



# St Paul's Choir School

MAKING MUSIC • BUILDING COMMUNITY • CHANGING LIVES  
113 Engle Street, Englewood, NJ 07631 • 201.568.3276 • [stpauls-choirschool.org](http://stpauls-choirschool.org)

FALL - WINTER 2018 • NEWSLETTER



*Choristers after the Annual Blessing of the Animals, including our new Primary Choir, October 2018*

## Our Seventh Year

The St Paul's Choir School began its seventh year this September! Take a moment to read the pages of this newsletter and check out what we have been working on and what we are looking forward to! With your generous support and encouragement we continue to sing, grow, and learn as we serve the greater Englewood community and beyond. Check out our website, [stpauls-choirschool.org](http://stpauls-choirschool.org), to find out more about what we do, to see and hear us, and to find out what you can do to help us continue our success in mentoring and encouraging our young singers.

## About the St Paul's Choir School

The St Paul's Choir School program is based on the idea that all children are able to sing, given encouragement and instruction. We offer tuition-free music education and performance opportunities for girls and boys, ages five through high school. We are a unique after-school program that offers professional choral training, voice and piano lessons, music theory, leadership development, and mentoring to children and teenagers. Each chorister receives individualized attention in a dynamic, creative, structured, and hands-on setting from caring teachers who are accomplished professionals in their areas of instruction. Our choristers come from Englewood and surrounding towns, representing a wide range of cultural communities, and from all faith traditions. *Everyone is welcome!*



*Middle-High School Choristers sang a short recital at Cedar Crest Village, pictured with John Bullough, Music Director at St Paul's, 1973-1995*



### **THE MISSION OF THE ST PAUL'S CHOIR SCHOOL: Making Music, Building Community, Changing Lives**

The St Paul's Choir School is a Musical and Educational Outreach of St Paul's Episcopal Church in Englewood, New Jersey. We seek to—

- ✓ Provide solid musical instruction in a friendly and fun environment of mutual respect and achievement;
- ✓ Create opportunities for children to grow in musical and spiritual strengths that nurture their growth;
- ✓ Provide children of diverse abilities and backgrounds with a program of music appreciation and choral performance that seeks to fulfill each child's musical potential.



*Primary Choristers wear their cassocks for the first time in preparation for Sunday*

## September-October, 2018

We began a new choir program for elementary school singers this fall. Ms Giulia and Mr Trautman teach an hour-long lesson with games, singing, and fun! They sang for the Blessing of Animals Service and our first Sunday morning in October. Two of our Primary Choristers are also taking piano lessons. The choristers are truly a wonderful addition to our program!

The Middle-High School choristers sang three Evensong services: one on their own at St Paul's and the Seating of the New Bishop of Newark in September, and one with the adults in October. All of the choristers sang for the Blessing of the Animals service and our usual second Sunday Eucharist as well. We have

planned several Evensong services at St Paul's this year, including September 16, October 21, November 4, January 6, February 17, and March 17.

Our Middle-High School choristers and our adult singers sang for the Consecration of Bishop Carlye J. Hughes at NJ PAC in Newark on Saturday, September 22. Mr Trautman served as director of music for the event, and more than 330 singers—including seventy children from around the Diocese of Newark—sang onstage. Three teen soloists were featured, including our own Alonzo! On Sunday, September 23 we joined with choristers from Grace Church, Newark and St Peter's, Morristown for the Seating of the New Bishop at Trinity and St Philip's Cathedral in Newark. Mr Trautman conducted and we were delighted to have Tyrone Whiting, Director of Music at Grace Church as organist for the service.



*Evensong, Trinity and St Philip's Cathedral, Newark*

The Middle-High School trebles will travel to St Luke's, Darien CT on Saturday, October 27. They will sing Evensong with choristers from The Choir School of Hartford CT; St. Stephen's, Ridgefield CT; The Choir School of Asbury Park, New Jersey; singers from Saint Luke's, East Greenwich, RI; and the choristers of Saint Luke's, Darien. The service will be the culmination of Saint Luke's first Royal School of Church Music Treble Festival, and we are looking forward to singing under the direction of David Pulliam and Cynthia Holberg. The Middle-High School boys will travel with Mr Trautman to Christ Church in Short Hills to speak at their stewardship presentation on Sunday morning, October 28. We are grateful to Christ Church's Outreach Program for its support of the St Paul's Choir School!



*Getting ready for Evensong, September 2018*

The Middle-High School choristers are continuing to progress in the *Voice for Life* curriculum. Three choristers earned the light blue ribbon level and the dark blue level this summer. We

are currently preparing choristers to take the bronze exam and silver exam; so far, five of our choristers have earned the bronze award.

Coming up this fall, the Middle-High School choristers will join the adults for our annual All Souls' Vespers on November 4 at 5 p.m. at St Paul's and sing a concert at the Convent of St John Baptist in Mendham on November 18 at 5 p.m. They will join the adults and the St Paul's Orchestra to sing Handel's *Messiah* on Sunday, December 2 at 5 p.m. All choristers will sing the Sunday morning Eucharist at St Paul's on November 11 and December 9, and the Christmas Eve Jazz Mass on Monday, December 24 at 5 p.m.

## Summer 2018 Fun!

Seven of our choristers participated in the Diocese of New Jersey Summer Choir Camp in Cape May in July. The choristers stay at Holiday House of the Girl's Friendly Society of the Diocese of Pennsylvania and rehearse and sing Evensong at the Church of the Advent. This year's camp was run by Mr Jim Hopkins, Interim Director of the Washington Heights Choir School and Mr Andrew Van Varick, Director of Music at St Paul's, Paterson. Ms Catherine Sabine, our beloved proctor from St Mary's, Burlington was joined by our own Caitlyn Taylor, our former head chorister who has just begun her sophomore year of college. Bishop Chip Stokes of the Diocese of New Jersey officiated and preached at Evensong. Bishop Stokes served as a boy chorister at St Thomas, Fifth Avenue, NYC, and he always has a great message for our young singers. Earlier in the year, we gathered at Trinity Cathedral in Trenton for the Annual Choir Camp Evensong.



*Leaving Cape May—Exit '0' on the GSP*



*Mr Trautman and Choristers at Salve Regina University, Newport*

## RSCM Newport

We traveled from NY Penn Station to Rhode Island for the Newport RSCM Course, August 4 through 10. This is the sixth RSCM course for our Choir School and the fourth time in beautiful Newport. We were ably led by Mr Richard Webster, Director of Music at Trinity, Boston MA and Mr Vince Edwards, Director of Music at Grace Church, Providence, RI. It was a wonderful week of music making—more than six hours of singing daily, Evensong at Trinity, Newport and Grace Church, Providence, a hymn sing at St Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Newport, and the final Eucharist at St George's School in Middletown. The choristers also had an opportunity to attend a baseball game—Renaldo and Mr Webster had a push-up contest!—and Ishmael sang in the Talent Show. Alonzo



*Waiting for the train in NYC*

and Veronica served as Proctors-in-Training. This course is a wonderful opportunity for our choristers to interact with their peers from around the country, make new friends, and have the opportunity to be exposed to new sights, sounds and cultures—and, of course, make beautiful music with people from many different churches.

## Travel and Fun!

Choir is about making music—building community—and changing lives. We sing together, we eat together (lots and lots of pizza!) and we play and celebrate together. We had several weeks of rehearsals in the summer to prepare for Cape May and Newport. We sang a short program at Cedar Crest Village in Pompton Plains, a retirement community in northern New Jersey. Mr John Bullough, Director of Music at St Paul's from 1973-1995 was in attendance, and was thrilled we came



*'Rehearsal's over—now I can use my phone?'*



*At the Great Falls of Paterson*

to sing; he just turned ninety this month. Afterward, we took a trip to the Great Falls of Paterson—the second largest waterfall by volume east of the Mississippi. We also traveled to Asbury Park for a day of beach fun and hanging out at the Boardwalk.



Mr Andrew Zhang

## Grateful to Staff and Volunteers!

We are delighted to welcome Mr Andrew Zhang as our new piano instructor. Mr Zhang earned a bachelor's degree in music education and jazz studies from William Paterson University in Wayne. He is a talented teacher and jazz musician, and is incorporating jazz improvisation into piano instruction. Ms Giulia Utz continues as our voice instructor, and is also present with us when we sing Sunday mornings at St Paul's. Ms Carolina

Restrepo continues as intern while she finishes her music education degree at Montclair State University, helping with activities, handbells, and *Voice for Life*. Mr Ravon Middlebrooks works with the boys and singing, as well as music theory. Ms Jessica Jackson



Ms Carolina leads warm-ups for the Middle-High choristers



Happy birthday, Ms Giulia!

continues as a mentor to the choristers, engaging them in

activities such as cooking. Ms Kai Alston and Ms Coralius Noble prepare breakfast for the choristers on the Sundays when they sing at St Paul's. Our Sunday Sextons, Mr Gary Mason and Mr George Gill, assist us in numerous ways from driving the church van and picking up choristers on Sundays, to mentoring. We are

also grateful for the many parishioners who bring snacks for the choristers every week, and for parent volunteers who help with travel, hemming cassocks, and so much more. *We are grateful for you all—thank you!*

## Building Our Future

Since our first day in 2012, St Paul's Choir School has worked wonders with a small budget and minimal resources. We have managed to change lives and accomplish great things. Thanks to our supporters and benefactors to date, we have been able to build a sustainable and increasingly healthy program. In the year ahead, we have several challenges for funding and expanding our programs, and we can't do it without your help. Will you consider contributing to our future? Checks in any amount are always welcome, and all gifts are tax-deductible. [You can send your gift to St Paul's Church, 113 Engle Street, Englewood, NJ 07631; earmark your check to 'St Paul's Choir School.'](mailto:stpaulschoir@stpauls-choirschool.org)

### *How can you help?*

- Sponsor one chorister for one year, \$1,000;
- Piano lessons for choristers, \$140 per month;
- Cape May Choir Camp Scholarships, \$450 each;
- RSCM Choir Scholarships at \$625 each;
- RSCM Train Travel at \$125 each.

### Thanks to our Supporters!

A complete list of donors may be found at [www.stpauls-choirschool.org/list-of-donors.html](http://www.stpauls-choirschool.org/list-of-donors.html)

### Thank You!

Thank you for your support of the St Paul's Choir School. Your gifts and extraordinary support continue to make a difference in the lives of our children and our community, and we are grateful indeed. Feel free to contact me at any time to find out more about how you can be a part of this important outreach.

—Mark A. Trautman, Director of Music



330-voice choir, Consecration Service at NJ PAC in Newark