

2026 NEW JERSEY PUERI CANTORES

YOUTH CHORAL FESTIVAL & MASS *for Treble Choirs (grades 4-12)*



Saturday, March 7, 2026 • 11:30 a.m. - 6:45 p.m.

Church of the Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

91 Maple Ave., Morristown, NJ 07960

Bishop Kevin J. Sweeney, Celebrant
Dr. Alfred Calabrese, 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 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.



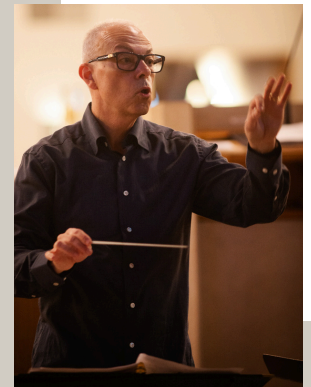
FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

11:30	Registration
12:00	Choir Warm-up
12:15	Choir Placement
12:30	First Rehearsal
1:30	Lunch
<i>Individual choirs rehearse for Choral Prelude at this time.</i>	
2:15	Second Rehearsal
3:15	Break /Snacks
3:30	Final Rehearsal
4:30	Break – put on robes if needed
5:00	Choral Prelude begins
5:30	Festival Mass begins

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

MEET THE CONDUCTOR

DR. ALFRED CALABRESE enjoys a diverse career as conductor, educator, composer, scholar, and church musician. He is Director of Music at Saint Rita Catholic Church in Dallas, TX, where he oversees a comprehensive music program of five choirs including professional singers and the St. Rita Choral Academy for children. He also conducts the professional choir, Band of Voices. Dr. Calabrese holds the Master of Music and Doctor of Music degrees in Conducting from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. He served as director of choral activities at Southern Methodist University, Emory University, and Brevard College. He has been a visiting professor at several universities including the Conservatoire de Versailles. He has been a guest conductor and clinician in America and abroad and is an active composer for the sacred liturgy.



The American Federation Pueri Cantores

2026 Treble Voice Festival Repertoire

for Treble Choirs (SA) Grades 4-8 & 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)

O, I Got a Light (SSA, accompanied)

*Introit (Proper-English Chant)

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

William Boyce
AFPC Public Domain Series

Traditional Spiritual, arr. Brandon Waddles
Walton Music #WW1857

Adam Bartlett
Source & Summit

INTRODUCTORY RITES

*Entrance Hymn: The Glory of these Forty Days

*Kyrie: (Mass XI "Orbis Factor")

Tune: ERHALT UNS HERR
Gregorian chant

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Responsorial Psalm

*Lenten Gospel Acclamation:

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

(Antiphon will be found in the Order of Worship)

Richard Proulx
GIA Publications

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts Motet: Canticle to the Holy Spirit (SA, accompanied)

*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.

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: God Be In My Head (2 part, organ)

Eleanor Daley
Alliance Music Publications #AMP 0411

Gregorian chant
ICEL

Gregorian chant

Adam Bartlett
Source & Summit

Andrea Ramsey
Alliance Music Publications #AMP 0804

CONCLUDING RITE

Choral Recessional: Cantate Domino (2-part, organ)

Jesús López Moreno
VocalEssence Music Press - <https://graphitepublishing.com/product/cantate-domino-2/>

*** 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 Jersey Youth Choral Festival & Mass for 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 7, 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: _____

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