



2020 National Catholic High School Mini-Masterworks Festival Repertoire

Franz Joseph Haydn's *Little Organ (Missa Brevis in Honor of St. John of God)*

Total duration: approximately 15 minutes

Kyrie

Gloria

Sanctus / Benedictus

Agnus Dei

(to maximize our rehearsal time, the Credo will not be rehearsed or performed)

Although each movement is concerned with a liturgical need for brevity, Joseph Haydn's *Missa Brevis in Honor of St. John of God* came to be known by its alternative title, *Little Organ Mass*, owing to the expansive treatment of the Benedictus, a beautiful soprano aria with an obbligato part for organ. The work is also known by several other names: *Mass #7 in Bb major*, *Kleine Orgelmesse*, *Novello 8*. For these festival performances, combined choirs will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra, providing an unforgettable experience for your singers.

As many editions of this work are available, and to ensure an efficient rehearsal process, **all choirs are required to use the free edition provided on the American Federation Pueri Cantores [website](#)**. This brief masterwork is very accessible to high school students, and many of the individual movements work well on their own, as additions to your liturgies. MP3 recordings will be made available to assist in your preparation. Thorough preparation by each participating choir is expected in advance of the festival day. Your careful study will result in a cohesive ensemble and rich and exciting musical experience for choirs and audience alike.

Directors may nominate one soprano per school to sing the Benedictus solo individually or as part of a small group. If you have a soprano who would like to sing this beautiful solo, please be prepared to submit to the AFPC office a recording of your soprano singing the solo one month before the event, so that the clinician may determine the appropriate logistical arrangements for the soloists.