NPM President to Speak in Rapid City

Mark your calendars for Saturday November 7th as we have been blessed with a very exciting opportunity! Dr. J. Michael McMahon, President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians will be here in our diocese to give a presentation on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) document *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship*.

McMahon earned his Doctor of Ministry degree in 1988 from the Catholic University of America and since then his resume has grown extensively. McMahon has served in parishes since 1982 in the areas of parish music, liturgy, and initiation ministries. Since 1991 he has served as Music Editor for *Celebration: A Comprehensive Worship Resource* as well as contributing frequently to various professional liturgical journals such as, *Pastoral Music, Celebration, Ministry and Liturgy, Rite, Today's Parish, AIM, GIA Quarterly,* and *Today's Liturgy.* In addition, McMahon has authored many books: *Singing Our Worship* (NPM Publications, 2003, 2007)), *Ministries in Sung Worship* (with Gordon E. Truitt, NPM Publications, 2005), and *The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: A Pastoral Liturgical Commentary* (Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions, 1986, 2001).

Using his extensive knowledge in the areas of pastoral liturgy, liturgical music, pastoral ministry, and Christian initiation he as been a presenter and clinician at national, diocesan, and parish gatherings. He has taught in graduate and certificate programs at the Catholic University of America, the Washington Theological Union, and Georgetown University. From 2005-2007 McMahon served as advisor to the USCCB Subcommittee on Music and the Liturgy.

In November of 2007 the USCCB approved the publication of *Sing To The Lord: Music In Divine Worship,* and its first printing was June 2008. *Sing to the Lord* is a document that covers all aspects of music in the liturgy. It covers why we sing, the ministers of liturgical music, leadership and formation, music for the sacraments, Latin music in the liturgy, the role and placement of the choir, choosing music for the liturgy, the role of the assembly, and so much more. J. Michael McMahon is coming to us with years of experience and knowledge to guide us through the document.

The all-day event will feature McMahon’s presentations, in addition to our annual NPM St. Cecilia Banquet. Bishop Blase Cupich encourages all musicians and liturgists from our diocese to attend this wonderful event. (See letter on pg. 2)

A Note From the Director

Greetings!

I am thrilled to share with you my excitement about our upcoming meeting on Nov. 7. The national president...yes, I said the NATIONAL president...of NPM will be with us all day to explain a new document that requires changes in music within Catholic worship. The document is titled, *Sing To The Lord.* It was compiled by the USCCB and requires full understanding by all of our music ministers. What better person to explain these changes to us than the national president of NPM, Michael McMahon! Recently, I attended a luncheon of NPM leaders from all over the United States. It was noted that about 75% of these chapters had held or were planning to hold sessions to explain the changes instructed by *Sing To The Lord.* Most NPM chapters had selected Michael McMahon to lead their workshops. How fortunate that he is willing to come out to South Dakota to share his wisdom with us! The diocese has assisted NPM in many ways including financial support. We are all so grateful. Now all that is needed is your attendance! This is an event that you cannot afford to miss. Please, please make every effort to take advantage of this unique opportunity to aid in making our worship as faith-giving as possible. I look forward to seeing you on Nov. 7 when we all give Michael a hearty South Dakota welcome.

See you then!
Jacqueline Schnittgrund
Director, NPM Rapid City Chapter

NPM Save the Dates!

- Nov 7th, 2009
  Fall Meeting and St. Cecilia Banquet at Blessed Sacrament Parish, Rapid City, SD

- January 23rd, 2009
  Spring Meeting at St. Issac Jogues Parish, Rapid City, SD

- April 10th, 2009:
  Spring Meeting at St. Anthony’s Parish, Hot Springs, SD

- July 12th-16th, 2010:
  NPM National Convention, Detroit, MI

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**DIOCESE OF RAPID CITY**

OFFICE OF BISHOP

September 3, 2009

Dear musicians and liturgical ministers,

I welcome this opportunity to encourage you through this issue of the NPM newsletter to participate in a special event, scheduled on November 7th at Blessed Sacrament Church. Michael McMahon, the director of the National Pastoral Musicians Association will offer a workshop from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., on the new document issued by the Bishop’s Conference on music in Catholic worship, *Sing to the Lord*.

Known as an expert in the field of liturgy and music, Michael McMahon brings a unique and experienced perspective. I am confident that you will find his presentations informative, renewing and challenging. This occasion will also provide a chance for all present to learn from and be encouraged by each other, since it will bring together liturgical musicians from around the diocese and the wider area.

There will be an awards luncheon as part of the day’s events. I genuinely hope that you will be able to come.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Blase J. Cupich
Bishop of Rapid City
NPM Fall Meeting Registration - Bring a Friend!!

Include:
$15 Per Person
(Please make checks payable to NPM)
*Non-Refundable

Mail to:
Joan Bachmeier
1621 Third St.
Sturgis, SD 57785

Saturday November 7th, 2009
Blessed Sacrament Parish
8:00AM—4:00PM
J. Michael McMahon Presentation & Annual St. Cecilia Banquet
Cost: $15
Registrations Due Oct. 25th

Upcoming Workshops

NPM RC Winter Meeting
January 23rd, 2010
St. Isaac Jogues Parish
Rapid City, SD

Topics
- Time Management
- Liturgy of the Hours
- Vocal Techniques
- Music Rehearsal Pieces

NPM RC Spring Meeting
April 10th, 2010
St. Anthony’s Parish
Hot Springs, SD

Topics
- Liturgy Committees
- Music For Confirmation
- Choir Demonstrations
- Music Rehearsal Pieces
Meet Your NPM Officers!

Director:
Jacqueline Schnittgrund
Blessed Sacrament Parish
Rapid City, SD

Coordinator for Planning:
Lonnie Arthur
St. John the Baptist
Custer, SD

Secretary:
Julie Gray
St. Rose of Lima Parish
Hill City, SD

Assistant Director for Recruitment:
Katie Severns
Cathedral OLPH
Rapid City, SD

Treasurer:
Joan Bachmeier
St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Sturgis, SD

Animator For Koinonia (Fellowship):
Kathy Little
St. Issac Jogues Parish
Rapid City, SD

New Officers Elected; T. Schnittgrund, Martin, and Sweitzer say ‘Goodbye’

At the NPM RC Chapter meeting on June 27th in Piedmont, SD Lonnie Arthur and Katie Severns were elected as officers. Lonnie Arthur from Custer, SD is the new Coordinator for Planning. His duties will be to confirm locations, dates and presenters for upcoming NPM meetings. Katie Severns is the Director of Music at the Cathedral and was elected as the Assistant Director for Recruitment. Her duties involve creating and sending out newsletters and putting together show decks for upcoming NPM meetings.

Sheila Sweitzer served as Coordinator for Planning and Tammy Schnittgrund and Sandra Martin served as co-Assistant Directors for Recruitment. These three women worked very hard and helped to build up our chapter to what it is today. Their years of service and hard work are greatly appreciated!

Tammy Schnittgrund is now a member of the National NPM board for Cantor Certification. She evaluates audition DVDs from around the country. She does not evaluate any audition DVDs from our region.

Congratulations Tammy!

Our Lady of Guadalupe Choir

This year, Katie Severns will be directing the Our Lady of Guadalupe choir. All are welcome to come and sing! Rehearsals will be held at Blessed Sacrament.

Rehearsals
Saturday November 21st: 12:00-2:00PM
Saturday December 5th: 12:00-2:00PM
Saturday December 12th: 10:30AM - Warm-Up
12:00PM - Mass

Diocesan Choir Opportunities

Chrism Mass Choir

Chrism Mass will be on Tuesday March 16th, 2010 at the Cathedral.

Watch the West River Catholic, your parish bulletin, and your email for rehearsal dates.

Questions? Comments?
Contact Katie Severns at:
katie@cathedralolph.org or 342-0507

$300 Scholarship Opportunity for your Music Program

The Jackie and Jim Schnittgrund NPM Scholarship

The last recipient of this scholarship was Steven Spiess

The scholarship recipient will be announced on November 7th at the annual St. Cecilia Banquet at Blessed Sacrament Parish.

Applications must be received before October 25th.

The Jackie and Jim Schnittgrund NPM Scholarship for $300 will be awarded to a recipient in the Rapid City Diocese who will use the proceeds to improve music in Catholic liturgy.

Examples of how the scholarship might be used include individual lessons—voice, piano, organ, etc.; the purchase of equipment related to music in the parish; in-service training for music ministers; etc.

Answer the following questions and send the application to:
Jackie Schnittgrund
6831 Muirfield Dr.
Rapid City, SD 57702

1) Name, address, phone number, and email
2) What is your present position in the Catholic Church?
3) Briefly describe your educational/training background.
4) Specifically tell how the scholarship would be used.
5) State in 200 words or less the reasons you would like to be considered for this scholarship.

The Jackie and Jim Schnittgrund NPM Scholarship for $300 was awarded to Steven Spiess.
St. Cecilia Awards Recognize Dedication to Music Ministry

The St. Cecilia Award, named for the patroness of church music, recognizes one lay person and one clergy member for contributions to making the liturgy alive through music. Recipients will be announced at the annual NPM St. Cecilia Banquet November 7th.

The previous recipients were:
Mary Ann Rasmussen & Fr. Bill Zandri

Nominations will be accepted until October 25th to honor an individual who has served and promoted NPM in an exceptional manner.

The award memorializes Peggy Langenfeld as an individual who dedicated her life to good music in church worship.

The last recipient in 2007 was Sue Englin.

The 2006 recipient was Therese Aberle Kaiser. The 2005 award went to Jackie Schnittgrund. These ladies founded the RC Diocese Chapter of NPM, believing NPM offers tremendous resources and support to parish musicians, clergy and other worship leaders in fostering the art of musical liturgy.

If you, or someone you know, has made an outstanding contribution to NPM for the betterment of effective liturgy and music in our churches, please explain that contribution in 200 words or less.

Mail Nominations To:
Joan Bachmeier, NPM Secretary
1621 Third St.
Sturgis, SD 57785
joanbach@rushmore.com
Nominations must be received before October 25th

Peggy Langenfeld Award Nominations

Mail nominations to:
Joan Bachmeier, NPM Secretary
1621 Third St.
Sturgis, SD 57785
joanbach@rushmore.com
Nominees will be recognized at the St. Cecilia Banquet on November 7th, 2009. Prior nominees must be nominated again.

Years of Service Will Be Recognized

Have you, or someone you know been involved in Catholic Music Ministry for 25 (or more), 40 (or more), or 50 (or more) years? Let us know.

You will be recognized for those years of dedication to pastoral music, and receive a certificate at the annual St. Cecilia Banquet on November 7th.

Send, or e-mail information to:
Katie Severns
520 Cathedral Dr.
Rapid City, SD 57701
katie@cathedralolph.org

All names must be received by October 25th, 2009

Remember to ask fellow choir members, your accompanist, your liturgy director, anyone else who has dedicated themselves to music in your parish. They could qualify for this valuable recognition.
NPM Fall Meeting
November 7
8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Blessed Sacrament Church, Rapid City

Featured speaker
J. Michael McMahon
National President of NPM

A day of discussion on the new document from the USCCB Sing to the Lord and awards luncheon.

$15 prepaid fee includes lunch. Send payment to Joan Bachmeier, 1621 Third St., Sturgis SD 57785. Call Jackie Schnittgrund 605-342-6132 for more information.