

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, deedeebar38@gmail.com;
- Carol Wetmore, Choir Director, Holy Trinity Church, Randolph, NJ, wetmore1@aol.com

Diocesan Choir Directors (and CoLM Chairs) were challenged to provide responses for services with minimal resources and subject to wide scrutiny via livestreaming.

Workshop Accomplished

On June 12th we held a music conference via Zoom. The subject was “Getting Back in the Swing of Singing” and the workshop provided strategies for resharpening our choral skills as we begin to sing post pandemic. Our speaker was Stratos Mandalakis.

Workshop Planned

Jamaica Estates (Albanian) - A workshop had been planned for May 30th, but was cancelled because of COVID.

Church Musician Appreciation Day

Marked on Sunday, October 3rd, the Sunday closest to the Feast of St. Romanos the Melodist. Parishes were requested to express appreciation to their musicians, and special petition(s) were offered.

Available Choir Resources

In addition to Diocese’s CoLM offerings, many other sources of education, music and other information have recently become available. While we seek to define our role in this environment, we encourage you to check the following websites and other media advertising. As we become aware of workshops and other liturgical music resources, CoLM posts them on our Facebook page. Please follow our page and encourage your choir directors to do the same.

[Synodal School of Liturgical Music](#)

[ISOCM | The International Society for Orthodox Church Music](#)

www.oca.org

www.svots.edu

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Commission-on-Liturgical-Music-NYNJ-OCA/714919818560882>.

Plans for the Future

The CoLM recently had a Zoom call with Archbishop Michael regarding the future of CoLM. We identified our most pressing need to be an accurate listing of Diocesan Choir Directors and their contact information in order to communicate and assess needs.

We also discussed a possible Diocesan-Wide assembly of choir directors, to be held in person and via Zoom. The purpose of this assembly would be to assess the needs and concerns of our choir directors as parishes continue to open up post-Covid.