



A community for everyone celebrating  
excellence in music and God's love for all!



## **The Choir Family News**

### **The Choirs of Grace Church in New York**

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**\*P. Allen Greetings -**

**Good morning and Happy Friday.  
Wow, today finally feels like November.  
Only two weeks until Thanksgiving.**

**With all going on in the world, please be cautious and safe.  
It has been an amazing and healthy fall term, bravo to everyone, keep up the great  
work and give yourselves extra time and care.  
It takes extra energy to ward off all the negative and fear filled stimulation that  
surrounds us all.  
You know what's coming next - Let your light shine and Fear not!**

I keep thinking about the things my dad said to me about FDR and the hope and support he felt listening to him on the radio. FDR died when dad was 13, he said it rocked him to the core, FDR was the only president my dad had known up until that time.

### **All things Thanksgiving and Pie!**

**Next Week:** Choir will follow the regular schedule unless I get a flood of requests for adjustments. I know there is some special schedule at GCS. Let me know if you have thoughts or concerns, otherwise, business as usual.

**Sunday 22 November, a special Sunday.** See below for details.

**The Week of Thanksgiving: Rehearsal on Tuesday morning.**  
All other choir activities cancelled.

**Future planning: December will be a little different this year.**  
Unless the government requires us to stop, all choir rehearsals will continue until GCS dismisses for Winter Break. This includes Novices and Juniors.

**There will be no Community Carol Sing, Britten Evensong or Chorister participation in the 8:00 Christmas Eve service this year.**  
If you have thoughts or ideas, please give them to me, but this seems to be the path we are on.

### **WOW WOW WOW**

#### **18th Annual Choir Pie Sale**

**Wow! The response to the virtual pie sale has been tremendous. Thank you for your support.**

**To buy these calorie-free pies, follow this link: [Choir Virtual Pie Sale](#)**

#### **TWO PROJECT CONCEPTS FOR FEEDBACK:**

**Please let me know your thoughts before Thanksgiving:**

**1. On Sunday 6 December at 7:00 p.m. Zoom Choir Family Caroling.**

**A word/song sheet would be posted on the choir website for families to open and with your mutes on, everyone sing as I play the piano**

**- I know - it isn't perfect, but gather around the**

**[Virtual Fire Place](#)**

**with good cheer and as a family sing and have fun.**

**Once the singing is finished, we can unmute for some good cheer together.**

**What do you think? or is it trying too hard?**

**I'd love your feed back and suggestions.**

**2. A Spring Choir Concert - Virtual! The Combined Grace Church Choirs.**

**Novices and Juniors with Seniors - we would keep our special Choir Festival Week of rehearsals in February to prepare and record selections.**

**(I'm afraid without Dr. Rose this year, he isn't allowed out of the UK, in fact today he went back into lockdown. The good news is he and Mrs. Rose are safe and sound and his room has never been cleaner)**

**The Seniors with the Adults would also schedule one or two recording sessions to capture some of their favorite anthems.**

**All of this would be edited into a virtual concert broadcast and archived on the website.**

**What do you think? A special way to keep together, focus and share our music during this very**

unique and unusual time. The program should have a theme of healing and unity.

For all of these activities pandemic protocols will be followed.

We are blessed with a very big room to spread out in for the recording sessions - church closed - the reason to record and broadcast rather than a live concert(s) this year.

The novices will be promoted and awarded their surplices as part of the broadcast. Traditions will be continued.....

**NEXT WEEK: Regular schedule, all rehearsals good live and zoom.**

## **Sunday 22 November**

Senior Choristers may sing at the 11:00 a.m. service.

To do so, please be in touch with PAllen to set up a seat for your chorister.

They need to be attending rehearsals in some fashion at least twice a week to prepare.

Warm up will be 10:00 a.m. in the Church.

No vestments

No processions

Choristers will be safe distanced with masks and shields in the north transept.

Adults will be across the church in the south transept.

High School Singers and Alumni are invited, please register with [P Allen](#) in advance for contact tracing and distancing preparations.

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### **\*PANDEMIC LINKS:**

#### **MUSIC LINK FOR ZOOMIES**

#### **PHOTOS OF LOCATIONS**

**With names just in case you don't know where something is!**

**MORNING REHEARSAL LINK**, Password if needed: 922460

**AFTERNOON REHEARSAL LINK**, Password if needed: 516484

#### **REHEARSAL WAVER DOWNLOAD**

#### **LINK FOR 5 PACK of face shields**

PA Cell phone in case you can't find us or need to get in: 917.733.5117

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### **\*SENIORS**

On Sunday 22 November at the 11:00 Service the Senior Boys and Girls will safely and from a distance join with the Adult Choir to sing the Anthems at the service and have Father Waring commission the Optimae.

#### **The Choir of Men and Boys**

Jonas Coats, Optimus

Christopher Diveki, Optimus

Theo Cannon, Lead

#### **The Girls' Choir**

Maeve Cannon, Optima

Vivienne Skrypek, Optima

Tess Gola, Lead

Clementine McCoy, Chaplain-Librarian

**Tuesday through Friday Morning Rehearsals, Live or Zoom**

Chantry Gate opens at 7:15 a.m., temperature check, enter at the Honor Room Door, wash hands, come to Chantry.

Rehearsal 7:30 - 8:25 a.m.

Dismiss from Chantry Door to Chantry Broadway Gate, walk to GCS Check in or "Broadway"

**Friday After School Vocal Coaching, Afternoon Choir Rehearsal, Live or Zoom**

**Please sign up with Sign Up Genius, 2 choristers live are required for the session.**

3:00 - 4:00 p.m. in the Chantry.

Check out of School walk around to the Chantry Gate, enter the Chantry Door for Choir Check in.

**Flexibility: Seniors are welcome at all choir sessions morning and afternoon. Especially during this pandemic, choose what works for the rhythm of your family.**

**Just let PAllen know what you are doing so he won't worry and can be prepared to support you.**

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**\*JUNIORS**

**Tuesday After School Rehearsal, Live or Zoom**

**(At this time 2nd grade novices are also welcome at this rehearsal)**

**At GCS dismissal until 4:00 p.m.**

**Please let P Allen know by 5:00 p.m. on Monday each week if you are planning to have your child attend and they are not on this list. If they will attend weekly, we will add them, if occasional, please communicate for each week. This is only necessary for GCS Students so teachers can be authorized to dismiss students to choir at the Huntington Close Gate.**

**Once students are dismissed from school they may not return.**

**Exception, if parents make arrangements with GASP for after school play at 4:00, with GCS permission and telling us the procedure, they may attend that program.**

**PARENTS and Non GCS Choristers, do not try to come through the school at any time. They are busy cleaning after dismissal.**

**ENTER AT THE BROADWAY Chantry Gate for all access to the Church.**

**ACCESS to the Church via the Honor Room Door in Huntington Close**

**Wash Hands**

**Take Seat**

**Enjoy your snack until rehearsal begins**

**PICK UP at 4:00 p.m. All parents or designated adult must come into the Honor Room to pick up their**

**Child. Parents should wait with careful distance in the Honor Room.**

**Please do not ask them to run out to the car.**

**Rehearsal officially runs from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday Choir Rehearsal Dismissal List  
of GCS Students  
(Does not need to include  
non GCS Students, this is for  
dismissal purposes at GCS)**

**For 11 October  
Based on who attended on the 29th of September  
It's never too late to add in.....**

**GIRLS Name / Grade**

**Eva Dixon 5th  
Abby Gomez 5th  
Annabelle Grace 5th  
Bellamy Stapleton 4th  
Kiera Cryan 3rd  
Lily Dixon 3rd  
Claire Min 3rd**

**BOYS Name / Grade**

**Sander Olinick 5th  
Pablo Bordes 4th  
Eamonn Hynes 4th  
James Gomez 3rd  
Jack Jedlicka 3rd  
Wallace Lai 3rd  
Austin Lai 3rd  
Thatcher Olinick 3rd  
Luka Tanjga 3rd  
James West 3rd**

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**\*NOVICES**

**Rehearsals on Wednesday's after GCS dismissal.**

**GCS Students will be brought by their class to the Honor Gate where I will meet them and take them into the Honor Room.**

**Choristers coming from outside GCS will come up the path from the Chantry Broadway Gate to the Honor Room.**

**There at a safe distance we will take temperatures, wash hands and have a snack.**

**Then we will go slowly, single file into the Chantry put on our protective shields with our masks and practice.**

**Each chorister will have their own seat, music, pencil and shield that only they will touch.**

**Between rehearsals they will live on the rack under their chair.**

**I think the first couple of sessions could go until 4:00. Let's see how it goes.**

**That may be too much for them, we might shorten it a little bit.**

**Dismissal will be from the Chantry.**

Parents enter from the main doors of the Chantry, you will hear us and we will dismiss from there one family at a time.

Once rehearsal begins I will lock the honor room door to the garden for security.

The main Chantry doors will be open for the whole rehearsal to let fresh air move more freely.

When the Wednesday Section fills up we can open up a second section on Thursdays at GCS dismissal.

We might even make one boys and one girls, but that is getting ahead of ourselves.

**Girls / 2nd grade**

**Amy Johnson**

**Josephine Lewis**

**Claire Pederson**

**Boys / 2nd grade**

**Grayson Hurd**

**William Naples**

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### **\*HIGH SCHOOL SINGERS**

If you are interested in doing so singing/coaching, contact P Allen directly to schedule something.

Please stay safe and take good care.

#### **IN TWO WEEKS:**

Sunday 22 November, Senior Choristers may sing at the 11:00 a.m. service.

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### **\*PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

#### **SIGN UP GENIUS**

Sign up genius has three links this year. Please note.

-Pandemic Parent Support for Rehearsals.

-Sunday and special choir event

Parent Helpers/Volunteers

-Tuesday Evensong choir parent helpers

-After School Vocal Coaching.

The links may be found at the bottom of this newsletter.

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### **\*SOCIAL MEDIA:**

#### **INSTAGRAM**

If you are interested in contributing to the choir Instagram account (or possibly taking it over) please contact me.

## [FACEBOOK](#)

Follow us on Facebook:

Music at Grace Church in New York

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### **\*RECRUITING IS NEVER OVER!**

**This is our slogan, so if anyone asks, it is never too late to join the choir family and be part of this special community as the music blooms.**

Recruiting is never over and normally we would be starting that phase of the season now. The brochure has been posted to school families.

If you know of families not at GCS who should receive it, let me know and I'll will include them.

Help spread the word that families interested in joining should email or call me so I can put them on the mailing list for information and to get them in the loop.

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### **CHOIR ESSENTIALS**

**The Choir Words for 2020-2021 - SAFTEY and FLEXIBILITY!**

**The Choir Word for 2019-2020 - TEAMWORK!**

**The L's of Choir:**

**Look - Listen - Learn - Lead!**

**The C's of Choir**

**Courtesy - Confidence - Communication - Care - Commitment - Clarity  
- Concentration. All of these build and care for our Choir Community.**

**Here is where you find all the Choir Schedules just click!**

**[Goggle Cal Link to all Choir Schedules](#)**

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### **\*IMPORTANT LINKS:**

**[The Goggle Choir Schedule Calendar Link](#)**

**[Sign Up Genius for Choir Parent Volunteer Sign Link](#)**

**[Sign Up Genius for After School Vocal Coaching](#)**

**[Sign Up Genius Tuesday Night Parent Helpers](#)**

**[LINK PANDEMIC PARENT SUPPORT FOR REHEARSALS SIGN UP GENIUS](#)**

**Accessing the Secure Choir Family Area of the Music Website:**

**[www.gracechurchnyc.org](http://www.gracechurchnyc.org)**

**CLICK: MUSIC**

**CLICK: login**

**User Name: helfenstein**

**Password:**

**Stanfordlives1894**

**Contact:**

**[Patrick Allen](#)**

**[Music at Grace Church in New York](#)**

[Facebook](#)  
[Instagram](#)

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[The Reverend J. Donald Waring, Rector](#)  
[The Reverend Julia Offinger, Associate Rector](#)  
[The Reverend Thomas Szczerba , Assistant Rector](#)  
[Patrick Allen, Organist and Master of Choristers](#)

[Contact the Choir](#)

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