



04.2013

Saint Paul

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Music Ministry Enhances the Easter Triduum Liturgies Through Song

“A cry from deep within our being, music is a way for God to lead us to the realm of higher things. As St. Augustine says, ‘Singing is for the one who loves.’ Music is therefore a sign of God’s love for us and of our love for him. In this sense, it is very personal. But unless music sounds, it is not music, and whenever it sounds, it is accessible to others. By its very nature song has both an individual and a communal dimension. Thus, it is no wonder that singing together in church expresses so well the sacramental presence of God to his people.”

— Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship, Chapter 2, Article 2

Liturgical music is an important element of the Mass, and is especially so during the most important time in the Church year — the Easter Triduum. Good liturgical music can help to enhance our Mass experience, prayer experience and our communication with God.

“Music during the holy celebrations is not entertainment — it is a living manifestation of the Divine Will, Divine Word, and Divine Love,” says Christopher Powell, who has been the director of Music Ministry at St. Paul since 2009. “To me, as a music minister, the music at Mass is kind of like a homily — but a homily in sound. Just as a priest or deacon would prepare and try to make sure his homily was more than just a loose conglomeration of words, I also try to ensure that the music at various liturgies is a meaningful and well-presented aid to the faithful in the worship of God.”

St. Paul’s Music Ministry has 12 music ministers on staff, as well as a volunteer choir ranging from 15 to 20 people. The group begins practicing the Triduum music early in the cycle of weekly rehearsals, since these liturgies involve a significant amount of music. The music includes both traditional songs and songs that are required by the Church, as well as music that can vary from year to year.



“The liturgies are often lengthy, and music plays an important role in communicating the emotions and texts of these holy days,” Christopher says. “Music for the Holy Week and Easter services often includes very similar selections from year to year. However, amidst all this tradition, there is a lot of artistic freedom in selecting pieces for the choir to sing and instrumentalists to play. This way, the congregation is able to develop familiarity with certain pieces while also being exposed to a diversity of musical ‘moods’ from year to year.”

Many of the pieces sung or played during the Triduum and the Easter Season are unique in that they are only played at this time of the year, or are being played for the first time since before Lent.

continued on back page

“More Than We Can Imagine”

St. Paul Parish Kicks Off Capital Appeal

For Catholic parishes such as our own, milestone anniversaries give us reason to pause and celebrate how much has been achieved, in our case, over the past 50 years. But milestone anniversaries also bring awareness to the need for improvements and updates – similar to buying a new pair of shoes should you outgrow or wear out your current pair.

Our parish has come to this realization with regard to our current parish campus. Operating on a campus nearly 50 percent smaller than what other parishes our size typically require, with an awkward combination of recreation, meeting and prayer spaces all jumbled together – now is the time to restructure our community spaces so they are more conducive to the needs of the parish.

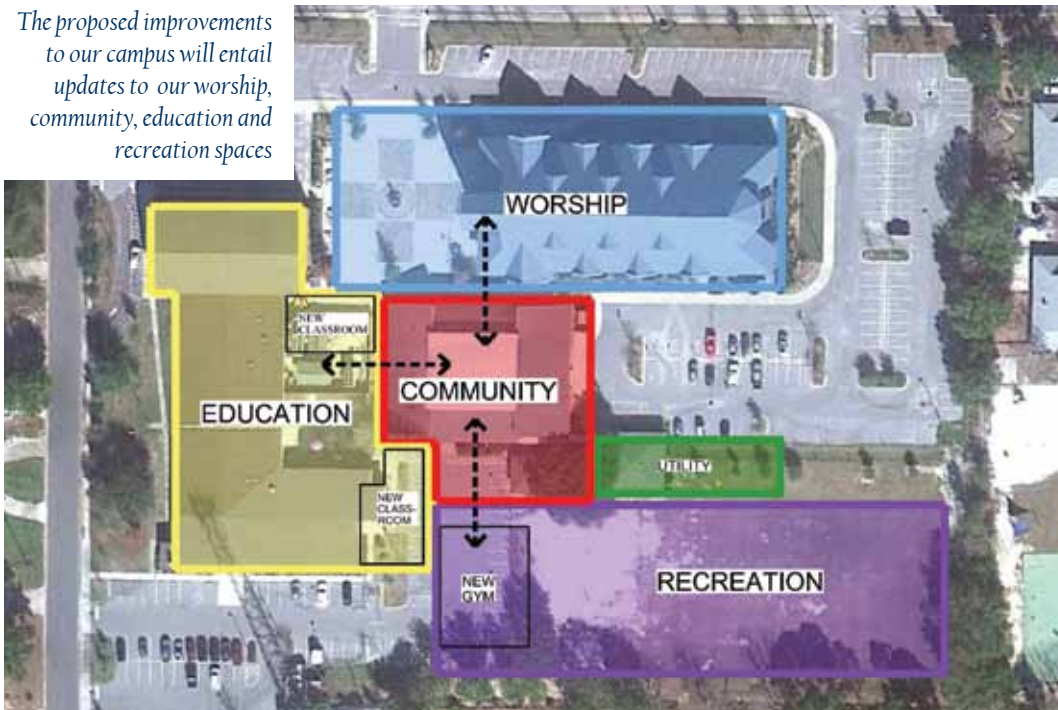
In recent years, St. Paul Parish has grown considerably, with parish registration up by eight percent. Mass attendance has increased by 23 percent, and our school enrollment has received an 18 percent boost. New ministries have blossomed in recent years, creating more opportunities for parishioner engagement. For this sort of growth and spiritual development to continue into the next 50 years, we must make room for it. And there is no better time than the present.

Rather than incur further debt to finance these much needed improvements, the parish has chosen to instead engage in a Capital Appeal. All registered households are asked to prayerfully consider making a sacrificial gift to the appeal.

In early March, our community kicked off the “More Than We Can Imagine” Capital Appeal. Packets of information and pledge cards will be mailed to all registered households later this month. Our fundraising goal is \$2.5 million, which will enable considerable updates to take place on various aspects of the parish campus, including:

- Removing the recreation space from the Parish Center and constructing a new gym as a replacement
- Removing the education space from the Parish Center and constructing new classrooms as a replacement
- Creating new classrooms around the central cloister
- Erecting new fencing to secure the education space
- Revitalizing the auditorium into an intimate chapel and auditorium
- Covering the sidewalks on the parish campus that connect the various buildings
- Improving the sanctuary plaza, education cloister and community courtyards with updated landscaping

The proposed improvements to our campus will entail updates to our worship, community, education and recreation spaces



If you have not done so already, please begin thinking and praying about a pledge level that will work for your family – *but remains sacrificial*. Each household will have three years to meet their pledge goal. Consider your assistance in this Capital Appeal as an investment in the future of our parish. Do your part to make it possible for our community to flourish as much these next 50 years as we have in the last 50.

For more information about the Capital Appeal, visit the parish website: www.stpaulcatholic.net. More information will also be available in the weekly bulletin, via announcements at Mass, and through additional articles in this newsletter.

A Letter From Our Pastor

The Stewardship Story of Benedict XVI

Dear Parishioners,

There is a wonderful stewardship story to be found both in the life and the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI.

This is a monumental time in the life of our Church. Like most of you, the news of the pope's resignation in February came as quite a surprise and shock. But as I read more about His Holiness and prayed for him and for our Church, his sense of stewardship and his love for the Church and for all of us became very evident to me.

Sometimes as we promote and practice stewardship here in our parish, we may think that Rome has a different idea — a separate perspective. Pope Benedict XVI, from the beginning of his papacy, has spoken in stewardship terms. His first papal Encyclical, issued on Christmas Day 2005, was titled *Deus Caritas Est* (God Is Love). As his first sentence in that book, Benedict XVI cited Holy Scripture from 1 John 4:16, "God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him."

Stewardship is an act of love. Benedict's choice to cease being our Holy Father is an act of love, an act of stewardship. In one of his recent Lenten messages, the Pope proclaimed, "According to the teaching of the Gospel, we are not owners but rather administrators of the goods we possess: these, then, are not to be considered as our exclusive possession, but means through which the Lord calls each one of us to act as a steward of His providence for our neighbor."

We, too, need to explore the ways we can love one another, just as Benedict has done. We thank him for his example of stewardship, and he remains in our daily prayers.

By the time you read this, we will most likely have a new Holy Father (production deadlines prevent including that information here). May he be as loving, as courageous, as caring, and as good of a stewardship example to all of us.

This exciting and monumental time in the Catholic Church coincides with this glorious Easter season we will celebrate during the month of April. I am reminded each day of the many examples of stewardship in action within our parish community. There are so many who give generously and sacrificially of themselves — models of stewardship who are an inspiration to me.

Sometimes we may think that our celebration ends on Easter, but that is not true in our Catholic tradition. Easter begins what we call the Easter Season, what was originally called Eastertide. We are now in the midst of that glorious time — a 50-day period that began at sundown (the Vigil Mass) on Holy Saturday, and culminates on Pentecost Sunday.



Blessed John Paul II opened one of his Easter messages by saying, "Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song." Yes, it is time to continue to proclaim "Hallelujah." Yes, we are an Easter people — not just on Easter Sunday but also throughout the Easter season, and for that matter throughout our earthly lives. We must strive to convert our happiness into joy for others. Easter people share their hope outwardly and lift up those around them who need it. Christ is risen! Let us rejoice and be glad. Love one another! Hallelujah!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. Doug Halsema".

Fr. Doug Halsema
Pastor

Growing Closer to God T



The RCIA program culminates in the Easter Vigil Mass.

As we continue through this Lenten season, the participants in St. Paul's Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults — RCIA — program are not only journeying closer to Easter, but also toward receiving their Sacraments of Initiation.

Through RCIA, adults are able to discern and then begin their initiation into the Catholic Church. The program is open not only to the un-baptized — catechumens — but also to those who have been baptized in another Christian tradition, or those who were baptized in the Catholic Church but did not receive catechesis or other sacraments afterwards — candidates. Because of this, the liturgical rites in the RCIA process may differ slightly depending on the individual.

RCIA consists of four phases. At St. Paul, the first phase, the pre-catechumenate, usually begins at the end of June or beginning of July. This stage provides a bit of a background for those who have not been baptized into the Christian

faith, teaching them the basics about the faith and about Catholic life.

In September, the second phase, known as the catechumenate, begins for both the candidates and catechumens. This is a more prolonged period of formation that teaches more about the faith and prepares the participants to receive the sacraments. At St. Paul's, these classes meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

"We start at the beginning with certain topics — who is God, what is God, what are the covenants, and the Old and New Testaments," says Rick Schwartz, who, along with his wife, Amy, supports Rick Danner in the leadership of the program. "Then, we get into Advent in the Catholic Church and all the Holy Days of Obligation coming up. Around the Epiphany, we'll start on the sacraments. We have two classes each for Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist. After those classes, we kind of dive back into Lent, how it affects us, and how Recon-

ciliation ties into Lent. We also prepare for the upcoming Easter season."

The catechumenate stage culminates with two rites — the Rite of Sending, which will take place after the 11 a.m. Mass on Feb. 24, and the Rite of Election, which takes place at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart later that same day.

"The participants are recognized in front of our church family as the ones going forth and seeking full communion with the Catholic Church," says Rick. "They are blessed and then sent forth through the Rite of Sending to the Cathedral, and will write their names down in the Book of the Elect, which the Bishop approves."

The next phase of the RCIA process is the period of purification and enlightenment, which coincides with the season of Lent, and is a time to intensify the preparation for full communion with the Church. This phase varies slightly between the catechumens and candi-

"RCIA has been quite a learning experience for me. My knowledge of the sacraments is a very influential part of RCIA has been the explanation of the sacraments and how to participate in Communion."

Through the RCIA Journey



This year's RCIA participants attend a class in preparation for their conversion to the Catholic faith.



dates. Catechumens will undergo the Scrutiny Weeks, during which they'll go through the Creed and affirm the tenets of the Catholic Church.

Candidates, on the other hand, will spend this time preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, since they will be confirmed and receive Holy Communion in March, prior to the catechumens. The catechumens will undergo this final step, initiation, at the Easter Vigil Mass, where they will be baptized, confirmed and receive the Eucharist.

After the participants' reception into the Church, the final phase, mystagogia, begins. In this phase, the newly initiated begin to reflect on the mysteries they have just experienced. This phase does not end with a rite, since this process is meant to continue throughout their lives.

Catechumen Kelly McCarn looks forward to becoming a member of the Church on Easter.

"My journey to the Catholic Church was a long journey," Kelly says. "I attended Mass with a friend intermittently through the years. As I got older, I realized that upon leaving Mass I felt better. I enjoyed the ritual, and I enjoyed the message. It was like I'd come home."

Kelly appreciates the wealth of important knowledge she gained through her participation in the RCIA program, and she is eager to continue the learning process following her initiation.

"RCIA has been quite a learning experience for me," she says. "My knowledge was limited — I had and still have a lot to learn. The most influential part of RCIA has been the explanation of the sacraments. I'm looking forward most to my Baptism and being able to participate in Communion."

A resident of Pensacola for the past 19 years, Kelly is also looking forward to becoming a part of the St. Paul

Parish community.

"I chose St. Paul first because it was close to my home, and then because I felt at home there," she says. "The members are so friendly and welcoming."

For those who are interested in offering their time and talents to RCIA, the program always welcomes volunteers.

"We could definitely use anyone who would like to be sponsors, or just offer support for the catechumens and candidates," Rick says. "We have people who help set up before class and help out with the class. We'd love to hear from anyone who may be interested, and see if there's any way we can find for them to help."

Those who are interested in volunteering, or would like to receive more information, are encouraged to contact the RCIA office via phone at 850-434-2551, ext. 131, or via e-mail at rcia@stpaulcatholic.net.

My knowledge was limited — I had and still have a lot to learn. The most influential part of RCIA has been the explanation of the sacraments. I'm looking forward most to my Baptism and being able to participate in Communion." — Kelly McCarn

Alpha Center Helps Create New Beginnings



The Florida Teens for Life group helped wrap Christmas presents for Alpha Center clients in December 2012.

Bishop Gregory Parkes and Executive Director Valerie Schumm during the bishop's visit to the Alpha Center in October 2012.

When a young woman discovers that she is unexpectedly pregnant, it can be difficult to figure out just what to do. In such situations, pregnancy counseling services like the Alpha Center are crucial for offering these women alternatives to abortion. The interdenominational, volunteer-run Alpha Center was founded in 1973 as a response to Roe v. Wade. Its mission is to offer friendship and help to the pregnant women of Escambia County and the surrounding areas through free services, including educational information, counseling and referrals.

St. Paul parishioner Mary Jane Tellier started volunteering at the Alpha Center in 1978. Over the years, she has filled many different roles, such as transporting pregnancy test specimens to the hospital, working as a treasurer, and serving on the Board of Directors.

"I just enjoyed working there, and the people I worked with were just the finest women in the world," Mary Jane says. "You get to talk to the girls, see where they're coming from, and maybe you can be the spark that turns their attention to saving this baby instead of destroying it. You tell them what's there for them, because some of them think they're all alone, but they're not."

The Alpha Center provides emotional support, as well as education about pregnancy and parenting.

"We often take time to pray with her when she is experiencing hardship and struggles," says Executive Director Valerie Schumm. "We provide one-on-one mentoring and excellent parenting education through our 'Mom and Me' incentive program. Over and over, we are privileged and honored to witness how God's love fortifies her as a good mother and gradually transforms a client's life."

The center also helps to provide for infants' various needs, such as diapers, clothing, baby food, and other important accessories.

"It is essential to be there for her during her time of need in her pregnancy, but she may often need help beyond the pregnancy to the toddler and preschool years," Valerie says. "We make referrals in the community for her and her family's own specific needs."

Raising awareness in the local community is essential to the Alpha Center's success.

"We never want anyone to have to say, 'If only I had known,' so we are very proactive, reaching out in the community through many Alpha Center exhibits and presentations," Valerie says. "We provide Alpha Center tours to give a good picture of our services and programs to clients and their families. I am unceasingly amazed at the Alpha Center team of 89 volunteers, and we would never be able to exist without the selfless, sacrificial support of our community in so many hundreds of creative ways."

Several groups of young people in the Pensacola area have gathered together for service projects to support the Alpha Center, including the Bella Vita group at Pensacola Catholic High, Eagle Scouts, and the Fidelis group here at St. Paul.

"Fidelis came and wrapped over 200 Christmas gifts this past year," says Valerie. "It was so fun working together with them. There are so many young people getting involved, and it gives us a lot of hope for the future."

Volunteers are always needed and welcomed at the Alpha Center to work directly with clients, to sort the many received donated items, and to assist with tasks such as yard work or repairs. Please note that a commitment of four hours each week for at least six months is required. Donations of goods or financial contributions are always accepted. For more information about volunteering at the Alpha Center, please call 850-479-4391.

Historic Pipe Organ to Come to St. Paul in 2014

The organ has long been a traditional instrument of the Catholic Church. When our new church was built, plans for a full pipe organ were included in the original designs, in order to further enhance the effect of the music on the Mass. In 2010, a historic pipe organ was purchased and is currently undergoing refurbishment as we wait for its installation here at our parish.

The one-of-a-kind organ is the last surviving instrument made by Moritz Baumgarten, a German-American builder who built several important instruments in the mid-19th century. The organ was originally built in 1868 for a Protestant church, which soon succumbed to fire. The organ was then relocated to St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church in the Charlestown area of Boston, but was left in the parish's old building when St. Catherine closed in order to merge with another nearby church.

"In early 2010, I traveled to Boston to see and play the pipe organ in St. Catherine Church," says Christopher Powell, director of the Music Ministry at St. Paul. "We surely saved the instrument from destruction by buying it when we did. The sounds of the instrument are incredible! Even in its terrible state of disrepair, I could tell what the instrument would sound like at St. Paul, and I knew we had found our pipe organ."

Our parish is currently working with the A. David Moore organ building company to refurbish the organ to "better-than-new" condition for use here at St. Paul.

"It became obvious that the best and most important parts of the pipe organ were the pipes themselves, as well as a few historical items such as keys, stop knobs — the handles the organist pulls to activate a row of pipes — and name plates," Christopher says. "A. David Moore transported the pipes to their shop in Vermont and decided to leave the organ case and much of the old keyboard action, windchests, and blowers in St. Catherine Church."

The detailed work being undertaken on the organ is, by itself, very impressive.

"The company is constructing everything mechanical from scratch, while refurbishing the pipework and adding new pipes," Christopher says. "The keyboards will have naturals — white keys — made from moose bones, and accidentals — black keys — from the original Baumgarten keyboards. The organ will have around 2,800 pipes when completed, and 46 stops. The end result will be that the Baumgarten will actually be more complete and sound bet-



The Baumgarten pipe organ is undergoing repairs and restoration at A. David Moore in North Pomfret, Vt.

ter at St. Paul than it ever could have at any point in its history."

Since electrically controlled organs did not exist in 1868, the Baumgarten pipe organ will be controlled via "tracker action," which uses physical connections rather than electrical connections between the keys and pipes. This allows wind to flow from the wind chests into the pipes when the keys are pressed by the organist. This system also allows the organist greater control over the sound of the instrument.

The organ's location in the back of the church reflects historical accuracy, while also carrying great significance within the liturgy.

"We will be able to divide our musical forces between front and back," says Christopher. "This allows us to practice responsorial, or antiphonal, singing to an incredible degree. Beyond simply antiphonal song between front and back of the church, it will empower the singing of the congregation by enveloping them with sound from the back of the room and pushing everything toward the front, therefore encouraging everyone to sing congregational hymns and responses. In its very nature of wind blowing to produce sounds, it mirrors the human voice, as well as the Holy Spirit. Also, in its expansive nature of thousands of pipes creating one organ, it mirrors the Communion of Saints and the Church Universal."

The Baumgarten pipe organ is slated to be installed in the church by the fall of 2014. If you would like to donate to the pipe organ project, please contact the parish office at parishoffice@stpaulcatholic.net, and a donation form can be found online at www.stpaulcatholic.net.

Address Service Requested

Music Ministry Enhances the Easter Triduum

continued from cover

“There are so many pieces during the Triduum that I really love,” says Christopher. “I always enjoy the *Vidi aquam* — ‘I Saw Water Flowing’ — from the Easter Vigil and Easter season Masses. This piece is sung during the Sprinkling Rite and just hearing it reminds me that Easter has indeed arrived. The Gloria, “Glory to God” of the Easter Vigil is also a joy to behold — the first Gloria of Easter. At the Good Friday service this year, we are singing Allegri’s *Miserere*. The *Miserere*, for many years, was only sung at the Vatican. There is a famous story that Mozart, when only 14 years old, copied down the whole thing by ear after hearing it during a Holy Week liturgy.”



“If anyone is interested in joining us as one of God’s ministers of song, they need only attend rehearsals on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. in the Church,” Christopher says. “My favorite part of being a music director is the ability to guide a program to help people worship God and to create music that will nourish, enliven, and even educate the faithful in the beauty of God. It is also a joy to help the other musicians to find the spirit of ministry in their own heart and to share that spirit with others.”

Those who would like more information on volunteering for St. Paul’s Music Ministry, please contact Katherine Koziol, director of Choral Activities, at koziolk@stpaulcatholic.net.

The Music Ministry always welcomes new volunteer choir members.

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m. | **Sunday:** 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m. | **Daily Mass:** Monday-Saturday, 8:30 a.m.
Confessions: Saturdays, 9:00 a.m., 3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m., 1st Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., and by appointment
Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday 9:00 a.m. until Friday 7:30 a.m.