonawanda

Sunday, May 24, 2015 - 3:00pm - *Reflections on A Dance*, Blessed Trinity Church, Buffalo

Sunday, May 31, 2015 - 3:00pm - *Music of Our Dreams*, Zion Lutheran Church, Clarence

Monday June 1, 2015 - 7:00pm - *Organ Scholarship Auditions*, St. Benedict Church

Friday and Saturday, September 18 & 19 - *Convocation*, Christ the King Seminary

Sunday, October 25, 2015 - *Choral Festival*, Saint Joseph University Church

CMG LITERATURE REVIEW

Recently I have completed my personal collection of the Jubilate series, edited by James Kosnik and J. Michael McMahon, and I would like to share some of my thoughts on Jubilate, Volume IV. I know that many of us in the CMG are familiar with and may already own various volumes of the Jubilate series, but for those who are unfamiliar, here is a brief background on the series. The series aims to provide accessible and quality organ repertoire to church musicians who find themselves with advanced keyboard skills, but with limited organ technique. Most of the music in the series focuses on the manuals (keyboards) as the center of attention, but will often include a very easy, slow moving pedal part. It is interesting to note that while this series can be used successfully in almost any Christian church, much of the music is based on tunes unique to the Catholic tradition, in particular those of Gregorian chant and many folk inspired tunes made popular in the 1970's and 80's.

I think many of us church musicians will agree that we are rewarded with the most positive congregational response when we provide music that is both appealing and familiar to them, and the beauty of the Jubilate series is that the congregation will probably be able to pick out the tune they are hearing and identify it! Jubilate, Volume IV is probably one of the most practical books of organ music I have ever bought, and I probably over use it in the liturgies I serve. Some of the highlights of Volume IV include a lovely, light, trio arrangement of "I Am the Bread of Life" by Jeffrey Honore. This arrangement is a lot of fun and even hints at the famous Bach prelude on "Wachet Auf." Honore also arranges "Grosser Gott" (Holy God We Praise Thy Name), and cleverly weaves in the Te Deum chant tune. My two favorites in the collection are two trumpet tunes by Benjamin M. Culli. One is based on the tune "In Babilone" (There's a Wideness in God's Mercy), and "Lasst Uns Erfreuen" (All Creatures of Our God and King). Both pieces require very little practice time, and yet they make very effect postludes or festive preludes, especially if those tunes are to be sung later on in the liturgy. Some of the other composers include Mary Beth Bennett, Lynn Trapp, James Kosnik, Stephanie Honz, and James Biery. Other popular tunes include "Eye Has Not Seen", "Shepherd Me, O God", "Silent Night", "Take and Eat", "One Bread, One Body", plus more. Interestingly, some of the tunes found in this collection

such as "Eye Has Not Seen" and "Take and Eat" haven't appeared in other collections before. Lastly I would like to say there is something in this book for almost every occasion, whether it is Advent, Christmas, Easter, a funeral, a wedding, or any ordinary Sunday.

The Jubilate series can be purchased from the Concordia Publishing House's website (www.cph.org), and at the time I'm writing this, Jubilate IV is discounted at 50% off! Enjoy!

Cheerfully in Christ,

Peter Gonciarz

The Guild Travels to Batavia

We have begun the process of visiting areas of the diocese outside of Erie County. Last year your director met with musicians in Niagara Falls and Fredonia/Dunkirk. On Monday May 4, church musicians will gather at Settler's Restaurant on Main Street in Batavia for a light dinner and sharing mutual concerns. If you would like to be included, please contact Bill via email or cell phone.

musicman08@verizon.net (716) 359 0334.

SPOTLIGHT ON CMG BOARD MEMBER HEATHER LOVELACE

We are delighted to have Heather as a new member on the CMG board. If you attended our members' recital, you would have enjoyed listening to her beautiful soprano voice. Heather has a degree in music education from SUNY Fredonia and a master's degree from Duquesne University in music technology.

Heather has 9 years of experience teaching music in the Williamsville and Depew school districts. Her choirs have earned the gold distinction at NYSSMA evaluations and recently she was selected as the guest conductor of the Genesee All County Elementary chorus. Heather is active in promoting music technology in the music classroom and has given presentations throughout western New York with special recognition from the Erie County Music Educators Association for her innovative teaching style.

Currently, our board member serves as director of music and administrative assistant for Saint Katharine Drexel Church. Ms Lovelace also directs the Festival Chorus of the Christian Foundation for the Performing Arts and is the founder of the Genesee Children's Chorus. Heather sings with the Genesee Chorale. She says that choral music is her true love and she is excited to focus on its use in the liturgical setting.

Upcoming Concerts

The Buffalo Brass Choir brings its season to a close on **May 23 and 24, 2015** with *Reflections on a Dance*. The concert will feature exciting transcriptions of Brahms' *Hungarian Dance No. 5*, Praetorius' *Suite de Ballets*, Holst's *Jig* from the *St. Paul Suite*, Warlock's *Capriol Suite*, and Ginastera's *Dances from Estancia*. The feature work on the program will be *Reflections on a Dance*, an imaginative and expansive original composition for brass by living American composer David Sampson. Performances take place at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 23, at Orchard Park Presbyterian Church, 4369 South Buffalo Street in Orchard Park, and at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 24, at Blessed Trinity R.C. Church, 317 Leroy Avenue in Buffalo. The Buffalo Brass Choir includes some of WNY's finest brass and percussion players under the direction of Nick DelBello and is the resident ensemble at Blessed Trinity. Ticket information is available at www.blessedtrinitybuffalo.org or by calling 716-833-0301.

Sunday, May 31, 2015 at 3:00pm, The Festival Chorus, under the direction of Heather Lovelace and accompanied by Tom Rutter, will present **Music of Our Dreams**. The concert will take place at Zion Lutheran Church, 9535 Clarence Center Road, Clarence NY 14032. Tickets are \$6 pre-sale and \$8 at the door. For more information contact Heather Lovelace, hrlovelace@gmail.com (716) 531-8986.

WANTED: ALIVE AND READY TO WORK!

Guild members are encouraged to contact the director if interested in serving on the board. We have at least one vacancy.

Board meetings occur 4-6 times a year and there are committees to serve on as well. We have a revitalized board thanks to several new members. All we need is you!