



The Choir Family News

The Choirs of Grace Church in New York

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Before other, more cheerful notes and announcements, I must address the upsetting information about historical instances of abuse that the Church and School shared with the community earlier this week. I encourage you to read, if you haven't already, the community letter that Don and Owen shared on Tuesday, which provides context on these heartbreaking developments.

We strive to make our choir community the most supportive and enriching space for our choristers, and it is deeply upsetting to know that these events took place in a community we all hold so dear. Some of you zoomed in to the gathering with Don, Owen and Robbie yesterday. I want to reiterate that the Church has policies that continue to be reviewed and improved to ensure the safety of all of our young people and will continue to work with the School to further strengthen communication and the support of these measures. Let me assure you, things are different now than they were in the 1990s. More than any other time in her history, today the Church is committed to safe practices to insure the respect and care of every person who enters into this community and campus.

Please contact Don or me when questions or concerns arise, or to offer any suggestions that can make us all safer and stronger. All my love, p.

[Link to the community letter from Don and Owen.](#)

*P. Allen Greetings -

Can you believe it's April 1st! No fooling - get it!

Easter is just around the corner and it's recruiting season again! Of course recruiting never really ceases. The annual mailing has gone out to all GCS families with children in first through fifth grades. If you know a family that might have interest from outside GCS, let me know and I'll invite them to consider the choir for their children also.

Please join me in thanking Dana Foote for all the work she has accomplished already helping us with the restart of the Easter Breakfast and the quickly to occur Annual Spring Concert and Reception. We need your help. Here is the Link:

[LINK FOR SIGN UP GENIUS - EASTER BREAKFAST](#)

We need your help, it takes a community.....

As you are enjoying these opportunities, think about volunteering to shadow Dana and Chair/Co Chair one next season. When we all work together it doesn't need to be a burden on anyone, and it's more fun working together.

THIS SUNDAY after Church - many senior girls have a sports game and can't come to the rehearsal. This rehearsal also includes Senior Boys and HS Singers, preparing for Easter, the Spring Concert and the Tour.

So as not to waste time, please email me in the next 24 hours if your chorister, or as a HS Singer, you will attend. If response is low, We will cancel the lunch and rehearsal to respect everyone's time. If I don't hear from anyone by tomorrow afternoon, I'll send out a blast confirming the lunch/rehearsal cancelled.

Have a blessed day and weekend, love, hugs and smiles, p.

[The Annual Choir Photos](#)

[I've attached an audio file of it from the Live TV broadcast of The Wiz.](#)

Please play it for your choristers, it will be helpful in our learning process for them to listen to it often.

***CHOIR TOUR ANNOUNCEMENT**

The survey of trip participants is in and the planning committee would like to announce that we are going to shift our destination from the Berlin/Krakow plan to a new plan in Ireland centered between Dublin and Belfast.

This news just in. As things develop more will be announced. Thank you for your speedy responses and please a shout out and big thank you to the planning committee for making this course change possible.

***THIS WEEKEND: See above for a special announcement and request.**

Sunday 3 April, The Girls' Choir with HS Singers and Adults sings at 11:00 a.m.

Lunch after church for Girls

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Rehearsal for Senior Boy and Girl Choristers with HS Singers in the Church.

***THE WEEK of April 3rd:**

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, Evensong will return on April 19th)

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:**

Palm Sunday 10 April, The Choir of Men and Boys sings at 11:00 a.m.
Lunch after church for Boys
1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Rehearsal for Senior Boy and Girl Choristers with HS Singers in the Church.

No afternoon choir activities during Holy Week April 10 - 17.
No morning Girls practice on Good Friday April 15th.

Sunday 17 April Easter Day! **See below for a review of the Easter Weekend Schedule.**

Thursday 28 April, Dress Rehearsal for the Annual Choir Concert
(Seniors and HS Singers only)

Friday 29 April, The Annual Choir Concert
(Seniors and HS Singers singing, Novice and Jr's Listening with parents)

High School Singers, especially those going on the summer tour.

We need to practice! Can you email/text amongst yourselves and lets create 3 to 4 rehearsals before summer of an hour or a little more to work together. The clock is

ticking, we need to get organized. Tell me how I can help get us singing together.

Easter Schedule

Easter Eve - Saturday we have a rehearsal, full choir and brass in the Church arrival around 8:45, rehearsal 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

followed by

The Easter Eve Walk, a wonderful event put on by Children's ministries wonderful for young and old alike.

Easter Day. April 17th.

8:00 a.m. Choir Warm up in the Church - all seniors singing.

9:00 a.m. Early Service, ending around 10:00

Breakfast in the Dining Room at 10:00 ish.

by 10:50, back in the honor room and ready to sing the 11:00 a.m. Service.

12:20/12:30, everything finished.

Note: Only Senior Choristers sing on Easter Day, all other choristers should sit with their families and sing the hymns with great spirit.

[*All things Covid....Click here.....](#)

Week of 6 March - Church Announcement:

“Mask Optional – With the lifting of mask requirements in the city and state, today we too go “mask optional” for all indoor church activities. For now, everyone inside the building still needs to be fully vaccinated, so please have your card or pass handy at the door.”

[Important Links: Click here](#)

Safe Church - Grace Church is committed to providing its members, staff, and visitors a place that is free of abuse and harassment.

If you have observed, or personally experienced sexual or other forms of harassment, or other concerning behavior while attending activities, classes, or events held at Grace Church, or on our shared campus with Grace Church School, we encourage you to notify us.

Please visit <https://gracechurchnyc.org/safechurch/> where you will find a direct means of providing feedback.

***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 we would be entering 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

Spring 2022 and Choir Tour Motto - Brand New Day!

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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