

2026 NEW ENGLAND PUERI CANTORES

YOUTH CHORAL FESTIVAL & MASS

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



Saturday, March 14, 2026 • 10:30 a.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Cathedral of the Holy Cross

1400 Washington St., Boston, MA 02118

Archbishop Richard G. Henning, S. T. D., Celebrant

Paul French, Guest Conductor

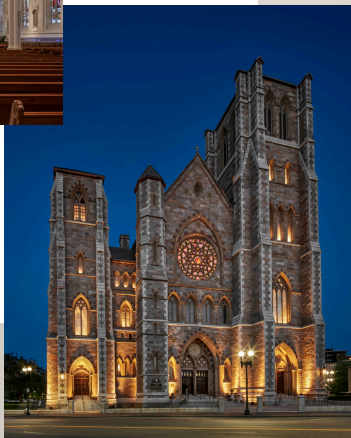


8 Professional Development Credits are available for school conductors & MP3 rehearsal tracks of the Festival repertoire will be available for participating choirs.

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.



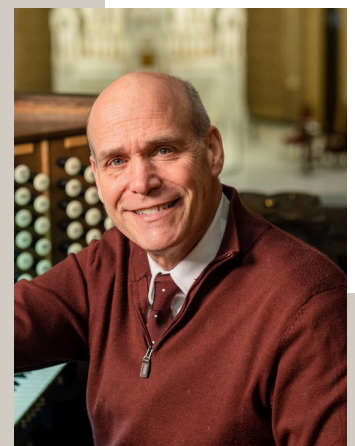
FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

10:30	Registration
11:00	Choir Warm-up
11:15	Choir Placement
11:30	First Rehearsal
12:30	Lunch
<i>Individual choirs rehearse for Choral Prelude at this time.</i>	
1:15	Second Rehearsal
2:15	Break /Snacks
2:30	Final Rehearsal
3:30	Break – put on robes if needed
4:00	Choral Prelude begins
4:30	Festival Mass begins

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

MEET THE CONDUCTOR

PAUL FRENCH is Music Director at Chicago's Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, where he leads a thriving choral program for both children and adults. For twelve seasons he was music director of the William Ferris Chorale, the acclaimed Chicago-based professional choral ensemble. He is the composer of more than 200 choral and orchestral works and serves as the President of the American Federation of Pueri Cantores.



The American Federation Pueri Cantores

2026 New England 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)

*Cantate Domino (SATB, unaccompanied)

*Ave Regina Caelorum

William Boyce
AFPC Public Domain Series
Giuseppe Pitoni
AFPC Public Domain Series
Lenten Marian Antiphon

INTRODUCTORY RITES

*Entrance Hymn: The Glory of these Forty Days

*Introit *Laetare Jerusalem*, Mode V

Performance Instruction: Choirs are to prepare both the antiphon and the *Gloria Patri* verse.

*Kyrie: (Mass XI "Orbis Factor")

Tune: ERHALT UNS HERR
Gregorian Chant

Gregorian chant

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23

*Lenten Gospel Acclamation:

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

Theodore Marier
Theodore Marier

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

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

*Sanctus: (Mass XVIII)

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

*Lord's Prayer/Doxology: Chant

*Agnus Dei (Mass XI "Orbis Factor")

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

Philip Wilby
Banks Music Publications #ECS 191
Gregorian chant
ICEL

Gregorian chant

Communion Procession

*1. Communio (Proper-English Chant)

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

Adam Bartlett
Source & Summit

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!

New England 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:
February 14, 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