



THE QUARTER NOTE

Newsletter of the GOMSF Church Music Federation Ministry

A Message From Your Ministry Chair

God's love and blessings to all as we begin our new liturgical year, which finds us still enduring the challenges of this great pandemic, and now encountering the ravages of fire in our beloved Metropolis. May His peace and protection be with you all.

In spite of so many disappointments and difficulties, our ministry has continued our collaborative work to achieve many of the objectives we set out for ourselves, as evidenced by our wonderful scholarship recipients and our fun and accessible instructional videos on our YouTube channel. We will continue to dream and plan for the days when we can be together again as well as make the most of the time we must be apart. And although we have no Annual Conference this year, I'll be excited to see as many of you as possible at our Zoom "Open House" the weekend of Church Music Sunday.

Thank you to all who responded to my outreach to the music directors at each parish in the Metropolis. I am eager to hear from each one of you and receive contact updates for all your church musicians.

Welcome to this issue of the Quarter Note. I hope you'll find much to smile about and give you encouragement.

In His love,
Kay Harkins, Ministry Chair





GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΦΡΑΓΚΙΣΚΟΥ

September 15, 2020

✠Nikitas the Great Martyr

Beloved Church Musicians,

***“Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance,
granting our rulers to prevail over adversaries,
and protecting Your commonwealth by Your Cross.”
Apolitikion, Tone One***

We are enduring unprecedented times with the ongoing pandemic that has changed our interaction during worship. As our esteemed Metropolis Church Musicians, you have been one of the groups most profoundly impacted by this, for your immersive involvement in our Divine Services came to a screeching halt when COVID-19 closed the doors of our parishes for public worship. Our chanter stands have been limited to one or perhaps two people. Our choir lofts have been empty. The fellowship that you have enjoyed for many years has been truncated and now you rely on phone calls, emails, texts and yes – Zoom – to stay connected with one another. This is certainly no substitute for the blending of your beautiful voices in harmony, uplifting them in praise to the Lord, but we pray for the day that our churches will once again be filled with the beautiful hymnography of our faith.

You can still raise your voice in song, albeit in your homes, and use the hymns of our faith to uplift your spirit and soul. It is proven that music has many healing and therapeutic traits and by singing or chanting with your family, you can experience the richness of our theology, while also bringing peace and calm to your soul.

Having just concluded the Feast Day of the Holy Cross, let us remember the beautiful words we hear in the hymns for this celebration, reminding us that the power of the Cross saves and protects us. May the Cross of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be a source of strength and power for you, and may you continue to take up your cross and follow Him every day of your lives.

With Love in Christ,

Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco

✠Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco

Free Webinar Offered by the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians

The following is a webinar of interest on keeping one’s voice in condition during the pandemic that was offered on September 14th at the National Forum’s Annual Meeting. You can find a recording of it on The National Forum’s [website](#) after September 21.

“Tips and Tricks for Vocalizing During COVID-19”

This webinar features practical suggestions from ten of our professional vocal technicians about ways to deal with vocal weaknesses emerging in the midst of the pandemic. Each presenter is challenged with providing you with a 5-minute, easy-to-use tip to maintain and improve your singing and chanting abilities while you aren’t able to be in church and even once you return! There will be Q&A time. This webinar would be of interest to choir members, chanters, and clergy focused on vocal health during the pandemic.

2020 Frank Desby and Xenia Anton Desby Memorial Church Music Scholarship Recipients

We were so grateful and pleased to receive so many worthy applications for our scholarships this year, and we are proud to congratulate these eight outstanding recipients. We are gratified that their age range, from 12 to 55 years, with over half under the age of 19, and their representation from a variety of parishes, including one mission parish. It has met our best hopes and intentions to serve our Metropolis church music programs through these scholarships.

CONGRATULATIONS!



Lisa Buck
Holy Cross Mission
Roseburg, Oregon



Maria Dainiels
St. John the Baptist
Beaverton, Oregon



Ereni Delis
Holy Cross
Belmont, California



Thomaida Hudanish
St. John the Baptist
Beaverton, Oregon



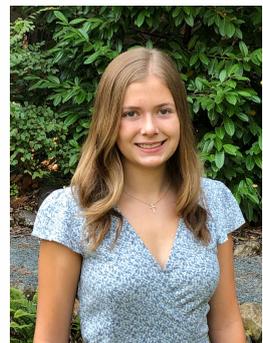
Jeff Lee
Sts. Constantine &
Helen
Cardiff-by-the-Sea,
California



Ben Maki
St. George
Prescott, Arizona



Thomas Swelha
St. John the Baptist
Beaverton, Oregon



Kathleen Virsik
Holy Cross
Belmont, California



News From the Pews

Holy Cross, Belmont, CA

We miss singing together in church! Our choir has not sung, rehearsed, or met in person since the middle of March because of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. We were disappointed that the pandemic also caused the cancellation of the Church Music Conference which we were planning to host in October.

We recently had a Zoom online choir gathering to keep in touch, and it was so nice to chat with everyone. We plan to do these once a month.

Our organist, Karen Hutchinson, has played keyboard in several outdoor concerts with friends from the San Francisco Opera Orchestra. These are streamed live on Facebook and enjoyed by many. Some of our high school-aged choir members have participated in virtual choir or band videos. Ereni Delis was a featured soloist in the Peninsula Girls Chorus virtual choir video. Kate Virsik played trumpet and Raisa Gagas played flute in a virtual band video by the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets Band of the West. We're proud of our young people!

Praying for everyone's health and looking forward to singing again.

Metropolis Music Ministry Zoom Open House

Saturday afternoon, October 3, at 1:00-2:00 p.m.

In honor of the Feast of Saint Romanos the Melodist, the Metropolis of San Francisco Church Music Ministry invites you to a free Open House on Saturday, October 3, 2020 from 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. (PST) featuring some “Virtual Vitamins” of inspiration and information to enhance your involvement in music ministry in spite of the pandemic. This event is open to anyone interested in learning more about Church Music and will be held using Zoom.

During this virtual Open House, there will be four engaging presentations which you won't want to miss! The presenters and their topics are:

- Rev. Father Michael Pallad: Singing is Communicating
- Kristen Bruska: Vocal Variations - Keeping Your Voice Healthy
- Samuel Herron: Key Elements of Byzantine Chant
- Christopher Hondros: Using Flipgrid as a Tool to Re-think Rehearsal During COVID

We miss your beautiful faces and look forward to seeing you on the weekend of Church Music Sunday! Zoom invitation link will be sent by e-mail soon.



Church Music Education in Your Pocket!

This year, rather than slowing us down, COVID has given us energy and impetus to move ahead more rapidly on our goals to provide specific and concrete help to parishes large and small in our Metropolis.

We hope you have had an opportunity to view the over forty videos now available on our own [Church Music Ministry YouTube channel](#), easily accessed from our website to your phone, ipad, or computer.

You can click to subscribe to the channel, which is updated about every week to 10 days with fresh videos on hymnology and music literacy, most of them tied directly to the current liturgical calendar with content to aid understanding of the faith and spiritual formation along with music education. A playlist breaks up these videos into categories for easy reference and specific learning.

(A recent video for the Sunday of the Miracle of the Archangel Michael introduces the new liturgical year and includes icons and a map showing exactly where the miracle occurred along with instruction on the Apolytikion of the Archangels.)

We look forward to hearing your comments on this resource and the ways you will use it individually and in your parishes!

From the Archives

March 1979 - Perry Como Show - Easter Special Filmed at Saint Sophia Cathedral

Pictured from Left to Right- Front row: Mary Futris, Irene Kafteranis, Aspasia Kitchens, A. Electra Koutsoukos, Dorothea Golf; Second row: Perry Como, Maria Papachronis, Anna Adams, V. Rev. Father George J. Venetos; Back row: Rev. Father Constantine Zozos



Send Us Your News!

We love hearing all that's going on with music in your parishes. *The deadline for our Winter Newsletter is November 15th!*



Music Directors! Please Note!

Thank you for printing and sharing this newsletter with the church musicians in your parish who do not have e-mail, Internet access, or personal access to a computer, and please let us know if these folks wish to have hardcopies of important information sent to them via the postal service. Also, please remember that church musicians may now update their contact information and access the calendar, forms, and documents through our online platform, Charms Office Assistant. Please click [this](#) link for easy directions to access this service.

Like us on [Facebook](#) and Visit our website! www.churchmusic.org



GOMSF Church Music Federation Ministry
sfchurchmusic.org
Annual Individual Stewardship and Parish Contribution Appeal
2019-2020

September 14, 2020
+ Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Dear Reverend Fathers and beloved Church Musicians,

Glory to God for His love and protection of us in this new ecclesiastical year. Our ministry has so much to be grateful for as we have completed another year of building our collaborative work together. Now that we find ourselves at the time of year when we usually launch our Annual Stewardship Appeal, we have a keen understanding of the challenges and financial hardship experienced by our parishes and individual singers and chanters as a result of this catastrophic pandemic. You continue to be in our prayers each day. Today we are reaching out primarily to share our recent accomplishments to make you aware of the way your past stewardship has supported us.

Our ministry is on a stable financial footing at the present, and by His grace we have been able to accomplish many of our goals this past year to serve church music development for all ages and all sizes of parish. Among the projects with which we are most pleased are:

- \$4,000 in scholarship funds to 8 church musicians aged 12-55 from very small to large parishes.
- Fun, accessible, and educationally sound instructional videos on hymnology and music literacy available from our YouTube channel right on our website.
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-aehxCuwfPePrVWB7kljmQ>
- Fully planned one or two day Church Music Institutes, ready to be adapted to parish needs when we are able to safely hold such enrichment workshops.
- The near-completion of the first volume of our English/Greek Divine Liturgy incorporating both Byzantine and western notation suitable and adaptable for all liturgical and educational purposes.

We respectfully request that you consider this one-time appeal for your continued support of these initiatives in any way that you are able at this time, especially for your prayers and continuing communication with us. One way that parishes can offer support to us is to keep us updated on the contact information for your individual church musicians, and to consider hosting future Church Music Institutes. Individual church musicians may support us not only by monetary contributions but by finding areas of the ministry with which to offer their skills and talents.

We remain so grateful to our dedicated Metropolis stewards and parishes for all they have done for the love of the music of our church in previous years, and pray that we may continue to rely upon you for sustaining our work by your generosity upon which we humbly depend.

Respectfully in Christ,

Kay Harkins, Ministry Chair
and
Sarah Gyurkovitz, Ways and Means Team Leader
sfchurchmusic@sanfran.goarch.org



GOMSF Church Music Federation Ministry 2020– 2021 Annual Individual Stewardship and Parish Contribution Form

We are pleased to announce that we now accept on-line payments for Individual Stewardship, Parish Contribution, and other donations to our ministry on our secure website through PayPal. (You do not need a PayPal account in order to make your on-line payment.)

Please log onto our secure online pay portal:

<http://www.sfchurchmusic.org/>

Those who prefer to send in a check for Individual Stewardship or Parish Contribution, please mail your check to:

Sarah Gyurkovitz
PO Box 2038
Camarillo, CA 93011
s.gyurkovitz@gmail.com

Enclosed is my 2020-2021 stewardship contribution to support the music ministry in our Metropolis

*Please make checks payable to **GOMSF Church Music Federation** (Suggested contribution is \$25 for individual church musicians. Suggested contribution for parishes is \$75.)*

\$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other

Contributing Parish Name or Name of Individual Church Musician:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Home Phone _____

E-mail _____ Cell Phone _____

Parish Name _____ Parish City _____

This vital information is used to send you *The Quarter Note* newsletter and other important Federation correspondence. Please be sure to update your information on this form or through our secure on-line platform, Charms Office Assistant. Find information on how to access this service here:

<http://sfchurchmusic.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Charms-Public-Access1.0.pdf>

NO CHANGE New member New Address New e-mail
 New Phone number

Check all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Choir Director	<input type="checkbox"/>	Soprano
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organist	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alto
<input type="checkbox"/>	Clergy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tenor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Choir Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bass
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chanter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tenor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth Choir Director	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth Choir Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Appointed parish liaison to the Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/>	