

Co-Chairpersons

- V. Rev. Daniel Skvir, Rector, Holy Transfiguration Chapel, Princeton, NJ, 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

SUMMARY:

In 2019:

- The CoLM presented one workshop in Rahway. A second had been planned for Jamaica Estates, but postponed by the request of the parish
- Church Musician Appreciation Day was marked on September 29th.
- Our Facebook page, as well as our on-line resources on the Diocesan website, receive regular positive feedback.
- The CoLM has facilitated assistance to parishes with insufficient choir resources through our on-line listing of substitute choir directors and by pitching in to provide choir directors and singers for special events in the Diocese.

Workshops

June 8, 2019, Rahway, NJ – There were about 20 participants, including two who drove from Canada!. Led by Professor David Drillock, this workshop provided beginning conductors and "budding" conductors with the *basics* of the skills required to sing/conduct Orthodox choirs. It covered topics such as giving and getting pitches, singing in parts, following printed music, singing chant vs other music, producing a worshipful sound, and singing in an appropriate tempo.

A second workshop had been planned for October 12, 2019 to be held in the parish in Jamaica Estates, but this workshop was postponed by the request of the parish. We plan to reschedule it for the coming year.

The CoLM is always available to arrange a workshop in your parish. If your choir has a special need to address, let one of your co-Chairs know and we'll try to help. We're here to help you and work with you.

Church Musician Appreciation Day

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

Choir Director Information

An essential part of the Commission's resources is a Directory of Choir Directors, with contact information, posted on the website. This is the list Fr Ken James and the Commission use to contact our "constituents." The only way to assure accuracy is for Rectors to *check the information on the website*, and updating via email to the Commission or to one of the Co-Chairs at the addresses above.

CoLM on the Web

We continue to enhance the Music Commission's section of the Diocesan website. As always, we offer thanks for the enthusiasm and quality support of Fr. Ken James Stavrevsky. Sheet music (often with Midi playback) continues to be available there composed or arranged by Diocesan musicians, as well as guidelines for Hierarchical Services, large-print text for several services, and large-print booklets for parish use.

CoLM has a Facebook page. We encourage you to find us on Facebook and "like" the page - <https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Commission-on-Liturgical-Music-NYNJ-OCA/714919818560882>. As always, you can reach us at nynjmusic@aol.com.

Remember: "Keep CoLM and Carry On"!