

Choir Notes

Summer, 2009

Volume 14, Issue 2

Dear Clergy of New Jersey,

You have been receiving this complimentary *Choir Notes* newsletter from NJ District III of the Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians (EFGOCM) because you are the parish priest. If your parish is a steward of EFGOCM and has paid the \$100.00 dues this means that all of your choir members and psalti are receiving their own copies of this *Choir Notes* and the First Mode newsletters. If your parish is not a paid steward then only you are receiving this newsletter as a courtesy. This has been our way of keeping you informed of our activities. Being a member entitles each and every choir member and psalti a newsletter and ability to participate in all our activities.

When your parish receives a notice from our EFGOCM treasurer, Paul Mavromihalis, please accept this invitation to join and be a part of our efforts to improve the spiritual and musical life of our church through the choir members, directors, organists, psalti, clergy and the Greek Orthodox faithful. For any questions, please contact the President of EFGOCM, Kathryn Athanasoulas, at 908-232-7695 or kathanasoulas@hotmail.com.

off music and need to know how many of us will be singing.

Looking forward to hearing from you and seeing you on August 31 at 7 PM at St. George in Piscataway.

Kay Kehayas
Choir Director

St. Basil's Luncheon

Some of you will remember that we sang some Greek Folk Songs for this luncheon a few years ago and had a lot of fun. We have been asked again. If you are interested, we will announce rehearsal schedules in our winter issue. In the mean time, mark your calendars for Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010 around 3:00 PM at The Pines Manor, Edison, NJ. ♪

Holy Cross Celebration

WHAT'S UP? Good question!! It's that time of the year when New Jersey church singers start to think about the Holy Cross Celebration in Asbury Park. This year will mark the 62nd anniversary of this event! How time flies! We are anticipating that this year's event will be bigger and better, and Metropolitan Evangelos is eagerly looking forward to this historic occasion.

This year's celebration will be held on Sunday, September 20, 2009. You are all invited to participate. Why not bring along a colleague? The more the merrier. We would also be thrilled to have some youth singers join us. Rehearsals

will start on Monday, August 31, and then continue on Tuesday, September 8 and Monday, September 14, all at St. George Church in Piscataway, starting at 7 PM. Final rehearsal will be in Asbury Park at the Paramount Theater, at 10 AM, with lunch graciously provided by the St. George Community in their Community Hall.

Bring along your Kevin Lawrence Liturgy book. If you don't have one, let us know and we will provide you with one. We will be using new parts of the Lawrence music to keep with the Tone of the day so rehearsing is important and your presence at rehearsals is paramount (no pun intended!).

Give me a call (732-297-2631) or email kkehayas@rocketmail.com that you are coming. We have to run

 **REMINDER** 

Rehearsal Schedule for Holy Cross

- * Monday, August 31 - 7:00 PM - St. George, Piscataway
- * Tuesday, Sept. 8 - 7:00 PM - St. George, Piscataway
- * Monday, Sept. 14 - 7:00 PM - St. George, Piscataway
- * Saturday, Sept. 19 - 10:00 AM - Paramount Theater, Asbury Park

 **REMINDER** 



***Photos from the
Vocal Master Class,
April 25, 2009***

Clockwise from top left:

- * Chrissellene teaches the group how to raise their soft palate
- * Chrissellene helps Olivia Maurer, a youth singer, with breathing
- * The entire group of attendees with Chrissellene and Marina



Broomall Conference Music Rehearsal

Rehearsal for the Broomall, PA conference music, Gallos III, will be on Monday, Sept. 28, 2009 at Holy Trinity Church in Westfield at 7:15 PM. It is possible that this may be the only rehearsal left before the conference. Please make every effort to attend so we have the music learned before going. Registration packet will be in the First Mode newsletter being sent out soon.

We are looking forward to a large contingent from New Jersey since we are so close to Broomall, PA. Come and join the fun October 15-18, 2009. ♪

Youth Singers Workshop

We would like to encourage all youth who like to sing, to join us for our first Youth Singers Workshop. In addition, we ask that all choir directors and youth music directors attend, whether or not you will have singers attending. The workshop is

one week after our conference, on Saturday, Oct. 24, from 10:30 AM-4:00 PM. Our own Marina Alexander will be the clinician and will help the youth to use their voices and musical skills in the best way. These skills are universal and should help them in any music endeavor, but especially for our church music.

Attached is a flyer and application, which have also been sent to every parish in New Jersey. You can help by encouraging any youth ages 9-18 who you think may be interested. They do not have to be in a choir to come. ♪

The Spirit of Lent Concert

It is hard to believe that our next concert, "The Spirit of Lent", will be our 20th. Time certainly flies when you are having fun. Our concert will be the last Friday before Holy Week as it has always been. This year it falls on Friday, March 26, 2010. We hope many of you will join us for this very special occasion. We have not decided on the venue at the moment but we will let you know in our winter issue of Choir Notes as well as the schedule of rehearsals. ♪

Reflections on Our Church Music Institute

Those of you who attended the Master Class featuring Chrissellene Petropoulos and Marina Alexander on April 25, 2009 will remember a wonderful collaboration of two gifted musicians. The pictures included in this issue will give you a taste of what it was all about. We learned how to produce a healthy sound, dealt with nerves and vocal tension, and sharpened our techniques on how to learn what a conductor is asking. Should we repeat this class in the future, then run, don't walk to join us. ♪

Photos from the Vocal Master Class, April 25, 2009

Below left: The committee for the Church Music Institute greeting people at the door (l-r): Hope Demitry (Federation Vice President), Marie Devino (New Jersey District Supervisor), Kathryn Athanasoulas (Federation President), Louis Martin and Kay Kehayas (Administration Chairman).

Below right: Chrissellene and Marina have a great time working together.





Youth Singers Workshop

Youth Singers Workshop

Calling all youth, ages 9 – 18 in the Metropolis of New Jersey, to participate in a wonderful fun filled workshop for young people who love to sing

Come learn how to develop and produce a healthy sound, sharpen your vocal techniques and learn what a conductor is asking of all singers

Your day will be filled with fun as you vocalize, sing and perform a concert of what was accomplished during the day

Invite your families to the concert

This workshop is sponsored by the Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Musicians (EFGOCM)

And

Hosted by

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
250 Gallows Hill Road
Westfield, NJ 07090
908-233-8533

October 24, 2009
10:30 am – 4:00 pm

Musical and Artistic Director, Marina Alexander will be our clinician

10:30 am – 10:55 am Pre-Registration - \$25.00 (includes Lunch)
RSVP by October 10, 2009

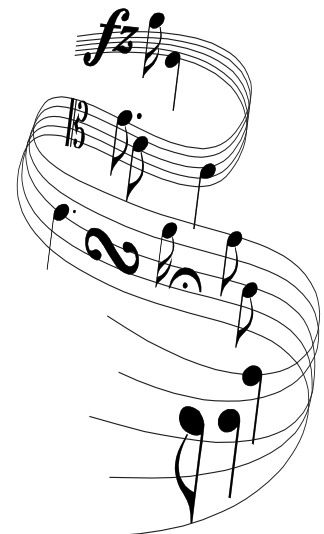
11:00 am – 1:00 pm Session 1

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm Session 2

3:10 pm – 3:25 pm Group Picture

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm Concert





Registration Sheet

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Age _____

Church/City _____

Designated Adult Supervisor (if not parent) _____

Emergency Contact Information _____

Parent/Guardian Name and Cell Phone # _____

E-mail Address _____

Parent's Signature _____

Check Shirt Size:

Child's Large _____
Adult Sizes _____
Small _____
Medium _____
Large _____
Extra Large _____

Pre-Registration \$25.00

Includes materials, lunch and shirt
Lunch for adults attending will be \$10.00

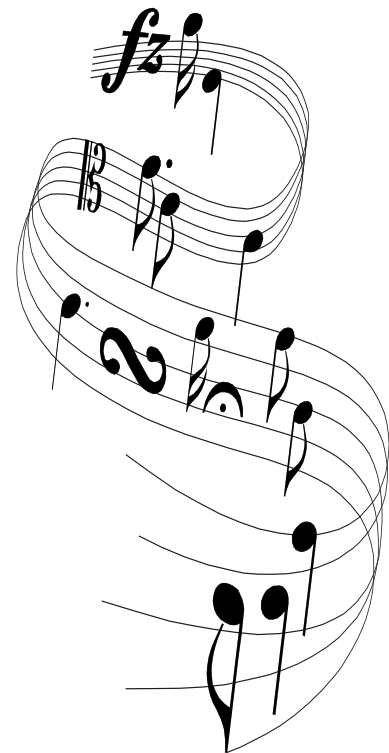
RSVP by October 10, 2009

Send this form with money payable to:

**EFGOCM
c/o Hope Demitry
95 Beechwood Ave.
Trenton, NJ 08618**

Any questions please contact:

Kathryn Athanasoulas – (908) 232-7695 or Hope Demitry – (609) 695-4033



Choir Notes

Eastern Federation of Greek
Orthodox Church Musicians
District of New Jersey and Staten Island
195 County Line Road
Branchburg, NJ 08876

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Enclosed: Rehearsals for Holy Cross Celebration

Christmas Concert

Our Christmas Concert for 2009 is presently in negotiations. If we do have a concert this year, it will be on Sunday, December 6 at about 4:00 PM. Please check your email for confirmation. For further information, you may call Kathryn Athanasoulas at 908-232-7695 or email her at kathanasoulas@hotmail.com. The schedule of rehearsals is as follows:

- * Monday, November 9, 7:30 PM, St. George, Piscataway
- * Monday, November 16, 7:30 PM, St. George, Piscataway
- * Monday, November 23, 7:30 PM, St. George, Piscataway
- * Monday, November 30, 7:30 PM, St. George, Piscataway
- * Concert – Date, time and venue TBA

Next year, we will be doing a Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 20, 2010 at St. Nicholas Church in Wyckoff, NJ to help celebrate their church's 40th anniversary. Rehearsals will be similar to the schedule this year - TBA. Save the date. ♪

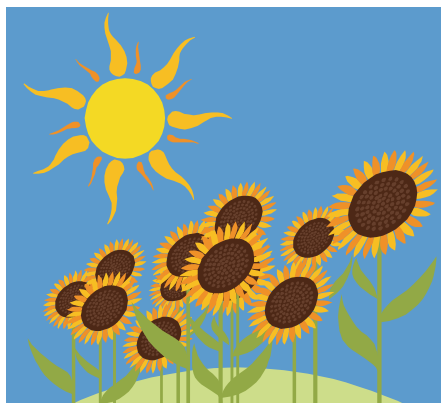
Directions to Holy Trinity in Westfield

Southbound Garden State Pkwy:

Take Exit 138 for Kenilworth.
Turn left onto Kenilworth Blvd.
Turn left at the 7th traffic light onto East Broad Street.
Turn left immediately after the cemetery onto Gallows Hill Road.
*Proceed two and a half blocks.
Church is on right. Park in Rear.

Northbound Garden State Pkwy:

Take Exit 135 for Westfield.
Bear to the extreme left.
Go around circle, under ramp - this places you on Central Avenue.
Proceed to the end of Central Ave.
Turn right onto East Broad Street.
After Temple Emmanuel, take the second right onto Gallows Hill Rd.
Follow directions from * above.



Directions to St. George Church in Piscataway

From Rt. 287 (North or South bound): Take Exit #9 to Highland Park (Rt. 18). After the 4th light the church will be on your left side approximately quarter of a mile.

From NJ Turnpike (North or South bound): Take Exit #9 to New Brunswick (Rt. 18 North). Follow Rt. 18 North over John Lynch Bridge and make a right turn at the River Road exit, keep right and pass 2 traffic lights, the Church is on the right side approximately a half mile.

From Rt. 1 (North or South bound): Make a right turn to New Brunswick (Rt. 18 North). Follow Rt. 18 North over John Lynch Bridge and make a right turn at the River Road exit, keep right and pass 2 traffic lights, the Church is on the right side approximately a half mile.

Choir Notes is published four times a year by the Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs, District of New Jersey and Staten Island. Your news, articles and photographs are invited. Send to: Louis Martin, 195 County Line Road, Branchburg, NJ 08876. FAX: (908)325-0350. E-mail: LouMartin1@yahoo.com.