

Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh
Forth in Praise – Liturgy Commission Music

Music Newsletter No. 15

Autumn 2009



A Note from Evelyn

As many of you will already know, I became seriously ill over the summer and needed a major operation. This thankfully has been successful, and I'm now recovering well. I would like to thank Cardinal O'Brien and all my friends in the Archdiocese for their prayers and good wishes. Because of this illness our Group decided to have no further events this year, but all being well, we will be back in action in 2010. In the meantime, other music events are being planned in the Archdiocese, as you will see below, and I recommend them to you.

Evelyn Stell
Convener, Liturgy Commission Music Advisory Group

ARCHDIOCESAN CHOIR

The Archdiocesan Choir, under its Director, John Holden, meets on Tuesdays at from 7.30 until 9.00 pm in St John the Baptist, 37 St Ninian's Road, Corstorphine, Edinburgh EH12 8AL. New members are always welcome. For more details contact the Choir President, Jeffrey Gibbons, jeffrey-gibbons@talktalk.net, 01383 432797.

NEWS FROM THE EDINBURGH SCHOLA

The Edinburgh Schola will be singing at a number of Vespers in the run-up to Christmas, many of which will be of particular musical or liturgical interest.

In November, we will be singing Vespers in honour of St Margaret, Queen of Scotland, on 16th November. The members of the Schola have decided to choose St Margaret as their patroness and accordingly to choose "Schola Sanctae Margaritae Scotorum Reginae" as the group's Sunday name - more informally, "The St Margaret Schola".

On St Andrew's Day, we will be singing Vespers from the Sprouston Breviary, a pre-reformation manuscript rediscovered in the village of the same name near Kelso. This will be the first performance of the material since it has been prepared from the original by Dr Greta Mary Hair of Edinburgh University and thus probably also the first since the Reformation.

Our final liturgy of 2009 will be an Advent Vespers on Thursday 17th December. This is the first of the seven so called "O!" Vespers before Christmas Eve – see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/O_antiphon for an explanation.

All liturgies will take place at St Mary's Cathedral, Broughton St and will begin at 6:45pm.

Enquiries: edinburghschola@gmail.com

Website: www.edinburghschola.blogspot.com

FORTH IN PRAISE MUSIC



Two new volumes are scheduled for 2010. One, the brainchild of Fr John Robinson, is an **index of hymns** highlighting the different tunes which can be used to the same words. This is in effect a metrical index, but with one or two differences from the usual kind. The other volume, which contains **music in honour of Our Lady**, is part of the Organ Learning Project, and includes easy settings of hymns, psalms and voluntaries.

More details of both these editions will be given in the next newsletter. Enquiries to Evelyn Stell (contact details overleaf).

CAPPELLA NOVA – CONCERT AND WORKSHOPS

Friday 26th & Saturday 27th February, 2010: Cappella Nova sings for the first time in the inspiring space of St Mary's Metropolitan Cathedral, presenting a concert of sacred works by James MacMillan, Tomas Luis da Victoria and some of the early Scottish repertoire for which the group is renowned.

This performance forms part of a much larger weekend event which includes plainchant workshops for all (leading to participation in a service of Vespers) and sessions for cantors/choir leaders directed by Cappella Nova's experienced teachers and outreach specialists.

For more details, please contact the Cathedral Organist, Simon Nieminski: organist@stmaryscathedral.co.uk.

ORGANISTS' BLOG

A new feature on the Forth in Praise website is the Organists' Blog, which can be found at www.forthinpraise.co.uk/blog/. The purpose of this blog, which will replace the Organists' Newsletter, is to give parish organists, especially beginners, a chance to comment and exchange views on organ-playing topics. It will contain the same type of material as the former newsletter, but being a blog it gives an opportunity for discussion. It's planned that the blog will be updated fairly regularly, and we will send an email to those on our organist mailing list when something major is posted. If you are not on this list but would like to be (or if you are on the list and wish to be removed) please contact evelyn.stell@forthinpraise.co.uk, 01506 510366.

MAILING LIST

If you know anyone who would like to be added to the mailing list for this newsletter, please contact Katherine Cameron (details overleaf). Receiving the newsletter by email is our preferred option, but if you don't have email, we will send it to you by post.

STOP PRESS!

Day of Ecumenical Reflection
Music in the development and experience of Ecumenism
led by Mgr Gerry Fitzpatrick

Gillis Centre, 14 November 2009. 12.00-4.30 pm.
Bring packed lunch. Suggested £6 donation

Contact for enquiries:
Paddy Ferry, Chairperson, Archdiocesan Ecumenical Commission,
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Music Advisory Group Contacts

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Other group members are Alison Bain, Karen Birnie, Maeve Logan and Colette Pye

Website: www.forthinpraise.co.uk

