

2026 CHICAGO PUERI CANTORES

YOUTH CHORAL FESTIVAL & MASS

for Mixed Voice & Treble Choirs (grades 4-12)



Saturday, February 28, 2026 • 11:15 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Holy Name Cathedral

735 N. State St., Chicago, IL 60654

Bishop Timothy J. O'Malley, Celebrant

Melanie Malinka, Guest Conductor



8 Professional Development Credits are available for school conductors & MP3 rehearsal tracks of the Festival repertoire will be available for participating choirs.

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

Pueri Cantores, the national student choral organization of the Catholic Church, invites all parish and school treble and mixed voice choirs (grades 4-12) in the region to participate in a Choral Festival & Mass. Singers will unite with hundreds of their peers as one combined choir to sing beautiful music from the Church's rich historical repertoire.

[Watch this video](#) to learn more about Pueri Cantores and how best to prepare your choir for the Festival day. [Check out these FAQs](#) about the Festival, including attire, how to access music and MP3 rehearsal tracks, and much more.



FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

11:15	Registration
11:45	Choir Warm-up
12:00	Choir Placement
12:15	First Rehearsal
1:15	Lunch
<i>Individual choirs rehearse for Choral Prelude at this time.</i>	
2:00	Second Rehearsal
3:00	Break /Snacks
3:15	Final Rehearsal
4:15	Break – put on robes if needed
4:45	Choral Prelude begins
5:15	Festival Mass begins

*Friends and family members are cordially
invited to attend the Festival Mass.*

MEET THE CONDUCTOR

MELANIE MALINKA is a native of Stuttgart, Germany and has served as Director of Music at The Madeleine Choir School in Salt Lake City, UT since 2001. In this position she oversees the school's rigorous choral program and leads preparation of the choristers for their extensive concert season, regular service commitments, international tours, and engagements with leading local arts organizations including the Utah Symphony/Utah Opera. She regularly conducts the Cathedral Choir at the Cathedral of the Madeleine and has served as interim chorus master for Utah Opera.



The American Federation Pueri Cantores

2026 Mixed Voice Festival Repertoire

for Mixed Voice Choirs (SATB) Grades 4-12

CHORAL PRELUDES

A. Choral works sung by individual choirs (*optional – limited to 5 choirs*)

B. Choral works sung by ALL choirs

*Praise to the Lord (canon for 3 voices)

William Boyce
AFPC Public Domain Series

*Cantate Domino (SATB, unaccompanied)

Giuseppe Pitoni
AFPC Public Domain Series

*Introit (Proper-English Chant)

Adam Bartlett
Source & Summit

Performance Instruction: Choirs will sing the antiphon only; the cantor will chant the verses.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

*Entrance Hymn: The Glory of these Forty Days

Tune: ERHALT UNS HERR
Gregorian chant

*Kyrie: (Mass XI "Orbis Factor")

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Responsorial Psalm

(Antiphon will be found in the Order of Worship)

*Lenten Gospel Acclamation:

Richard Proulx
GIA Publications

Performance Instruction: 1. Response – unison choir 2. Response – choir/ALL
3. Verse (sung by cantor) 4. Response - soprano/tenor-descant, alto/bass-melody

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts Motet: If Ye Love Me (SSATB)

Philip Wilby
Banks Music Publications #ECS 191

*Sanctus: (Mass XVIII)

Gregorian chant
ICEL

*Memorial Acclamation: (*We proclaim your death O Lord*) / Amen: (Unison chant, organ)

*Lord's Prayer/Doxology: Chant

*Agnus Dei (Mass XI "Orbis Factor")

Gregorian chant

Performance Instruction: Choirs Directors are asked to dedicate extra rehearsal time to the Agnus Dei.

Communion Procession

*1. Communio (Proper-English Chant)

Adam Bartlett
Source & Summit

Performance Instruction: Choirs are to prepare and memorize the antiphon.
Cantor will chant the verses.

*2. Post-Communion motet: Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

John Hilton
AFPC Public Domain Series

CONCLUDING RITE

Choral Recessional: Cantate Domino (SAB, organ)

Jesús López Moreno
VocalEssence Music Press – <https://graphitepublishing.com/product/cantate-domino-sab/>

*** Indicates free downloadable music from pcchoirs.org**

With the mention of your AFPC affiliation, the published song titles (few exceptions), when purchased through Loser's Music at losers@lmf.net, will be discounted 25% off the original price. *As a matter of justice to composers, arrangers and publishers, please plan to order an adequate number of music copies and refrain from distributing photocopied scores of those works under copyright protection.*

NOTE: The William H. Hannon Scholarship Fund is available for choirs in need of financial assistance to purchase music for Festival participation. Letters should be submitted to: AFPC, 1188 N. Tustin St., Orange, CA 92867.

Join us & register your choir today!

Chicago Youth Choral Festival & Mass for Mixed Voice & Treble Choirs

>>> **CLICK HERE TO REGISTER AND PAY ONLINE** <<<

OR MAIL FESTIVAL FEES & MATERIALS TO:

American Federation Pueri Cantores 1188 N. Tustin St., Orange, CA 92867

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER:
January 28, 2026**

Upon receipt, AFPC will send each registered choral conductor a welcome packet containing a sample repertoire music packet and important information needed to participate in this year's Festival.

FESTIVAL REGISTRATION APPLICATION

**COMBINED ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP/FESTIVAL REGISTRATION FEE: \$150/choir
and PARTICIPANT FEES: \$25/singer**

Participant fees include medallions, snacks & other festival expenses. (No cost for conductors & chaperones)

PARTICIPANTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN BAG LUNCHES

* Financial assistance is available through the *William H. Hannon Scholarship Fund*. Please contact the AFPC office for more information.*

Total Number of Participants (Conductors, Singers & Chaperones) _____ (1 chaperone per 10 singers requested)

of singers: _____ # Sopranos: _____ # Altos: _____ # Tenors: _____ # Basses: _____

Choir Name (as it should appear in program): _____

Choir Director/s (as it should appear in program): _____

Parish/School: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Diocese: _____ ☐ New Choir ☐ Returning Choir

Phone: _____ Email: _____

PRELUDE INFORMATION (optional)

☐ My choir would like to sing a piece in the individual prelude portion of the festival (before the combined prelude pieces)

Choral Selection: _____

Composer: _____

Tempo: _____ Duration: _____ Key: _____ ☐ Major or ☐ Minor

Will you be requiring the services of an accompanist? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ A CAPELLA

* The first five choirs to submit this application form and a print copy of their 2-4 minute music selection will be accepted to sing.

LIABILITY/MEDIA RELEASE FORM

Downloadable at <https://www.pcchoirs.org/liabilityreleaseform>

Forms must be completed for all singers and signed by parent or guardian.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Choir directors and chaperones must provide the AFPC office a copy of their child protection certificate of completion. To read AFPC's complete Child Protection Policy, please click [HERE](#).

Required Forms

Conductors must submit to the AFPC office the Liability/Media Release Forms and Child Protection Certificates no later than one month prior to the Festival date. Mail: 1188 N. Tustin St., Orange, CA 92867 or email info@pcchoirs.org

[Official Festival Choir Participant Cancellation & Refund Policy](#)

QUESTIONS? Contact AFPC at 714.633.7554 or visit our website at pcchoirs.org