



ST PAUL'S CHURCH IN ENGLEWOOD
in the Episcopal Diocese of Newark
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Mark A. Trautman, *Director of Music*
Missioner for Music and the Arts, Episcopal Diocese of Newark

August 17, 2021

Dear Choir School Donors and Friends:

I write to inform you that I have tendered my resignation as Director of Music of St. Paul's Church. My last day will be August 31, 2021.

As many of you know, Ms. Giulia Utz, Mr. Andrew Zhang, and Mr. Carlo Sitoy began recruiting for the new school year at the end of July. Details about the new year are posted on our website, also in our current newsletter (www.stpauls-choirschool.org). Thankfully these three talented teachers have been teaching lessons on ZOOM since the beginning of the pandemic and they are well known to the children and chorister families.

It has always been our custom to say one thing we are thankful for at the conclusion of every rehearsal. At this end of this amazing journey, I give thanks that our choristers have performed at NJPAC and bergenPAC, performed onstage with The Chieftains and Kristen Chenoweth, recorded tracks for HBO films, and sung at churches and other venues around the tri-state area. One of our students just graduated from college, and previous graduates attend colleges around the country, including Calvin College, Bergen County College, William Paterson University, the United States Military Academy at West Point and more. Thanks to the generous support of so many, we have raised nearly \$200,000 in grants and more than \$153,000 in donations since we first began in September 2012. The Choir School Program has more than \$50,000 in its account as of today, which will secure the chorister program for the 2021-2022 academic year.

The Choir School has been one of the proudest achievements of my career. Your love, generosity, patience, kindness, and support of me are beyond measure. My heart is full of gratitude for all of you. As St. Paul wrote to the Philippians so long ago, "I thank my God for every remembrance of you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you." Keep singing, keep supporting, keep praying, and know that I have you in my heart.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Trautman".

Mark A. Trautman