

Friday, 12 February, 2016

It is with great pleasure and excitement that the Cathedral of Saint Joseph Music Ministry formally announces the establishment of a new children's choral program: the *Saint Nicholas Schola Cantorum*.

The Saint Nicholas Schola Cantorum is open to children in grades 3 – 10. Children and young adults from the Cathedral Parish, the greater Manchester community and the wider Diocese of Manchester are welcome and encouraged to join.

The *schola cantorum* has ancient roots and fulfilled an important role in the liturgical and musical life of the Church. The mission of this “school of singers” is to teach, prepare and form children and young adults for music ministry and the life long praise of God through song. This choir, directed by Ms. Emily Barrett, will focus on singing hymns, part-singing, Gregorian chant, polyphony and choral works. Among the goals of this choir is the development of musicianship, sight-singing, music history, liturgical formation and the spirituality of sacred music.

Choir rehearsals will be held on Thursday afternoons, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the Lower Hall of the Cathedral of Saint Joseph (accessible via the Bishop Bradely Lane entrance). The Choir will sing at the 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass on selected days from October through June. Please consult the spring semester schedule for additional information.

Borrowing a phrase from those in marketing: “The best advertisement is through word of mouth.” Please tell anyone you know about this new musical endeavor. For anyone with questions or to obtain a registration form, calendar and chorister handbook, I may be reached at either the Cathedral Music Office (603-622-6404, x31) or via e-mail at EBermani@stjosephcathedralnh.org.

As always, thank you for your constant support of the Cathedral Music Ministry and, most importantly, for the continuation of your prayers.

Very sincerely yours,

Eric J. Bermani

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