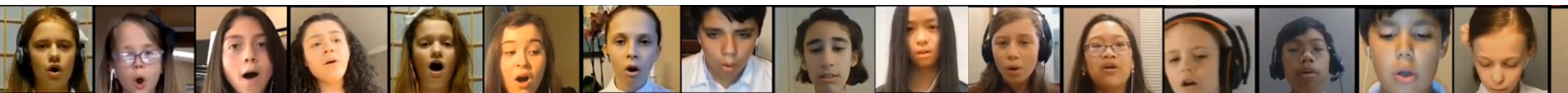




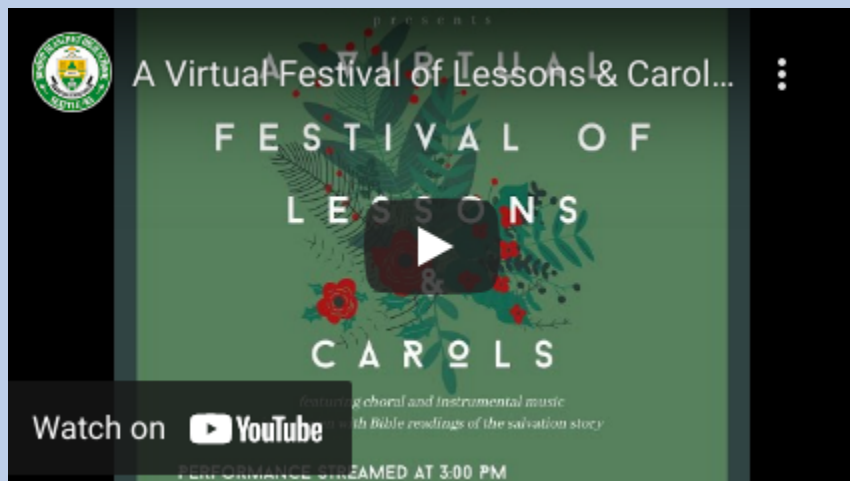
Choirs in Quarantine

Keeping the children singing during the pandemic



April 6, 2021

Vol. 3, Issue 1



"The Bishop Blanchet High School Music Program in Seattle, Washington, pre-recorded and produced a Festival of Lessons and Carols this past December. The school has been operating fully remotely for the duration of this project, with special permission given to meet with small groups in person for filming purposes only.

The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a traditional service of scripture and song that dates from the late 19th century. In this service, we listen to nine

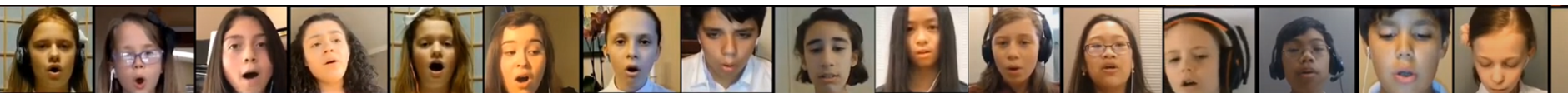
scripture lessons which recount the fall of mankind, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the great commission to preach the Good News. Each Bible reading is followed by a choral piece that reflects on the lesson's message, and a familiar instrumental carol or hymn tune. Together, Bishop Blanchet's vocal and instrumental music programs present this production as a gift to our greater Seattle community, in time of turmoil, social injustice and strife. May the lessons and carols shared bring hope, peace, and joy this holiday season and throughout the year."

-Jaci Cummings, Vocal Music Director
Bishop Blanchet High School, Seattle, WA



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"St. Ann School has been in-person all year, but we've not been allowed to sing in school. For Christmas, I asked my Chorus and Liturgy Choir students to participate in a virtual choir project. About 1/3 of them did. We had one virtual rehearsal, then students recorded themselves and I put this video together. I was pleased with the result, especially considering we have not been able to sing together since last March!"

-Ariel Scholz, Music Teacher & Chorus Director
St. Ann School, Emmaus, PA

"It's been a challenging task keeping the choirs going, but we are now back to singing masked, 6 feet apart, no more than 30 minutes.

Before then, I focused my choirs on the movements of singing, which we can do without actually singing. As a Licensed Body Mapping Educator I created an online curriculum which can be found at www.choralmapping.com. My choirs love it, and it has made a huge difference with my singers. I've always taught with this as the foundation of my teaching, but now it's organized for anyone to access."

-Bridget Jankowski, Director of Music
St. Matthew Parish, Akron, OH