



St Paul's Choir School

A MUSICAL AND EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH OF ST PAUL'S IN ENGLEWOOD
113 Engle Street, Englewood, NJ 07631 • 201.568.3276 • stpauls-choirschool.org

WINTER 2017 • NEWSLETTER



Choristers at Trinity and St Philip's, Newark

Sing to the Lord a new song!

The St Paul's Choir School is in the midst of its fifth year! 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. Take a moment to look at our website, 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 free music education and performance opportunities for girls and boys, ages 8 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 students come from Englewood and surrounding towns, representing a wide range of cultural communities, and from all faith traditions. Everyone is welcome!



Advent with Choristers



Choristers at Bethesda Fountain in Central Park, NYC

Our Mission:

To provide solid musical instruction in a friendly and fun environment of mutual respect and achievement;
To create an opportunity for children to grow in musical and spiritual strengths that nurture their growth;

To 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.



*Combined choirs at St James',
conducted by Mr Trautman*

Choir School in the Greater Community

We traveled to St James' Church, Madison Avenue in New York City this past October to sing with the St James Choir and the Trinity, Asbury Park Choristers. Afterward we walked to down to Central Park, then back to St James' for a pizza lunch. Thanks to Loraine Enlow, Youth Choir Director at St James' Church, for the invitation and a wonderful experience singing in such a beautiful space. Some of our Treble choristers will travel to sing under Mrs. Enlow's direction in a few weeks at the annual Treble Choral Evensong at the Cathedral Church of St John the Divine in New York.

We opened the school year with our annual Blessing of the Animals Service this past fall. We traveled to sing Evensong at St Peter's, Perth Amboy and Christ Church, Teaneck in the fall, and we sang for the annual City of Englewood Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in December. We traveled to Trinity and St Philip's Cathedral to

sing for the annual Memorial to Lives Lost service in December and sang at our annual Lessons and Carols service. Our chorister Renaldo conducted the combined choirs—take a look at the video on our website. Our chorister Lily composed a new string quartet that was premiered at our midnight Christmas Mass. Lily has been studying organ with Mr Trautman and played the prelude and one of the hymns for Bishop Mark Beckwith's visitation to St Paul's on January 8.

We traveled to Christ Church, New Brunswick to sing for a memorial service for Janet Cook Krache in November. Mrs Krache was the mother of one of our choristers and she asked that we sing at her memorial service. This was the first time the Choir School has participated in such a service, and it was a joy and an honor to do so. We were able to try out the Richards, Fowkes organ opus 12 at Christ Church and enjoy pizza at a restaurant in Highland Park. The Choir School has just received a generous gift in honor Mrs Krache, and we have been able to buy more than five hundred new choral books for our program!



*Choristers at the
Richards, Fowkes organ*



*Mr Hopkins, Mr Trautman,
and Ms Caruso*

Annual Epiphany Evensong

We sang our fifth annual Epiphany Evensong on Sunday, January 8. The Trinity, Asbury Park Choristers, directed by Diane Caruso and the Grace Church, Newark Choristers, directed by James Hopkins joined the St Paul's Choristers for this annual event. This is the first time Grace Church has joined us, and the St Paul's Choir School is planning to sing at Grace Church this Lent for Evensong and Benediction. Fr Bill Allport preached, and it was a joy to have Fr Brent Bates from Grace Church with us as well. We concluded the evening with supper followed by Burning of the Greens.

Events, January through March

We were delighted to sing at St Luke's Episcopal Church, Darien, Connecticut for their celebration of Dr Martin Luther King, Jr Sunday on January 15. It was a special joy to work with our friend David Pulliam, newly appointed Director of Music at St Luke's. Five our choristers have taken the RSCM Bronze Exam with Mr Pulliam and we look forward to singing under his leadership at the annual St Bartholomew's Choral Festival in New



Fun at the Norwalk Aquarium!

York City this May. After singing at St Luke's, the choristers had a great time singing at the Norwalk Aquarium.

We will join with the Dwight Morrow High School/Academies@Englewood Jazz Band for our annual Black History Concert on Sunday, February 5 at 5 p.m. Please come and join us for this wonderful event! On Sunday, March 19 we will join with area choirs for a Lenten Concert at St Paul's at 5 p.m., and on Sunday, March 26 we will sing a concert at the Convent of St John Baptist in Mendham.



St Paul's Choristers at St Luke's, Darien, CT



Handbells and More

Thanks to a generous gift from the Cove Point Foundation, we have commissioned a new, two-octave set of English Handbells. The bells were made especially for St Paul's by the Malmark Company, and we are grateful to parishioner Jonathan Stevens for picking them up for us.

Playing Handbells is an excellent tool for learning to read music as well as coordination. The bells are played in both hands, and as they ring the choristers develop better fine and gross motor skills. We have already begun using the bells as a regular part of rehearsal, and we used them for the first time at our Epiphany Evensong.

Piano and Voice: Six of our choristers continue to take piano lessons with Ms Leslie Frost, and all of our choristers continue voice lessons with Ms Giulia Utz. Private lessons help with sight-singing, theory, and expression. The choristers also learn to build discipline and self-confidence. Learning to play an instrument has long been shown to open new pathways in the brain.

Summer Choir Camps

We will once again send choristers to the Diocese of New Jersey Choir Camp, July 23-27. At least four of our choristers will attend the Royal School of Church Music Summer Course at Newport, RI, July 31-August 6. Some of our students will take the exam for the Bronze and the Silver Award during the Newport course. We hope to have our annual choir retreat at Camp Dark Waters near Medford, NJ in mid-August.

The Cape May Camp will be led this year by Mr Trautman. We are hoping to bring four to six campers to the event, which will take place at Holiday House of the Girls' Friendly Society of the Diocese of Pennsylvania and the Church of the Advent, Cape May.



Choristers in New Brunswick

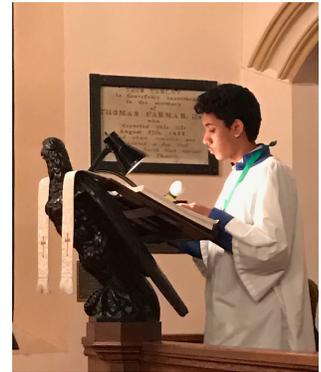


The RSCM Newport Camp will be led this year by Sarah McDonald, Fellow and Director of Music at Selwyn College, Cambridge, and Director of Ely Cathedral Girls' Choir. She has been at Selwyn since 1999, and is the first woman to hold such a post in an Oxbridge Chapel. *Last year's RSCM Newport choristers are pictured at left.*

Choir camps and other summer courses give our choristers the opportunity to join with voices from diverse programs. This intense period of growth—socially, musically, and spiritually—provides experiences that last a lifetime.

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 significantly increased enrollment and 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. As we look toward summer camps and the next academic year, 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.'](#)



Alonzo reading at Evensong,
St Peter's, Perth Amboy

How can you help?

Sponsor one chorister for one year, \$1,000

Piano lessons for choristers, \$140 per month

Cape May Choir Camp Scholarships for six singers at \$350 each: \$2,100

RSCM Choir Scholarships for six singers at \$625 each

RSCM travel expenses, \$120 per chorister

Camp Dark Waters Choir Retreat support: \$2,000



Thanks to our Supporters!

We acknowledge gratefully the businesses, organizations and individuals whose financial contributions and support have made the founding and first five years of the St Paul's Choir School possible:

Businesses: Lexus of Englewood, One River School of Art and Design, Owens Group Insurance of Englewood Cliffs, ShopRite, Tapestry, Tea Fields of Englewood

Foundations and Organizations: ACTS/VIM of the Diocese of Newark, Alleluia Fund of the Diocese of Newark, The Bishop of Newark, Christ Church,

Christiana Hundred, The Gertrude Butts Foundation, Christ Church Short Hills Outreach Grants Committee, Community Chest of Englewood, The Cove Point Foundation, Northern New Jersey Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, St Elizabeth's Church, Ridgewood, St Peter's Church, Perth Amboy

Individuals: Pamela Abner, Drs Marian & Sam Acquah, Christopher & Adrienne Anderson, Franklin & Yvonne Atekpe, Khoren & Lucie Bandazian, Elizabeth Basile, Andrea Bills, Dawn Diaz, Adrienne Feinbloom, Dr Albert Griffith, Robert & Maral Hajjar, The Reverend Audrey Hasselbrook, Jasmine Jaswal, Susan Johnson, Margaret King, Beverley Lannaman, Drs Jean & Katharine Le Mée, Nancy Lynn, Dr Susan Martin-Márquez, Rafael & Ina Martínez, Azim and Lolita Mayadas, Sharon McGrady, Jaime McLain, Donald C. Morris, Gloria & Jon Norton, William Payne Jr, Jean Pierre Rowe, José & Alicia Sánchez, In Memory of Ethel Mary Sands, The Reverend Robert L. Shearer, Karol Steadman, Helen Thompson, Mark A. Trautman & Dr Ben. Sifuentes-Jáuregui, Cynthia A. Westbrook, In Memory of Father Joseph A. Wysocki, Helen Yeisley, Lydia Zapico, Felicia Zekauskas

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