



GOMSF Church Music Federation Ministry

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Singing in the Nave – and Beyond: A One-Day Church Music Workshop for Parishes Who Wish to Grow in Faith through Congregational Singing

The main focus of the Workshop will be to equip parishes to incorporate the singing of hymns and liturgical responses in liturgical settings and to advance the singing of hymns in greater parish life and the Orthodox Christian home. This project will be in conjunction with the introduction of the hymnal of the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom in the First Mode (in Greek and English and in Byzantine and Standard notation) by Gabriel Cremeens, which includes audio files. (This project was originally commissioned through the Ministry in 2019.)

This Workshop will offer support and encouragement to local parishes who wish to advance the practice of congregational singing of hymns and responses within liturgical, paraliturgical, and home environments by a wide range of the faithful. These practices will in turn serve in teaching the tenets of the Orthodox faith to all ages in a holistic and organic way. The methods offered will take into consideration the vision, assets, and needs of an individual parish.

The Ministry Events Team will work closely with the parish priest and parish music leader(s) to determine the date of the event, and to coordinate all the elements necessary for a productive day. Ministry Events Team will manage registration for the event.

- The role of the parish will be to provide the venue for the event, simple morning coffee at check-in and a light lunch mid-day. The parish may choose to provide these as support for the ministry or charge the ministry for some or all of these items.
- The parish priest is encouraged to assist in presenting the historical and theological background of congregational singing. (Materials may be provided by the ministry.)
- The workshop will be presented at no cost to participants, although with the approval of the parish priest, donations may be requested to help cover the cost of the morning coffee, mid-day meal, and other expenses of the workshops.
- At the approval of the parish priest, registration for the event may be open to other GOA parishes and/or parishes outside our jurisdiction.
- The complete roles and resources of the Ministry are outlined in an appendix to this document.

To Schedule this Workshop for presentation in your parish after June 1, 2022, please contact Ministry Chair, Kay Harkins, at sfchurchmusic@sanfran.goarch.org

Schedule of the Day

(exact times to be determined by parish)

- Registration Check-in and fellowship time

Morning Plenary Session with all interested parish faithful (Two Hours)

- Overview and Introduction of the day by Ministry representative
- Historical and theological background of congregational singing. Presenter: Parish priest or Ministry representative. [Power Point]
- Brief presentation and discussion of the following topics. Presenter: Ministry representative [Power Point]

Benefits of congregational singing
Pitfalls and Cautions surrounding congregational singing
Liturgical services and their “Musical Moments”
Importance of a unified parish vision

- 20 Minute Workshop to demonstrate tips and techniques for the general parish singer to sing better using the church hymn or well-known seasonal hymn. Presenter: local parish music leader or Ministry representative
- What congregational singing looks like in various parishes. Presenter: Ministry representative and Zoom/Skype panelist(s) from parishes who currently incorporate congregational singing.

ONE HOUR BREAK FOR LUNCH

(Ministry Representative to give short Ministry greeting, update, and invitation to participation)

Afternoon Session for Clergy, and all parish church Musicians (Two Hours)

Topics and Sessions

Presenter: Ministry Representative

- Roles of choir, chant groups, congregation
- Practical considerations (follow on to last session of morning)

What music, when?

- Presentation of liturgical rubrics for inclusion of congregational singing
- Implementation plan suggestions
- Choosing music (language and translation issues)
- Choosing music (incremental introduction of hymns)
- Suggested music

Introduction of Hymnal and audio files Presenter: Gabriel Cremeens, via Zoom or Skype

- Read through of selected hymns with one special selection for focus (parish music director or Ministry representative)
- Dismissal (Parish priest, if available)

Appendix I: Roles and Tasks of the Ministry Events Team

- Coordination with the parish priest, parish music leader(s), Ministry and outside presenters, to set up date, schedule of the day, food, and facility needs for the day. (AV, etc.)
- Establish a Constant Contact landing page to manage registration.
- Set up a Google Drive folder for any handouts, music, or materials needed.
- Coordinate any necessary printing of hardcopy materials (name tags, sign in sheets, music etc).
- Collect and document any funds donated to the ministry via check or cash and remit to Ways and Means Team Leader.
- Bring check to reimburse parish for any agreed upon expenses.
- Record attendance, take photos, and elicit feedback from participants to channel to the Ministry Chair and appropriate Ministry Teams.

Appendix II: Resources

Lingas, Alexander. *SYMPHONIA: SUGGESTIONS FOR THE RESTORATION OF DIVERSE MINISTRIES IN THE ORTHODOX EUCHARISTIC ASSEMBLY*, Diocese of San Francisco Clergy-Laity Assembly, 14, May 1993.

Hatzidakis, Fr. Emmanuel. *The Heavenly Banquet: Understanding the Divine Liturgy* Hardcover – Orthodox Witness; April 8, 2008.

Boyer, John Michael. “Byzantine Chant for Congregational Singing.” *Journal of the International Society for Orthodox Church Music* Ed. Ivan Moody & Maria Takala-Roszczenko Vol. 2, Section II: Conference Papers, pp. 72-82 ISSN 2342-1258 [https://journal.fi/jisocm/article/view/87808/47068](https://journal.fi/journal.fi/jisocm/article/view/87808/47068)

Boyer, John Michael. “Byzantine Music: The Fabric of Greek Orthodoxy.” *Praxis*, Vol. 12, Issue 3, Spring 2013, pg. 6 <https://dokument.pub/praxis-2013-volume-12-issue-3-flipbook-pdf.html>

Guide to Congregational Singing, Revised Edition. Originally created by Tom Pallad, 1991; Revised 2016, Maria Keritsis, Vicki Pappas, Alexander Lingas, Chris Zervos, Peter Condos. National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians, 2016.