



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 -**

Happy Summer everyone. I hope you are having a safe and fun season full of smiles, good humor and good health.

Life at "Faith Acres" is good. I'm playing in the garden, having lovely walks on the mountain, going to the farmers market with Aunt Betty and spending lots of time reading and studying for the new season at the piano. I'm getting lots of fresh ideas and inspiration for rehearsals and music making in September. I can't wait!

Below is all the start up information. Have a look and ask lots of questions.

We are all watching the current Covid situation with prayers and hopes that we will kick off a "new normal" season with Choir Camp on 8 September at 2:00 p.m. Choir Parent Orientation will take place at 5:30 the same day in the Reception Room.

As the situation reveals itself we will follow the protocols and procedures adopted by Grace Church School. At the moment we are hoping for a "normal" start to the new season including vestments, processions and the choir stalls.

Right off the bat we need parents to volunteer to help with vestment fitting at Choir Camp and to be choir parent helpers for the first Sunday back. That will also include vestment fitting for those choristers not attending choir camp. At Camp it would be helpful to have 2 parents each hour starting at 3:00 p.m. When you sign up, put the hour/time available next to your name.

The Goggle Cal and Sign Up Genius pages for 2021-2022 are finished and active for family planning. Please remember to refresh your goggle cal now and then to keep it current. Kathy's link is very handy for looking at the calendar. Just activate the one(s) you want to see. All the links may be found towards the bottom of this document.

In September, EVERYONE come home! We will be back in the saddle again. Recruiting is never over and those interested families that didn't interview before summer are welcome to show up at choir camp or be in touch over the summer. We have a tour to Europe to plan and prepare.

HAPPY SUMMER! Please write, send photos and let me know how you are. The Newsletter will return to refresh our thoughts and with updates just prior to Labor Day Weekend. Until then.....

Let your light shine and heal the world. Give the gift of a smile!
Stay safe and well.
Love, Patrick

It's Recruiting Season for 2021-2022! Hoping we are way post pandemic in September I'm excited for everyone to be back to in person rehearsal with bright shiny faces and letting their beautiful voices ring out. Y'all come on home!

Bravo to our Optimi Dream Team supported by Mary Cannon, Shingmin Lai, Shari Coats and Tunde Csonka who created a brilliant recruiting zoom spot to inspire new families and choristers to join us. You are the best recruiters - let your light shine!

You received a copy of the new recruiting brochure in the post. It's always good for everyone to see what and when things go out. Please share it with a family and invite someone to choir. Parents and Choristers are the best recruiters. Let your choir lights shine.

The following students have already indicated a desire to join us in September:

Girls

Annalise Arena, 2nd grade
Delphina Bragen, 2nd grade
Esme Hynes, 2nd grade

Eloise McGrath, 2nd grade
Niwako Inoue, 2nd grade

Bela Claire, 4th Grade
Amalya Murjani, 5th grade

Boys

Thibault Antonio, 2nd grade
Teddy Armer, 2nd grade
Jack Avlon, 2nd Grade
Niall Harrington, 2nd Grade
Luca Schiff, 2nd grade
Theodore Nichols, 3rd grade

Decian Gorman, 5th Grade

Important Links:

[General Choir Orientation Materials 2021-2022](#)

[Jr/Novice Orientation Materials 2021 - 2022](#)

[Senior Boys Information at a glance 2021 - 2022](#)

[Junior Boys Information at a glance 2021 - 2022](#)

[Novice Boys Information at a glance 2021 - 2022](#)

[Senior Girls Information at a glance 2021 - 2022](#)

[Junior Girls Information at a glance 2021 - 2022](#)

[Novice Girls Information at a glance 2021 - 2022](#)

For fall planning.....the hoped for "normal" schedule will be something like this:

Sunday Mornings September to June (When GCS is in session)

9:45 call for a 10:00 a.m. warm up for which ever choir is singing that morning.

11:00 a.m. Morning Service

Lunch after church for Senior Choristers

1:00 - 3:00 Afternoon Senior Rehearsal (will include HS Girls if girls are singing that morning)

Tuesday:

7:00 a.m. Doors open. Breakfast Club

7:20 - 8:10 a.m. Senior Boy Rehearsal

At GCS Dismissal, After School Vocal Coaching by sign up genius until 4:30 p.m.

4:45 - 5:00 p.m. Junior Chorister Snack time in the Honor Room.

5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Junior Chorister Rehearsal and Evensong (Boys and Girls 4 - 5th grades) with Senior Mentors.

Wednesday:

7:00 a.m. Doors open. Breakfast Club

7:20 - 8:10 a.m. Senior Girls Rehearsal

At GCS Dismissal, Novice Chorister Rehearsal in the Chantry to 4:15 p.m. (Girls, 2nd and 3rd grades) with Senior Mentors

Thursday:

7:00 a.m. Doors open. Breakfast Club

7:20 - 8:10 a.m. Junior and Senior Boys Rehearsal

At GCS Dismissal, Novice Chorister Rehearsal in the Chantry to 4:15 p.m. (Boys, 2nd and 3rd grades) with Senior Mentors

Friday:

7:00 a.m. Doors open. Breakfast Club

7:20 - 8:10 a.m. Junior and Senior Girls Rehearsal

At GCS Dismissal, After School Vocal Coaching by sign up genius until 4:30 p.m.

All of this depends on the state of our lives with the pandemic and what is safe to accomplish.

If safe to offer "Choir Camp" will return for everyone back in town on

Wednesday afternoon, 8 September at 2:00 p.m., concluding at 6:00 p.m. this year with Choir Parents and Guardians Orientation around 5:30. (Tuesday is Rosh Hashanah)

The start to the 127th season of the choir is hoped to take place with everyone singing in Church at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday the 12th of September. 9:45 a.m. Warm up.

Fingers crossed.

The Choir Handbook.

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.

***PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
SIGN UP GENIUS**

Sign up genius has three links this year.

- 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 Word for 2021-2022 - BEAUTY!

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](#)

[Choir Handbook](#)

***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](#)

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!



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