



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 GCS Spirit Day. I hope the Girls Volleyball team has a most excellent homecoming game today. Enjoy and be safe.

Many thanks to all parents who made announcements at the various Parent Night meetings over the past couple of weeks. Your comments and enthusiasm produced four new choristers, much good will and thoughts and a lot of very positive feedback. Big shout out and thank you to you all.

The Summer Tour planning process has begun.

Out dates:

**Assembling in the designated location for an opening dinner on 17 June.
Final dinner before departure on 24 June.**

Two potential programs that will include:

- 1. Berlin - Krakow**
- 2. Krakow - Warsaw**

Our Tour Company is working on the concert venues at the moment, a little slow due to many places still adjusting their Covid opening up/closing down/reopening up and trying to anticipate next summer's possibilities.

Once we have done some polishing and other work and have important dates and information a kick off meeting either live or via zoom (tbd) will be announced.

Please be thinking if your family will participate.

Ask P. Allen and members of our Mighty Tour Planning Committee lots of questions, don't be shy. The more we communicate the better the planning and quicker the planning will go.

Big Shout Out to our Planning Committee!

Marlaine Olinick

Karen Gorman

Mary Cannon

Veronica Maginnis

Tunde Csonka

The Tour Committee oversees and coordinates, we all participate in the work and offering of the tour, so see them as your resource and be prepared to volunteer to help with the many tasks involved in producing a concert tour. It's so fun!

Repeat from Last Week:

Flexibility and Participation: As we live into the flexibility built into the training program to support our contemporary lifestyle, it is important to remember the benefits of regular work and training discipline.

Covid blew it all away, we went very relaxed to keep connections and momentum alive during the height of the pandemic.

As things begin to transition to the new normal we all need to be conscious about rebuilding and teaching as the rhythm resumes and takes its new form.

Please take good care that we not get so flexible that we throw the baby out with the bath water. I don't ask for time we don't need. Starting late, cutting short doesn't work in choir as there is no make up possible. Once lost, the opportunity is lost. The voice isn't trained, the music doesn't get learned.

Our tradition is one of constant offering, we may be described as a repertoire choir. The music blooms day in, day out, week end, week out, never ceasing.

The music being learned isn't for one time at end of term, but is repertoire offered at home and abroad over generations, that is part of what builds the strength of the choir and this special tradition. Within the repetition comes new voices that make it their own and of course new compositions to grow the repertoire.

Have a beautiful and safe day everyone.

Big hug, love and smiles, let your light shine and heal the world, p.

***THIS WEEKEND: Sunday 24 October, Senior Boys Only Singing (Required)**
(In a few weeks we may begin including novice and junior boys)

10:00 Call, enter at the main doors of the church being sensitive to the people exiting from the 9:00 service.

Turn Right and come to the South Transept to Vest. I'll meet you there. Choristers who attended choir camp and Fridays rehearsal, your robes will be in the church, do not go in the honor room.

Choristers not yet vested, go into the honor room to be vested. Stay six feet apart.

Warm Up will be in the Church.

11:00 Service done around 12:15.

Lunch in the Honor Room/Huntington Close as weather permits.

Senior Boys Rehearsal in the Church until **2:00 p.m.** Exit from the main Broadway Doors

NEXT WEEK:

Tuesday:

7:00 a.m. Enter at Chantry Broadway Gate.

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

At GCS Dismissal, After School Vocal Coaching by sign up genius(see below) 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 (Boys and Girls 4 - 5th grades) with Senior Mentors. (Enter and Exit, GCS Gate to Huntington Close and Broadway Chantry Gate) (No Evensong)

Wednesday:

7:00 a.m. Enter at Chantry Broadway Gate.

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

At GCS Dismissal, Novice Chorister Rehearsal in the Chantry to 4:00 p.m. (Girls, 2nd and 3rd grades) with Senior Mentors

Pick up in Huntington Close/Honor Room, enter at the Chantry Broadway Gate.

Thursday:

7:00 a.m. Enter at Chantry Broadway Gate.

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

It is so important for the Junior Choristers to have this rehearsal time together with the Senior Choristers, please make an effort, all Junior Boys need to attend.

At GCS Dismissal, Novice Chorister Rehearsal in the Chantry to 4:00 p.m. (Boys, 2nd and 3rd grades) with Senior Mentors

Pick up in Huntington Close/Honor Room, enter at the Chantry Broadway Gate.

Friday:

7:00 a.m. Enter at Chantry Broadway Gate.

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

It is so important for the Junior Choristers to have this rehearsal time together with the Senior Choristers, please make an effort, all Junior Girls need to attend.

At GCS Dismissal, After School Vocal Coaching by sign up genius(see below) until 4:00 p.m.

COMING UP:

Sunday 31 October, Senior Girls Only Singing (Required)
(In a few weeks we may begin including novice and junior girls)

10:00 Call, enter at the main doors of the church being sensitive to the people exiting from the 9:00 service.

Turn Right and come to the South Transept to Vest. I'll meet you there. Choristers who attended choir camp and Fridays rehearsal, your robes will be in the church, do not go in the honor room.

Choristers not yet vested, go into the honor room to be vested. Stay six feet apart.

Warm Up will be in the Church.

11:00 Service done around 12:15.

No lunch or rehearsal this afternoon, have a wonderful and safe Halloween.

Sunday 7 November, All Senior Choristers (Boys and Girls) Singing.

Sunday 14 November, The Choir of Men and Boys Singing.

Sunday 21 November, GCS Sunday, ALL CHORISTERS SINGING - **EVERYONE!**
(2nd grade and on up - Covid allowing)

Thanksgiving Holiday

*All things Covid....

We follow the guidelines and protocols established by Grace Church School.

* Everyone over the age of 12 must be vaccinated a minimum of two weeks prior to first rehearsal.

*Anyone ineligible for the vaccine or under 12 must have had a negative covid test not more than 72 hours prior to first rehearsal. If your child is a Grace Church School student, their school test submission is sufficient. If your child attends another school, please submit negative test results here.

[Update from NY State via B. Reilly 28 August 2021](#)

[Covid Update from GCS, George Davison 24 August 2021](#)

*Masks will be worn at all times indoors.

*When singing a six foot distance will be maintained between singers.

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](#)

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!



Grace Church | 802 Broadway, New York, NY 10003

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