

MUSIC AT SAINT BENEDICT'S



# My Choir Handbook



2022-2023 SEASON

**Prepared For:**  
THE PARISH CHOIR

**Saint Benedict's Episcopal Church**  
7801 NW 5th Street  
Plantation, FL 33324

# THE PARISH CHOIR AT SAINT BENEDICT'S

## 2022-2023

**Xavier Richardson, Director of Music & Organist**

7801 NW 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
PLANTATION, FL 33324  
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*Music is a gift from God; our use of music to worship God is our gift to Him. It is an unspeakable privilege to be used as an instrument in the Lord's service. It is an unparalleled experience to combine your voice, no matter how small or great, with those of others to sing in adoration, thanksgiving, and to the glory of our creator. We are glad that you have made the commitment to be a part of the Saint Benedict's Parish Choir, a member of the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) in America. We work hard to assure that our music making is the finest possible, and that it becomes a worthy offering. This booklet is designed to help you by outlining our procedures, and to help our organization run smoothly.*

**Thursday Rehearsals** begin promptly at 7:00 PM in the Choir Room (or church) with a short break in the middle, and end by 9:00 PM after we practice in the Church.

**Sunday Morning Rehearsal** begins promptly at 9:15 AM, unless otherwise announced. You should plan to arrive in enough time to gather the morning's materials from your numbered mailbox and vest. If you arrive after rehearsal has begun, please take your seat and vest later.

**Attendance Expectations** As a choir member, you should attend all rehearsals, Sunday worship services, and ad hoc rehearsals. If a rehearsal or service must be missed, please notify Xavier as soon as possible by speaking with him and sending an e-mail message to [zavirich@gmail.com](mailto:zavirich@gmail.com) or text message to (786) 521-7127.

We all need to know about absences as far in advance as possible because:

- 1) We miss you when you are absent,
- 2) It may be necessary to procure a deputy singer, and
- 3) It may influence the choice of music for particular services.

If you are unexpectedly ill, please leave a message with the Parish Administrator Wendy Williams at the church: 954-473-6578. *Cover yourself.*

- **If you miss a Thursday rehearsal**, you should offer to arrange with Xavier to come 15 minutes early (9:00am) on Sunday to prepare with a section leader to sing the repertoire for that morning's service.
- **If you miss two consecutive Thursday rehearsals**, you should not sing with the choir on the Sunday following.
- **If you know that you are going to miss a Sunday**, please do attend rehearsal on the previous Thursday. Since we work in advance, you will be learning music to be used in future service, plus, you may be able to help someone learn music for the Sunday you are gone.

## THE LITURGICAL MUSIC WE SING

The principal Sunday morning service for which the Parish Choir sings is the celebration of the **Holy Eucharist**, either Rite I (8 am - on occasion) or Rite II (10 am).

We either sing a congregational or choral setting of the **Gloria, Sanctus, and Fraction Anthem**. During Advent and Lent we substitute the **Kyrie, Trisagion, or the Great Litany for the Gloria**. We change the musical settings monthly, or as the liturgical seasons change. Eight times a year, usually at the beginning of each month or on feast days, we sing a special choral setting of the communion service, often in the English tradition accompanied by organ, a Classical Mass with instrumental accompaniment, or an a cappella masterwork of Renaissance polyphony. We sing the appointed Gradual Psalm in one of three ways:

<b>Anglican Chant</b>	most Sundays
<b>Gregorian Chant</b>	during Lent
<b>Metrical Psalm</b>	for variety and in the summer

In certain seasons we sing an **Alleluia & Verse** before the gospel following the Gradual or Sequence hymn.

At the Offertory we sing an **Anthem**, most often with organ accompaniment, and always tied to the day's readings.

We chant the **Sursum Corda** before the Preface and Sanctus, and the **Great Amen** following the Eucharistic Prayer.

At the end of Communion, we sing a brief *a cappella* **Motet**, which may be eucharistic or related to the readings for the day.

**Choral Evensong** is a service following the traditional pattern in The Book of Common Prayer and consists of choral music (psalms, canticles, and anthems) from the rich Anglican musical tradition, scripture readings, and prayers. The choir will sing four Evensong services this church year.

**Hymns** are normally sung at Processions (entrance and retiring), before the Gospel, at the Presentation (H380 vs. 3, *Doxology - Praise God from whom all blessings flow*), and during Communion. For most of this church year, we will only sing hymns during the Processional, Gradual, and Recessional. It is customary in the Episcopal Church to *stand* for the singing of hymns. Hymns are taken from blue The Hymnal 1982 and black, red, and green Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS) hymnal (denoted by L).

**Have any questions?** Please reach out to a fellow chorister, your section leader, or Xavier Richardson, Director of Music & Organist. Again, we are so happy to have you join us. Welcome to the Saint Benedict's Episcopal Church 2022-2023 Choir Season (Part 1 - Fall/Winter 1).

**THE ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC PRAYER**

Bless, O Lord, us Thy servants who minister in Thy temple.  
Grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our hearts,  
and what we believe in our hearts we may show forth in our lives.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*-prayed at the end of rehearsals*

# MUSIC LIST 2022-2023

September:

Score (S) or Resource Page

*Communion Service: Mass in E by Jeffrey Smith*

- 4 The Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost (Music Sunday), Proper 18**  
Martin Shaw: With a Voice of Singing S  
Hymns: 423, 626, L136
- 11 The Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost, Proper 19**  
J.S. Bach: Jesu, joy of man's desiring S or NCAB p. 185  
Hymns: 410, 649, 334
- 18 The Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost, Proper 20**  
Felix Mendelssohn: Above all praise NCAB p. 10  
Hymns: 375, 488, 390
- 25 The Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost, Proper 21**  
John Gardner: Fight the good fight S  
Hymns: 594, 568, 546
- 29 Choral Evensong for Saint Michael and All Angels**  
Preces and Responses - Herbert Sumsion S  
Phos Hilaron: Tallis Canon - O gracious light The Hymnal 1982, 25  
Psalm 150 - Charles Villiers Stanford S  
Canticles (Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis) - Walmisley in d minor S  
Anthem: Alan Bullard: Come, let us join our cheerful songs S  
Hymns: 625, 282

October:

Score (S) or Resource Page

*Communion Service: Mass in E by Jeffrey Smith*

- 2 The Seventeenth Sunday of Pentecost, Proper 22**  
Harold Friedell: Draw us in the spirit's tether S  
Hymns: 607, I've found a friend, oh such a friend, 541
- 9 The Eighteenth Sunday of Pentecost, Proper 23**  
Herbert Howells: My eyes for beauty pine NCAB p. 235  
Hymns: 1, 566, 493

- 16 The Nineteenth Sunday of Pentecost, Proper 24**  
Edward Bairstow: Jesu, the very thought of thee NCAB p. 197  
Hymns: 337, 627, 711
- 23 The Twentieth Sunday of Pentecost, Proper 25**  
William Dawson: Ain't a that good news S  
Hymns: 428, 670, 636
- 30 The Twenty-First Sunday of Pentecost, Proper 26**  
Malcolm Boyle: Thou, O God art praised S  
Hymns: 410, 488, 545

*November:*

*Score (S) or Resource Page*

*Communion Service: Mass in E by Jeffrey Smith*

- 2 Choral Evensong for the Feast of All Saints: \*Broward Deanery (7pm)**
- Preces and Responses - Herbert Sumsion S  
Introit: God in mine eternity - Clive Walkley S  
Psalm 23 - Hylton Stewart S  
Canticles (Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis) - Harold Friedell S  
Litany of the Saints - John D. Becker S  
Anthem: Song for Athene - John Tavener S  
Hymns: 526, 367

*\*St. Benedict's, St. Mary Magdalene and St. Martin,  
St. Mark, Atonement, All Saints, and Holy Sacrament*

- 6 The Twenty-second Sunday of Pentecost, Proper 27**  
Willis Barnett: Sing to the Lord a New Song S  
Hymns: 401, L184, L205
- 13 The Twenty-third Sunday of Pentecost, Proper 28**  
John Rutter: For the beauty of the earth S  
Hymns: L12, 655, 482
- 20 The Feast of Christ the King: Last Sunday of Pentecost, Proper 29**  
Plainsong: Te Deum, Laudamus The Hymnal 1982, S282  
Cesar Franck: Psalm 150 S  
George Herbert: King of Glory, King of Peace S  
Hymns: 494, L31, 477

## 24 Thanksgiving Day

- *No rehearsal this week. There is no anthem sung by the choir today*  
Hymns: 290, 291, 377, 396

*Here ends Liturgical Year C. Lectionary Year A begins with the First Sunday of Advent on November 27, 2022.*

## 27 The First Sunday of Advent

Michael McCarthy: The Advent Litany in Procession  
Andre Thomas: Keep your lamps

S  
Hymns: 59, 616

*December:*

*Score (S) or Resource Page*

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*Communion Service: Mass in E by Jeffrey Smith and Gloria from the Mass in G by Franz Schubert (at the Mass of the Nativity)*

## 4 The Second Sunday of Advent

Georg F. Handel: Every valley shall be exalted (Solo: St. Clair Husbands)  
Hal Hopson: Thou shalt know him when he comes

Hymns: 65, 76, 462

## 11 The Third Sunday of Advent

Henry Purcell: Rejoice in the Lord always  
*with The Boys and Girls Choir*

S  
Hymns: 56, 67, L14

## 18 The Fourth Sunday of Advent: Lessons and Carols

Peter Warlock: Adam lay ybounden S  
Elizabeth Poston: Jesus Christ, the apple tree S  
Hal Hopson: Thou shalt know him when he comes S  
G. F. Handel: Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God S  
Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina: Regina coeli S  
Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina: Advent Vesper Responsory and Prayers

Hymns: 438, 265, 66

## 24 The Eve of the Nativity of our Lord: Christmas Eve (6 and 10 pm)

*6 pm - with The Boys and Girls Choir*

Introit: Hodie Christus Natus Est - Benjamin Britten S  
Psalm 96: Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord - verses: Bairstow S  
David Willcocks: Sussex Carol S  
Pietro Yon: Gesu Bambino S

Hymns: 83, 87, 96, 100

## Christmas Eve Concert, 10-10:30pm

- Music list to be issued to the choir

### 25 The Nativity of our Lord: Christmas Day (8 and 10 am)

Introit: Hodie Christus Natus Est - Benjamin Britten S

Psalm 96: Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord - verses: Bairstow S

Charles Wood: Ding dong merrily on high S

Hymns: 106, 87, 83, 100

**Legend: NCAB = New Church Anthem Book, S = Score**

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# Music at Saint Benedict's



If we consider and ask ourselves what sort of music we should wish to hear on entering a church we should surely, in describing our ideal, say first of all that it must be something different from what is heard elsewhere; that it should be a sacred music, devoted to its purpose, a music whose peace would still passion, whose dignity should strengthen our faith, whose unquestioned beauty should find a home in our hearts, to cheer us in life and death; a music worthy of the fair temples in which we meet and of the holy words of our liturgy; a music whose expression of the mystery of things unseen never allowed any trifling motive to ruffle the sanctity of its reserve. What power for good such a music would have! Welcome to the 2022-2023 Choir Season (Fall/Winter I – Part 1).

Mr. Xavier W. Richardson

*Director of Music & Organist*

2022-2023 Officers

Ms. Paulette Clarke

*Choir Secretary*

Mrs. Serline Charles & Mrs. Josette Thomas

*Music Librarians*