



2027 HOUSTON PUERI CANTORES

YOUTH CHORAL FESTIVAL & MASS

for Treble Choirs (grades 4-12)

Saturday, February 27, 2027

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

Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart

1111 St. Joseph Pkwy, Houston, TX 77002

Bishop Italo Dell'Oro, Celebrant
James Kennerley, 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 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
4:14	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

JAMES KENNERLEY is Director of Music and the Arts at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. Previously he was Director of Music and Master of the Choristers at St. Paul's Church and Choir School in Harvard Square, Cambridge, MA, where he directed the choir of boy choristers and professional men in daily masses and performances, regular concert tours, recordings, and broadcasts. An internationally known organist, vocalist, music director, and composer, Mr. Kennerley is rooted in the English choir school tradition and holds degrees from Cambridge University and The Juilliard School. Additionally, he has provided professional leadership as Dean of the New York City Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and as Director of the New Jersey State Children's Chorus.



The American Federation Pueri Cantores
2027 Houston Festival Repertoire
for Treble Choirs (SA) Grades 4-8 & Grades 4-12

CHORAL PRELUDE

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

B. Choral works sung by ALL choirs

O, I Got a Light (SSA, accompanied)

Traditional Spiritual, arr. Brandon Waddles

Walton Music #WW1857

Melchior Franck

AFPC Public Domain Series

Jesús López Moreno

*Da Pacem, Domine

Cantate Domino (2-part, organ)

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

*Introit (Proper-English Chant)

Adam Bartlett

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

Source & Summit

INTRODUCTORY RITES

*Entrance Hymn: *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

Tune: ST. FLAVIAN

*Kyrie: (Mass XI "Orbis Factor")

Gregorian chant

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Responsorial Psalm

(Antiphon will be found in the Order of Worship)

*Lenten Gospel Acclamation

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

Richard Proulx

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

GIA Publications

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts Motet:

1. I Give You a New Commandment

Peter Aston

RSCM (GIA Publications, G-4331)

*2. Parce Domine - chant, mode I

*Sanctus: (Mass XVIII)

Gregorian chant

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

ICEL

*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

Performance Instruction: Choirs are to prepare and memorize the antiphon.

Source & Summit

Cantor will chant the verses.

*2. HYMN – Lord, Who at Your First Eucharist

Tune: UNDE ET MEMORES

3. Post-Communion motet: Cantic to the Holy Spirit

Eleanor Daley

Alliance Music Publications (AMP-0411)

CONCLUDING RITE

*Choral Recessional: O God, Beyond All Praising

Tune: THAXTED

*** Indicates free downloadable music from pccochoirs.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.

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

2027 Houston Youth Choral Festival & Mass for Treble Choirs (grades 4-12)

>>> **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: _____

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