

## NPM Winter Meeting – January 18, 2025

### St. Patrick's Church, Wall

(701 Norris St., Wall, SD)



#### Schedule of Events

9:30 Registration / Refreshments

10:00 Welcome

10:05 Opening Prayer (*musicians from Blessed Sacrament, Rapid City*)

10:15 Liturgy Basics (*Deacon John Osnes, OLBH, Piedmont*)

11:20 New Music in *Breaking Bread* (*Terry Schroeder, St. Therese, Rapid City*)

12:00 Simplified Mass Arrangements & WSDCF Grant (*Carman Timmerman and Terry Schroeder, St. Therese, Rapid City*)

12:30 Lunch / Business Meeting

1:10 Christmas and Lenten Music (*featuring choral selections from multiple parishes*)

2:10 Closing Prayer (*musicians from Blessed Sacrament, Rapid City*)

2:20 Dismissal

To help us secure an accurate lunch count, **please RSVP** to Carman Timmerman by **Thursday, 16 Jan. 2025**. (ph. 605-391-4053, or email [carmantimmerman@gmail.com](mailto:carmantimmerman@gmail.com))

### Director's Letter

I hope all who read this are having a blessed Christmas season. May God's love fill your hearts and minds, and may you feel his presence in all that you do. – Chantry Nelson, Director, Rapid City NPM Chapter

### BREAKING NEWS: "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington"

We are excited to announce that our chapter is responsible for both the recent *creation of* and *legal right to distribute* simplified accompaniments for four commonly-used masses, and that on Dec. 17 Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation awarded us a grant which we anticipate will fully cover our costs.

We wish to thank the talented music arrangers and all others who contributed to this achievement. Sue Sedlacek arranged the Mass of Creation, Mass of Christ the Savior, and Mass of Renewal, and typeset all four mass arrangements; the Heritage Mass was arranged by Barry Furze and Wayne Richards (piano) and Ed Fischer (guitar chords). Carman Timmerman, our Secretary-Treasurer – who via six months of communications shepherded their creations through the labyrinths of "Washington" (the multiple offices of publishing powerhouses OCP and GIA) – gives a project history (including grant-writers and others not mentioned here) on pages [2-4](#); for attendant awards, see [p. 6](#).

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## Preview: 2025 Winter Meeting

Our Winter Meeting in Wall features four events:

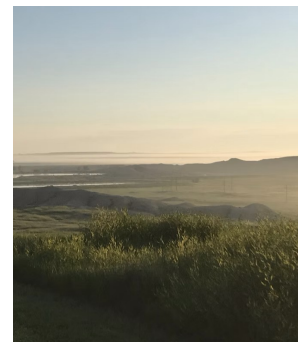
1) Liturgy Basics. As Catholic musicians, it's always helpful to learn more about the liturgy underpinning nearly everything we do. Deacon John Osnes of Our Lady of the Black Hills, Piedmont will speak on this, a topic about which he is both knowledgeable and enthusiastic.



Grotto at St. Patrick's, Wall

2) New Music in *Breaking Bread*. Those familiar with *Breaking Bread* know that each new issue removes a few hymns and adds a few new ones. But how many of us actively check out the new additions? Terry Schroeder of St. Therese, Rapid City will lead us through a number of new hymns in the 2024 and 2025 issues of *Breaking Bread*.

3) Simplified Mass Arrangements & WSDCF Grant. See "Breaking News" announcement, page 2. Board members Carman Timmerman and Terry Schroeder, both of St. Therese, Rapid City, will give us the details (Carman) and play some of the simplified accompaniments (Terry).



View from the Badlands Wall  
at Wall

4) Christmas and Lenten Music. This event aims to both present music and give attendees the opportunity to sing some of it. Why Christmas and Lenten? Opinion was divided whether it would be more enjoyable/beneficial to reprise Christmas music or look ahead to Lent. Musicians from Blessed Sacrament (Rapid City), Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Rapid City), St. Michael's (Hermosa) and possibly others will present.

## Rapid City Chapter of National Pastoral Musicians Awarded Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation Grant Carman Timmerman



The Rapid City Chapter of National Pastoral Musicians (NPM) was formed in the mid-1970s. Frequently since then, at the Chapter's quarterly meetings, in informal conversations, and in the Chapter's board meetings, parish music liturgy leaders have expressed a need for simplified Mass settings.

For a frontier diocese such as the Rapid City Diocese, skilled music liturgy accompanists are in short supply for several of our parishes. Music ministers from these parishes try to recruit students or novice adult keyboard players to accompany at Masses, but this effort can be challenging and/or overwhelming to a new and inexperienced accompanist. In some situations, parishes have had to recruit non-Catholic accompanists to play (at additional expense to the church), or have resorted to using pre-recorded music.

At the 2024 NPM Spring Meeting in Hermosa, the topic of simplified Mass settings re-emerged. The members decided to renew their pursuit of simplified Mass arrangements for commonly used settings, namely, the Heritage Mass, Mass of Creation, Mass of Renewal and Mass of Christ the Savior. In previous times, the Chapter had researched online libraries of GIA, OCP, and NPM and hadn't found any simplified Mass settings, and an updated search resulted in the same findings. Consequently, talented musicians within our Chapter area were asked to and did arrange simplified settings for these four Mass settings.

Understanding that we were going to need to develop our own simplified settings, we saw that we would need funds to compensate individuals who arranged these simplified Mass settings, to secure publisher permission (subsequently received for all Mass settings), and to provide copies of simplified Mass setting accompaniments to parishes across the Diocese. Seeking a grant from potential sources such as OCP, GIA, and Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation (WSDCF) seemed likely places to start. Sheila Schweitzer and Carman Timmerman volunteered to apply for grants.

To meet the requirement of an OCP Parish Grant, Fr. Brian Lane, pastor of Timber Lake area parishes, consented to be the applying locale, and Sheila and Carman submitted this grant application in May 2024. Unfortunately, we didn't get the OCP grant, but we were lucky in another grant application.

On December 17, 2024, we were notified that the Rapid Chapter of NPM received a WSDCF Grant. This \$2,000 Grant will be used to compensate the simplified Mass arrangers and to defray expenses related to potential licensing fees as well as costs related to copying and distributing the simplified Mass settings.

As an WSDCF Grant recipient, the Rapid City Chapter has some reporting responsibilities during the next few months. Additionally, Jim Kinyon, WSDCF Executive Director, said that the Foundation would appreciate it if the Chapter would "make an announcement or share information about your selection as a Grant recipient through the local media, your website, newsletter, bulletins, and/or social media. This has a twofold goal of ensuring our donors and the broader community is aware of the local impact we have as a Foundation and the good you do in western South Dakota. . . . Additionally, we would be happy to consider a trip to your site or to attend an event with your supporters, to encourage others to consider supporting your endowment or ministry." As in this Chapter newsletter, we are pleased to comply with this request. If you want to share our WSDCF award information within your parish and your community, this would be a way of showing your appreciation of this honor and of the work we do as NPM members.

On July 28, 2025, WSDF will hold its annual distribution luncheon at Terra Sancta Retreat Center at which time our Chapter will receive the \$2,000 award check. All Diocese of Rapid City liturgical musicians are invited to attend this event and will receive a reminder closer to the event date.

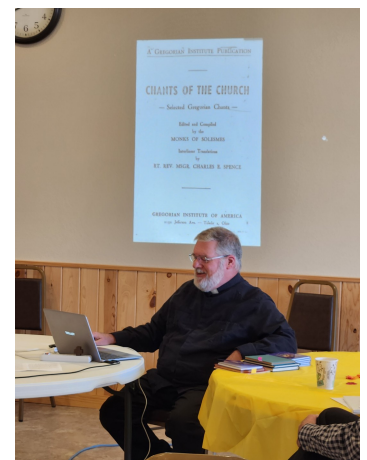
Thanks to our Rapid City NPM members for the inspiration and can-do attitude that made the simplified Mass settings notion come to fruition. Since NPM's goal is to foster the art of music liturgy, this effort is aligned with this goal as well as the Church's principle that "music serves to unite the congregation and elevate the soul, guiding all towards a deeper encounter with God." ([www.catholicshare.com/the-role-of-music-in-catholic-worship](http://www.catholicshare.com/the-role-of-music-in-catholic-worship)).

### Recap: 2024 Fall Meeting

The Fall Meeting was held 19 October at St. Michael's Church, Hermosa. Events included, in order: **Gregorian Chant** (Fr. Timothy Castor), **Music Reading Session** (various), **St. Cecilia Banquet, Awards Ceremony, Commissioning of Music Ministers** (Bishop Scott Bullock), and **The Bishop as Moderator of the Liturgy** (Bishop Bullock).

First, **Musicians from St. Francis of Assisi, Sturgis** led Opening Prayer.

Then **Fr. Timothy Castor** of St. Francis of Assisi gave a **presentation on Gregorian Chant**. Father handed out photocopied pages from *Chants of the Church: Selected*



Attendees of Gregorian Chant session ... and presenter Fr. Timothy Castor

*Gregoria Chants – Edited and Compiled by the Monks of Solesmes*, ed. Rt. Rev. Msgr. Charles E. Spence (Gregorian Institute of America, Toledo, OH, 1953), and spent the first part of his talk explaining Gregorian notation ("Now, *this* is a punctum...") via PowerPoint slides of the same pages, anecdotally mentioning along the way such things as where he'd learned it (much in France). Thus primed, in the second part of the presentation attendees communally sang Gregorian settings of a few Latin texts (e.g., "Tantum ergo sacramentum" and "Pater noster").

This was followed by a **Music Reading Session** in which five musicians commented on, demonstrated, and led the communal singing of each of eight anthems (culled from twenty-one) found in OCP's *OCP New Music Showcase*. All are newly-published works copyrighted 2020-2024. Promotional printed copies of *New Music Showcase* were distributed at the "OCP Music Showcase" during this summer's NPM National Convention in Kansas City; a PDF of same and musical sound

## RAPID CITY CHAPTER OF NPM

samples of this collection are available at [ocp.org/showcase \(https://www.ocp.org/en-us/showcase\)](https://www.ocp.org/en-us/showcase).

**Jackie Schnittgrund** directed three of the eight (accomp. Barry Furze, piano): the session's first two selections, "How Far Is It to Bethlehem?" (STOWEY/Walker/Chesteron) and "Peace on Earth" (Dvořák/Hurd/Oler/Hubbard), plus its uptempo concluding piece, "I Know How You Want Me to Live" (Crandal/Bryant). In between (listed chronologically), **Chantry Nelson** (from the piano) led/accompanied "Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain" (GAUDEAMUS PARITER/Honoré/Neale) and "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" (THE MOREEN/Wedgewood/Tate/Bonar); **Ed and Jeannie Fischer** (standing, accomp. Ed on guitar) led/accompanied "Welcome the Child" (Hart) and "Jesus, Living Bread" (Booth); and **Terry Schrader** (from the piano) led/accompanied "What Light Is Rising" (Wills/Hart).



*Jackie Schnittgrund,  
accomp. Barry Furze*



*... and attendees of Music Reading Session*



*Ed and Jeannie Fischer,  
Music Reading Session*

The midday **St. Cecilia Banquet** was catered from The Olive Garden, Rapid City, and parishioners of St. Michael's served it (with a few additions). Parish hall tables were decorated in fall colors.



*St. Cecilia Banquet, St. Michael's parish hall*



*Jackie Schnittgrund  
and Bonnie Josten,  
NPM Chapter  
Directors  
extraordinaire*

As always, the banquet was followed by a **business meeting** which included **the election of officers**. Those elected/re-elected were: Director, Chantry Nelson; Secretary-Treasurer, Carman Timmerman; Programming Coordinator, Chantry Nelson. In honor of **outgoing Director Bonnie Josten's** extraordinary service (serving six years Director, the last two of those concurrently as Program Coordinator) the board gave her a Black Hills Gold sterling silver pendant necklace. Bonnie will remain on the board as member-at-large.

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At the 2024 **Chapter Awards Ceremony**, awards were presented to the following:

- ♪ **St. Cecilia Award (Clergy):** posthumously awarded **Fr. Dan Juelfs**; accepted by Msgr. Michael Wooster
- ♪ **St. Cecilia Award (Laity):** **Ed and Jeannie Fischer** (St. John the Baptist, Custer)  
*Honorable mention: Carlotta Aberle (Holy Rosary, Trail City); Bob Case (St. Therese, Rapid City); Ken Jimmerson (Blessed Sacrament, Rapid City); Mary Krupka (Cathedral of OLPH, Rapid City)*
- ♪ **Peggy Langenfeld Memorial:** **Sue Sedlacek** (Cathedral OLPH, Rapid City)
- ♪ **Key Contributor Award** for their work on Simplified Mass Settings ([see p. 1](#)): **Ed Fischer** (St. John the Baptist, Custer); **Barry Furze** (St. Francis of Assisi, Sturgis), **Wayne Richards** (Cathedral OLPH); **Carman Timmerman** (St. Therese, Rapid City)
- ♪ **Emerging Music Minister Award (Youth):** **Ky Gerlick** (Blessed Sacrament, Rapid City); **Meredith Maciejewski** (Holy Cross, Timber Lake); **Asher Wilkening** (Cathedral OLPH, Rapid City)



Msgr. Michael Wooster accepting for Fr. Dan Juelfs (retired; b. 11/1946 – d. 9/2024), St. Cecilia Award (Clergy)



Ed and Jeannie Fischer (St. John the Baptist, Custer), St. Cecilia Award (Laity)



Sue Sedlacek (Cathedral OLPH, Rapid City), Peggy Langenfeld Memorial (for Simplified Mass Arrangements and more)



Bob Case (St. Therese, Rapid City), Honorable Mention, St. Cecilia (Laity)



Ken Jimmerson (Blessed Sacrament, Rapid City), Honorable Mention, St. Cecilia (Laity)



Barry Furze (St. Francis of Assisi, Sturgis), Key Contributor, Simplified Mass Arrangements (Heritage Mass, Keyboard)



Ed Fischer (St. John the Baptist, Custer), Key Contributor, Simplified Mass Arrangements (Heritage Mass, Guitar chords)



Carman Timmerman (St. Therese, Rapid City), Key Contributor, Simplified Mass Arrangements (Liaison, arrangers and publishers)

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*Asher Wilkening (Cathedral  
OLPH), Emerging Music  
Minister (Youth)*



*Ky Gerlick (Blessed Sacrament,  
Rapid City), Emerging Music  
Minister (Youth)*

🎵 **Service Year Awards** were presented to:

**5 years: Becky Maciejewski and Meredith Maciejewski** (both, Holy Cross, Timber Lake)

**10 years: Steve Keller and Richard Scherer** (both, Holy Cross, Timber Lake)

**25 years: Cindy Biegler and Deb Voller** (both, Holy Cross, Timber Lake)

**40 years: Charlotte Pistulka** (St. Francis of Assisi, Sturgis), **Scheila Schweitzer** (Holy Cross, Timber Lake), and **Bonnie Yulker** (Holy Cross, Timber Lake)

**50 years: Cheryl Lawence** (Holy Rosary, Trail City)

### † In Memoriam:



*Janene Spatz  
St. Isadore's Church  
Ralph, December 2023*



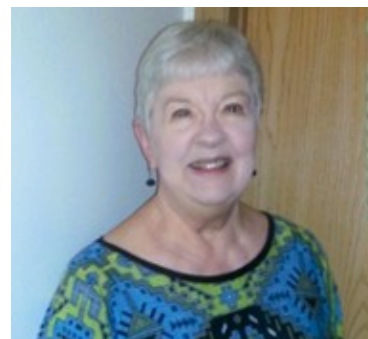
*Mary Ann Rasmussen  
St. Francis of Assisi Church,  
Sturgis  
January 2024*



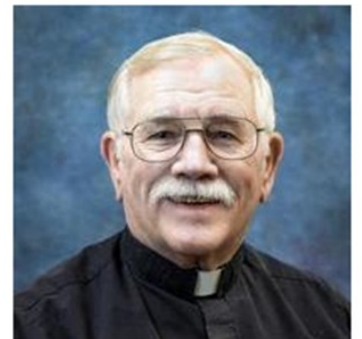
*Marty Mahrt  
St. John the Baptist Church  
Custer, January 2024*



*Bishop Peter Muhich  
Diocese of Rapid City  
February 2024*



*Mary Erz  
St. Therese Church, Rapid City  
June 2024*



*Fr. Dan Juelfs  
Diocese of Rapid City  
September 2024*

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At the end of the Awards ceremonies, outgoing Director Bonnie Josten spoke a few words **in memoriam of Spiritus, a long-existing Cathedral OLPH choir** disbanded this year by fiat. At conclusion, everyone applauded the group (represented by the standing former members present).

*For those who may wonder: Spiritus formed ca. 1981. Its first director was Caroline Dutton, followed ca. 1987-88 by Jeanine Gerlach, followed ca. 2018-19 by Toni Brumbaugh, who remained director till the end. Initially it sang for the 8:30 a.m. mass and was known as "the 8:30 Folk Group." Ca. 2005-2009 it was renamed Spiritus. For most of its existence, Christly Leichtnam was pianist. Other long-term Spiritus members included Kristine Englehardt, Mark Schroeder, and Peg Westrich. At one time a number of School of Mines students sang in it regularly. Choir accompaniment always included a rhythm guitar and usually piano. Additional instruments over the years included banjo, mandolin, flute(s), violin(s), double bass, electric bass guitar, tambourine (on selective songs, for color) and (briefly) an Irish drum. In its 43 or so years' existence, the choir was assigned many different time slots ("whatever the main choir wasn't using") and ended near where it began, as "the 8 AM Choir."*

Last on the program, and much-anticipated by many, **Bishop Scott Bullock** (ordained September 23, less than four weeks prior) spoke on **"The Bishop as Moderator of the Liturgy."** Bishop Bullock handed out a two-sided page of excerpts from various church documents and expounded on their



Bishop Scott Bullock, Diocese of Rapid City, ordained September 23, 2024

contents. He explained that the bishop's job is to teach, lead the worship, and govern, and under that umbrella he's the moderator of the liturgy; he "issues the norms of the liturgy" for the diocese during his tenure. Regarding liturgical practice, he says "Canon law is our friend"; it prevents us from running out and changing things willy-nilly. Which we shouldn't, because "The mass is Jesus's. Otherwise it has no meaning."

He is deeply devoted to the Eucharist; in the mass, Christ is present in the minister (*in persona Christi*), the Eucharist, the Word, and in the assembly of the faithful, praying and singing. He said, "I want to be able to celebrate mass *every day* for the people of the diocese," so when his schedule doesn't allow for him to celebrate a public mass, he celebrates one *in sine populo*.

Regarding music in the liturgy, Bishop cited the Constitution *Sacrosanctum concilium* on the Sacred Liturgy, #112: "The musical treasure of the universal Church is a treasure of inestimable value, greater even than that of any other art," mainly because "as sacred song united to the words, it forms a necessary or integral part of the solemn liturgy..." Bishop emphasized, "It's *integral* - it can't be removed from it." Therefore, even at weekday masses, he would like, "at the least," the mass parts sung.

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## RAPID CITY CHAPTER OF NPM

Bishop mentioned that “a big part of our current [musical] tradition” places the most importance on hymns and the least on the music of the liturgy, which is the reverse of where progressive solemnity indicates it should be.

**Musicians from St. Francis of Assisi, Sturgis led Closing Prayer.**

### NPM 2025 Calendar of Events

**Date:** January 18, 2025  
**Event:** **Winter NPM Meeting**  
**Location:** St. Patrick’s, Wall  
**Topics:** Liturgy Basics (Deacon John Osnes); New Music in *Breaking Bread* (Terry Schroeder); Christmas and Lenten Music (musicians from Musicians from Blessed Sacrament, Rapid City; Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rapid City; and St. Michael’s, Hermosa)

**Date:** TBD  
**Event:** **Spring NPM Meeting**  
**Location:** TBD  
**Topic:** tentatively, A Celebration of Hymns; all-day hymn festival featuring multiple choirs

**Date:** TBD  
**Event:** **Summer NPM Meeting**  
**Location:** St. John the Baptist, Custer  
**Topics:** TBD

**Date:** TBD  
**Event:** **Fall NPM Meeting / St. Cecilia Banquet / Silent Auction**  
**Location:** TBD  
**Topics:** Presentation by a national NPM speaker TBD

**Do you have upcoming special music events in your parish or in your community that involve fellow NPM members? If so, contact Chantry Nelson ([marycsnelson@gmail.com](mailto:marycsnelson@gmail.com)) with event information, so we can add it to our calendar and the quarterly newsletter.**

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For more information about the National Association of Pastoral Musicians:

RAPID CITY CHAPTER  
[npmrc.org](http://npmrc.org)  
[facebook.com/npmrapidcitychapter](https://facebook.com/npmrapidcitychapter)

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION  
[npm.org](http://npm.org)

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