

CHURCH MUSICIAN APPRECIATION DAY: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2017

The Diocese of New York and New Jersey will mark Church Musician Appreciation Day on Sunday, October 1, 2017, the exact feast day of St. Romanos the Melodist. Truly, we need to nurture and encourage our church musicians – and thank them on this day for their pious work.

I strongly encourage Rectors, Parish Councils, and choir leaders to offer special thanks to their singers, composers, arrangers, and teachers of church music. And I direct the following petitions to be offered during the Augmented Litany on October 1:

O Heavenly Father, on this day of recognition for the women, men and youth in our parish who give their time and musical talent in service to Thee, our Lord, and to Thy Church, we pray Thee hearken and have mercy.

Response: Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

Bless them, O Lord, as they sing praises to Thee, and glorify Thy Name. Let their work be a witness to Thy majesty and love, reminding us all of Thy presence in our lives. We pray Thee hearken and have mercy.

Response: Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: be ever present with Thy servants who seek through music to perfect the praises offered by Thy people on earth; grant to them even now glimpses of Thy beauty; and make them worthy to behold it unveiled for evermore; we pray Thee hearken and have mercy.

Response: Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

Extending my archpastoral blessings, prayerful gratitude, and sincere love to all of you, especially to the church musicians of our beloved Diocese,

f Michael

Archbishop of New York and the
Diocese of New York and New Jersey