



2023 National Catholic High School Mini-Masterworks Festival Repertoire

Little Organ Mass (*Mass #7 in B \flat major*)
(*Kleine Orgelmesse /Missa Brevis Sancti Johannes de Deo*)

Franz Joseph Haydn
AFPC Public Domain Series

Kyrie

Gloria

Sanctus / Benedictus

Agnus Dei

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

Total duration: approximately 15 minutes

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 B \flat 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 and concerts. Links to practice tracks for: [Soprano](#), [Alto](#), [Tenor](#), [Bass](#). 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 choir to sing the Benedictus solo individually or as part of a small group. If you would like to nominate a soloist, at least one month before the event please submit to the AFPC office a recording of your soprano singing the solo, so that the clinician may determine the appropriate logistical arrangements for the soloist/s.