

Co-Chairpersons

V. Rev. Daniel Skvir, Rector, Holy Transfiguration Chapel, Princeton, NY, dskvir@princeton.edu; Doreen Bartholomew, Choir Director, Our Lady of Kazan Church, Sea Cliff, NY, johndoreen@optonline.net; Carol Wetmore, Choir Director, Holy Trinity Church, Randolph, NJ, wetmore1@aol.com

2012-2013 Workshops

This year we decided to focus on the future of our choirs – our children. The workshops, designed and taught by David Lucs, introduced children to basic music reading concepts, and simple prayers set to music. Parents were encouraged to attend. We have assessed feedback and are now offering the workshops in two parts. *Making Music with Kids Part One*, focusing on the children with less music experience, and *Making Music with Kids Part Two* is designed for older children or children who already have musical knowledge (e.g., sing in their school choir take piano lessons). Workshops have been held at the following parishes:

St. Andrew's Church, Dix Hills – December 1, 2012
Holy Resurrection Church, Wayne, NJ – March 9, 2013
Holy Protection Cathedral, NYC – October 12, 2013

The following workshops are planned.

Ss. Peter and Paul Church, Buffalo, NY – November 16, 2013
St. Andrew's Church, Dix Hills – December 7, 2013 (Making Music Part II)

Diocesan Website

We continue to enhance the Music Commission's section of the Diocesan website. Again we offer thanks for the enthusiasm and quality support of Fr. Ken James Stavrevsky. Sheet music (often with Midi playback) is now available there for more than 60 works composed or arranged by Diocesan musicians, as well as large-print text for several services.

Choir Director Information

An essential part of the Commission's resources is a Directory of Choir Directors, with contact information, posted on the website. We fervently request Rectors to assure the Commission has current information on their Choir Directors by checking the information on the website, and updating via email to the Commission or to one of the Co-Chairs at the addresses above.

Church Musician Appreciation Day

Was marked on Sunday, September 29th, the closest Sunday to the Feast Day of St. Romanos the Melodist. Parishes were requested to express appreciation to their musicians, and special petition(s) were offered.

Online Conducting Course

The diocese (and beyond) had a number of beginner musicians 'testing' this class which was developed and is taught by David Drillock. Test participants took ten weekly sessions,

watched instructional videos online at a time of day convenient to them, and subsequently participated in one weekly 20-minute Skype conference with the instructor. The course covered such topics as basic beat patterns, entries on and off the beat, the relationship between text and music, singing in phrases, and techniques of conducting chant. Initial feedback from a questionnaire Dr. Drillock sent to participants showed all were extremely satisfied with the class and agreed it was worthwhile and easy to do in terms of logistics. A second round of classes will be offered OCA-wide, with a tuition fee.

Remember: “Keep CoLM and Carry On”!!