



2027 BIRMINGHAM PUERI CANTORES

YOUTH CHORAL FESTIVAL & MASS

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

Saturday, February 27, 2027

11:00 a.m. - 6:15 p.m.

The Cathedral of Saint Paul

2120 3rd Ave N, Birmingham, AL 35203

Bishop Steven J. Raica, Celebrant
Melanie Malinka, Guest Conductor



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

ABOUT THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL

Pueri Cantores, the national student choral organization of the Catholic Church, invites parish and school treble and mixed voice choirs (grades 4–12) to participate in this annual **Choral Festival & Mass**.

This inspiring one-day event brings together hundreds of young singers from across the region to form one unified choir, offering a powerful witness to the beauty of sacred music in the liturgy. Throughout the day, singers rehearse, pray, and grow together before culminating in a Festival Mass, where they lead the assembly in prayer through song and experience the joy of singing as one Church.

Whether your choir is newly established or well-seasoned, the Pueri Cantores Festival complements your parish or school music and faith formation programs by providing students with a **transformative experience that deepens their faith, strengthens their musicianship, and builds lasting friendships**. As they sing alongside hundreds of their peers, students experience the richness of the Church's musical heritage while discovering the joy of belonging to the larger Catholic community.

New to Pueri Cantores? [Watch this introductory video](#) to learn more about the festival experience and how to prepare your choir. Be sure to review our [Festival FAQs](#) for important information about music preparation, attire, rehearsal tracks, purchasing music, and other helpful resources.



FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

11:00	Registration
11:30	Choir Warm-up
11:45	Choir Placement
12:00	First Rehearsal
1:00	Lunch
<i>Individual choirs rehearse for Choral Prelude at this time.</i>	
1:45	Second Rehearsal
2:45	Break /Snacks
3:15	Final Rehearsal
4:15	Break – put on robes if needed
4:45	Choral Prelude begins
5:00	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

2027 Mixed Voice Festival Repertoire

for Treble Choirs (SA) & Mixed Voice Choirs (Grades 4-12)

CHORAL PRELUDE

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

B. Choral works sung by ALL choirs

*Jubilate Deo

*Da Pacem, Domine

*Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

*Introit (Proper-English Chant)

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

INTRODUCTORY RITES

*Entrance Hymn:

*ORDINARY TIME: You Walk Along Our Shoreline

*LENT: Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

*EASTER: At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

*Kyrie: (Mass XI "Orbis Factor")

*Gloria: Congregational Mass (ORDINARY TIME & EASTER ONLY)

Performance Instruction: Choirs are to prepare the entire Gloria – assembly will sing part II only.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Responsorial Psalm

(Antiphon will be found in the Order of Worship)

* Gospel Acclamation:

*ORDINARY/EASTER TIME: Alleluia (chant, Mode VI)

Performance Instruction: 1. Response – unison choir 2. Response – choir/ALL

3. Verse (chanted by choir) 4. Response - soprano-descant, alto-melody

*LENT: Lenten Gospel Acclamation

Performance Instruction: 1. Response – unison choir 2. Response – choir/ALL

3. Verse (sung by cantor) 4. Response - soprano-descant, alto-melody

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.

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: Teach Me, O Lord

CONCLUDING RITE

Choral Recessional: Cantate Domino (SAB, organ)

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.

Michael Praetorius

AFPC Public Domain Series

Melchior Franck

AFPC Public Domain Series

John Hilton

AFPC Public Domain Series

Adam Bartlett

Source & Summit

Tune: AURELIA

Tune: ST. FLAVIAN

Tune: SALZBURG

Gregorian chant

John Lee

GIA Publications

Gregorian Chant

Richard Proulx

GIA Publications

Philip Wilby

Banks Music Publication (ECS-191)

Gregorian chant

ICEL

Gregorian chant

Adam Bartlett

Source & Summit

Thomas Attwood

AFPC Public Domain Series

Jesús López Moreno

Make Pueri Cantores a highlight of your choir year—a powerful day of sacred music, faith, and fellowship!

2027 Birmingham Youth Choral Festival & Mass for Mixed Voice & Treble Choirs

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

OR MAIL CHECK & MATERIALS TO:

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

DEADLINE TO REGISTER:
January 27, 2027

Upon receipt, AFPC will send each registered choir director 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 CAPPELLA

*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.

Required Forms

LIABILITY/MEDIA RELEASE FORM

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

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

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Choir directors and chaperones must provide a copy of their child protection certificate of completion. Click [HERE](#) to read AFPC's Child Protection Policy.

Choir Directors 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 the AFPC office at 714.633.7554 or visit our website at www.pcchoirs.org