



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

- *P. Allen Greetings
- *Pandemic Links
- *Treble Concert Note
- *Senior Chorister News
- *Junior Chorister News
- *Novice Chorister News
- *High School Singer News
- *Parent Volunteers Needed! Sign Up Genius
- *Social Media: Instagram & Facebook
- *Recruiting
- *Essentials
- *Important Links

*P. Allen Greetings -

Greetings to all on this very cold Friday morning.

I hope everyone is safe and well and warm and cozy. Love, p.

A big shout out to Tunde Csonka Diveki for jumping in and saving the day on our [GCS Yearbook photo page](#).

We found out a week ago that the deadline was 1 February - you should have gotten an email blast about it and sending in headshots.

Tunde got us organized and with the help of Topher Nichols at the School and a good friend, photographer Freek Dirkx (good Dutch name - he is from the Netherlands and now Tunde's neighbor) put together a beautiful "pandemic" yearbook page. Since we couldn't attempt a group shot - we got creative. The page will be turned into a poster that all the choristers can autograph and we can display as a pandemic remembrance of the "time when."

We decided to include everyone, those active this season and those on pandemic leave. We are one big choir family. It will be a great day when everyone can be back together singing beautifully here in your Grace Church home.

[You can see the page here and download it.](#)

Thank you again Tunde, Topher and Freek.

Someone was asking about the [Choir Handbook](#) this week.

The Handbook was created when we revised the whole training curriculum of the choir many years ago.

Creating the Handbook was the original reason to establish the Choir Steering Committee which has continued to be so much a part of our life since that time. It was once passed out each new season, but went green and onto the website where it still lives in the choir family area.

The [Handbook](#) defines our community, our purpose, who we are and how we are organized. At the time we thought that this would help focus our purpose and commitment to one another as the choir community and it worked brilliantly. It's content lies at the foundation of all we are and do.

I just remind all of it's presence and purpose. It is always there for you to review.

UPDATE on the Quarantine situation at GCS:

Yesterday the Middle School and one 4th grade class was sent home to quarantine for 10 days following a positive test result for a faculty member. Everyone is safe and well, this is a protocol to keep everyone well. As a result they won't return to in person learning until 8 February. Unless something changes this has a big impact on us next week.

The afternoon special rehearsals and recording/taping of the Novice/Junior Project/Concert and Promotions will have to be postponed.

All morning rehearsals and the Tuesday afternoon rehearsal **will be on line/zoom only**. Everyone is welcome to zoom in.

The Wednesday afternoon Novice rehearsal will also be **zoom only** since it is a Lower School Conference Day.

Links for all of the zoom rehearsals are below and I will send out an email blast Sunday with that reminder as in the past.

We will find an alternate week for the Festival and Taping.

Can I ask everyone to look at their schedules and let me know if any week in February is worse than another and should be avoided?

Give me your thoughts by February 4th at noon so we can make a plan.

If we work hard between now and then we might even pull it off the week following President's weekend - a short 3 day school week, maybe, I think a four day week would be better, but give me your feedback.

We can accomplish anything we put our minds towards.

Here are the links.....

[Music for Morning Rehearsals](#)

[Music for Morning Rehearsals Appendix A](#)

[Jr / Nov Rehearsal Book 2021 \(bk3\)](#)

[Junior/Novice Music for Rehearsal 1](#)

[Junior/Novice Music for Rehearsal 2](#)

[MORNING REHEARSAL LINK](#), Password if needed: 922460

or

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85021917167?pwd=TXpGS1JpYlV4ZWJEaW85T3FtUzJUdz09>

[AFTERNOON REHEARSAL LINK](#), Password if needed: 516484

or

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88528882444?pwd=MlpBeW82N0JGelpnM1A3VnhDUUs1dz09>

For more details see below.

***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 WAIVER 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

***TREBLE CONCERT NOTE 2021 POSTPONED**

I hope we will offer a special pandemic version of our February Treble Music Project in 2021.

It will take place the traditional week in February.

Tuesday through Friday 2 through 5 February

All Novice and Junior Choristers will assemble in the Church to rehearse a program that we hope to record during the Friday session.

The session each day will run from dismissal until 4:00.

No longer to keep the time we sing in the space to a safe limit.

Senior Choristers are invited to mentor as is traditional.

Please register in advance with PAllen so he can plan safe distance seating and maintain all the protocols.

We are hard at work on the repertoire already.

These recordings will be edited into those made by the Senior Choristers will Adults to create a Pandemic Virtual Concert that will be broadcast to replace our traditional live offerings.

We will also record the promotion of Novices to Juniors where they receive their Hymnal and Surplice (the white of the choir vestment) to include in this program.

***SENIORS**

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)

GIRLS Name / Grade

Eva Dixon 5th

Abby Gomez 5th

Annabelle Grace 5th

Hailey Popov, 5th

Bordley Gushee, 5th

Bellamy Stapleton 4th

Mila Coats 3rd

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

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.

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

Ava Appignani

Beatrice Delaney

Amy Johnson

Victoria Lee

Josephine Lewis

Claire Pederson

Isla Popov

Boys / 2nd grade

William Naples

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Novices will capture their promotion from 4:00 - 5:00 on Friday 5 February, please plan for your chorister to stay for that block of time after the rehearsal block.

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***HIGH SCHOOL SINGERS**

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

Please stay safe and take good care.

***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.

***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

***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.

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!

[Gogle Cal Link to all Choir Schedules](#)

***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

CLICK: MUSIC

CLICK: login

User Name: helfenstein

Password:

Stanfordlives1894

Contact:

[Patrick Allen](#)

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

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[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](#)

A Community for everyone celebrating excellence in Music and God's love for all!



Grace Church | 802 Broadway, New York, NY 10003

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