

26 February 2019  
*Tuesday of Sexagesima Week*

Dear fellow Catholic Musician,

The Parish and Latin Mass Choir of St. Mary, Help of Christians in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, supported by the choirs of All Saints Parish (FSSP) in Minneapolis and the Latin Mass Community of Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church (IVE) in Mankato, MN, will be hosting the second annual Sacred Music Retreat from August 16-20, 2019.

Building on the goodwill and excellent work begun at the first retreat in Cincinnati last year, this event promises to facilitate another incredible, formative spiritual and musical experience for any member of a liturgical choir in the Roman Rite. The liturgies of the retreat will be celebrated according to the classical form of the Roman liturgy, the Extraordinary Form, but the retreat is open to any Catholic musician of goodwill wishing to experience, craft, and pray with the musical patrimony of the Church within the context of liturgical prayer, including extensive opportunities to take part in the Liturgy of the Divine Office.

This year's event shares the three main objectives identified by last year's retreat 1) to assist choir members to focus on the spirituality inherent in being part of a liturgical choir; 2) to provide an opportunity to work with world-class choirmasters (Christopher Berry and Jeffrey Morse) on music exclusively focused toward the Latin Mass, incorporating with other choir members to take part in advanced repertoire not often available to smaller choirs; and 3) to provide other music resources well-suited to smaller choirs that will also be part of the repertoire during the retreat. In addition, and new this year, 4) Prof. Christopher Berry, an internationally-known liturgical and recital organist and improviser, will provide formation for liturgical organists taking part in the retreat.

There will be spiritual conferences to engage participants in the higher purpose of sacred music, along with opportunities for confession and visits to the Blessed Sacrament, as well as ample time for personal prayer on the beautiful grounds of the Schoenstatt Shrine and Retreat Center on Sleepy Eye Lake. There will be daily Mass, sung or solemn, depending on the day, as well as other liturgies throughout. The schedule is full but relaxed to maintain the balance between musical engagement and personal prayer.

Because we will have musicians from many different locations, there will also be set times to allow for a degree of social interaction, although the focus remains on the true purpose of the liturgical choir – to glorify God and edify the faithful through the liturgy sung with devotion, intelligence, and true art. The final two days of the retreat will culminate with solemn Sunday Mass at the beautiful 1902 parish church in Sleepy Eye, with Palestrina's masterpiece *Missa Papae Marcelli* as the Ordinary, and with a Mass at a landmark church in the Twin Cities on Monday. Lodging and all meals are included in the price of the retreat.

The evening before the retreat, on Thursday August 15, 2019, the Sleepy Eye Mozart Chorus will be singing Mozart's "Coronation Mass," as well as full Gregorian Propers, the *Ave Maria* of Anton Bruckner, and the *Tota Pulchra Es* of Fr. Nunes-Garcia, for an EF Solemn Mass in honor of the Solemnity of Our Lady's Assumption. Although this Mass is not officially part of the retreat, the Schoenstatt Center will be sleeping any retreatants on Thursday night who might wish to attend this liturgy.

Please consider taking part in this extraordinary event! The retreat will have sign-in starting early afternoon of Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, and closing mid-morning on Friday, and will conclude with breakfast at the Schoenstatt Shrine on Tuesday morning.

There are a limited number of available slots for the attendees, varying based on the number of day retreatants vs. boarders. There is an F.A.Q. section on the next page. If there are additional questions beyond the

F.A.Q., please contact Sean Connolly using the email or phone information below. Best wishes and prayers, and hope to meet you this summer!

Faithfully Yours in Christ,

**Sean Connolly**

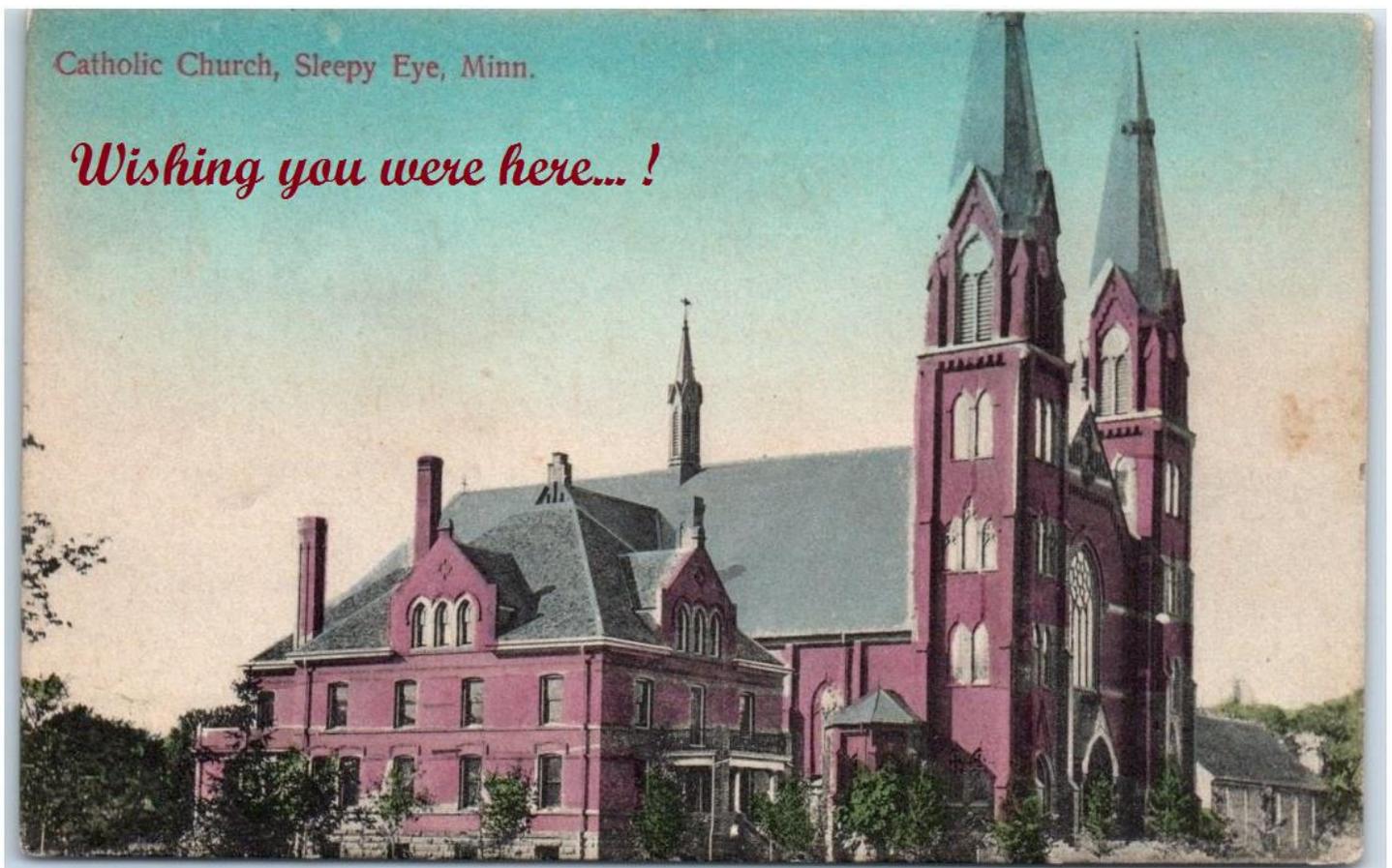
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2019 SLEEPY EYE, MINN.  
SACRED MUSIC RETREAT

F.A.Q.

*Q. What is the cost of the retreat?*

A. The cost is \$450 / person for boarders, \$220 / person for day-retreatants taking meals at the retreat house, and \$100 / person for retreatants boarding at home and providing their own meals.

*Q. What, specifically, is included in the registration?*

A. Lodging for five (5) nights at the Schoenstatt Center. All meals from dinner of Thursday through breakfast of Tuesday (14 meals in all), sheet music for all chant, polyphony, and hymns, a packet of supplementary materials, bus transport to and from churches as needed for various liturgies. Over the course of the retreat, there will be five conferences, eight rehearsals with world-class musicians, formation for organists, and numerous opportunities for participating in sung Liturgy as well as daily Mass... and the opportunity to connect with other liturgical musicians to build networking and connections with peers.

*Q. Who are the presenters?*

A. Fr. Garrett Ahlers, a priest of the Diocese of New Ulm, an accomplished organist, chanter, and polyphonist, is the spiritual director. Prof. Christopher Berry and Mr. Jeffrey Morse will be the music directors.

*Q. Are there price breaks for groups?*

A. As the cost is geared toward covering projected expenses, there is no price break for groups.

*Q. Is there a price break if I am staying locally and not lodging; or if I don't eat all meals?*

A. Yes, as on the schedule of prices given above.

*Q. Can minors (under age 18) attend the retreat?*

A. Yes, the Schoenstatt Center is able to accommodate minors, and they will be boarded separately from adults according to best practices and formal protocols to ensure their safety. By "minors" we do not envision very small children boarding at the retreat center, but students old enough to participate in the choirs.

*Q. Is there a space limit for the retreat?*

A. Yes, but its exact value depends on a number of factors. Especially given the need to designate certain rooms / floors for minors vs. adults, and with the additional consideration of day retreatants, it is impossible to set a fixed limit. Please register early to ensure space for yourself and your group, and please fill out the registration details as completely as possible.

*Q. What will be provided by the retreat house?*

A. The retreat house will be providing rooms, mattresses, meals, and the full use of facilities. BEDDING is not provided by the retreat house. If it is logistically impossible for you to provide your own bedding, please indicate this need and, for a small additional fee, the retreat organizers will provide bedding (\$30) and pillows (\$3) as necessary.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE DETAILS

Thursday, Aug 15 (Retreat not officially begun)

Retreatants may begin to arrive at the Retreat Center 4 PM on-site check-in begins. Supper.

~7:00 PM –Solemn Mass for the Feast of the Assumption (St. Mary's Church, OPTIONAL)

9:00 PM – Compline (Shrine Chapel – OPTIONAL)

9:30 PM – Grand Silence (if not attending Compline, please observe silence from 9:00 PM)

### Friday, Aug 16 (First day of Retreat)

#### 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM – Retreatants Arrive / Check-in

7:00 AM – Sung Lauds and Angelus (Shrine Chapel – OPTIONAL for those already on-site)

7:30 AM – Meditation / Adoration (tabernacle w/o exposition – OPTIONAL)

8:15 AM – 8:45 AM Breakfast (OPTIONAL for boarders already on-site)

8:45 – 9:00 – Quarter-Hour Social Hour / Mingling while guests finish arriving

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM – Welcome / Keynote Address (Fr. Ahlers -- Main Conference Hall)

9:30 AM – 11:15 AM – Transit to Parish & Men's (Berry) / Women's (Morse) practice for first two Masses (SESM Church)

11:15 AM – 11:30 AM – BREAK, Confessions Heard (SESM Church)

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM -- Opening Retreat Mass (Sung by Men)

12:30 PM – 1:15 PM – Return to Shrine, Lunch, Angelus, and Spiritual Conference 1

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM – Rehearsal 2

3:00 PM – 3:15 PM – BREAK

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM – Rehearsal 3

[3:00 PM – 4:00 PM – Confessions Available, feel free to leave rehearsal to avail]

5:00 PM – BREAK, time available to visit Blessed Sacrament (Shrine Chapel)

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM, Supper, Angelus

6:30 – 7:00 PM – BREAK, time available to visit Blessed Sacrament (Shrine Chapel)

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM Practice 3

8:30 PM – 9:00 PM – Half-Hour Social Hour with Refreshments

9:00 PM – Compline (Shrine Chapel – OPTIONAL)

9:30 PM – Grand Silence (if not attending Compline, please observe silence from 9:00 PM)

### Saturday, Aug 17 (Second Day of Retreat)

7:00 AM – Sung Lauds and Angelus (Shrine Chapel – OPTIONAL)

7:30 AM – meditation (Shrine Chapel – OPTIONAL)

8:15 – 8:45 AM – Breakfast (OPTIONAL)

8:45 – 9:30 AM – Spiritual Conference 2

9:30 – 9:45 AM – Transit to Parish.

9:45 AM – 11:15 AM – Sectional Rehearsals / Women's Warm-Up for Mass

11:15 – 11:30 AM – BREAK, Confessions Available (SESM Church)

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM – Second Retreat Mass (Sung by Women)

12:30 PM – 1:15 PM – Return to Shrine, Lunch, Angelus, Spiritual Conference 3

1:30 – 3:00 PM – Rehearsal 5

3:00 PM – 3:15 PM BREAK

[3:00 PM – 4:00 PM] – Confessions Available

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM – Breakouts: Organists with Berry (SESM Church), Chant Interpretation or Choir Building with Morse

5:00 PM – 5:30 PM – Break, Organists Return to Shrine

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM – Supper, Angelus

6:30 PM – 7:00 PM – BREAK, Time to Visit Blessed Sacrament (Shrine Chapel)

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM – Rehearsal 6

8:30 – 9:00 PM – Half-Hour Social Hour with Refreshments

9:00 PM – Compline (Shrine Chapel – OPTIONAL)

9:30 PM – Grand Silence (if not attending Compline, please observe silence from 9:00 PM)

### Sunday, Aug 18 (Third Day of Retreat)

7:00 AM – Lauds and Angelus (Shrine Chapel – OPTIONAL)

7:30 AM – Meditation (Shrine Chapel – OPTIONAL)

8:15 AM – 8:45 AM – Breakfast (OPTIONAL)

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM – Spiritual Conference 4

9:30 AM – 9:45 AM – BREAK

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM – Warm-Up for Mass

10:45 AM – 11:00 AM – Transit to Church

11:00 – 11:30 AM – Confessions Available (SESM Church)

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM – Sunday Mass @ SESM Parish Church

1:15 PM – 2:00 PM Lunch @ St. Mary's Church

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM – Rehearsal (7) for Vespers, Men, Women's Sectional

4:00 PM – Solemn Vespers (EF) @ SESM Parish Church

5:00 – 6:15 PM – Breakouts – How to Use Your Organist for Non-Organists (Berry), Morse on Chant / CB for Organists

6:15 – 6:30 PM – Return to Shrine

6:30 PM – 7:00 PM – Short Dinner and Angelus

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM – Rehearsal 8

8:30 – 9:00 PM – BREAK

9:00 PM – Compline

9:30 PM – Grand Silence

### Monday, August 19 (Final Full Day of Retreat)

N.B. – 6:30 AM – Depart for Twin Cities

(On Bus – Read Lauds and Angelus, Social Time, Vocal Warm-Up)

8:30 AM – Arrive at Destination Church

9:00 - 9:40 AM, Spiritual Conference 5

9:45 - 11:00 AM, Rehearsal 9

11:00 - 12:30 AM, Mass in the Destination Church

12:30 - 1:15 AM, Lunch on-site

---Public Transportation Opportunity for Evening Flights Out---

4:00 PM – Vespers in Twin Cities

7:30 PM – Arrive at Schoenstatt, Social Time, Packing Time, Prayer Time, Confessions

9:00 PM – Compline

9:30 PM – Grand Silence

### Tuesday, August 20 (Partial Day)

7:00 AM – Lauds / Angelus

7:30 – 8:00 AM – Meditation

8:00 – 8:30 AM – Low Mass

9:00 AM – Breakfast / End of Retreat

**To register, please use this enclosed registration form and mail to Sacred Music Retreat, c/o SESM Parish Business Office, 636 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N., Sleepy Eye, MN 56085, with payment enclosed. Checks should be made payable to St. Mary, Help of Christians Catholic Church, please add "Sacred Music Retreat Registration" in the memo line.**

SACRED MUSIC RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM – AUGUST 16TH - 20TH, 2019

COPY THIS BLANK FORM AS NEEDED FOR ADDITIONAL REGISTRATIONS

Open Registrations accepted March 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup>

Late Registrations Accepted July 1<sup>st</sup> – July 20<sup>th</sup>

(Please PRINT Legibly, All Fields Required  
One GROUP of ALL ADULTS or ALL MINORS  
or ONE FAMILY of ADULTS and MINORS Per Sheet)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

CALCULATOR

Total # of Adults Attending _____	\$ _____ (x\$100 /per)
Total # of Minors Attending _____	\$ _____ (x\$100 /per)
Total # of People Dining _____	\$ _____ (x\$120 /per)
Total # of People Boarding _____	\$ _____ (x\$235 /per)
Total # Sets of Bedding Required _____	\$ _____ (x\$30 / per)
Total # Pillows Required _____	\$ _____ (x\$3 / per)

[N.B. – All Boarding *must* also be Dining, which is not included in boarding cost]

LATE REGISTRATION: + \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (x\$50 /per)

TOTAL COST = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Registering Adults (18+ on 8/15/2019)      Current VIRTUS Trained (Y/N?) & Diocese

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ |
| 5. _____ | _____ |

Names of Registering Minors      Kin to / Legal Wards of Adult(s) # (as numbered above, indicates ability to share a family room)

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ |
| 5. _____ | _____ |

Mail completed registration to: Sacred Music Retreat, c/o SESM Parish Business Office, 636 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. N., Sleepy Eye, MN, 56085. Please follow the Sacred Music Retreat on Facebook. As registrations are received, the Facebook page will be updated to reflect approximate number of available spaces remaining. <https://www.facebook.com/Aug8.Aug12.2018/>

Questions? Contact Sean Connolly by phone or E-mail: (859).250.7888, [caritasvincitomnia@gmail.com](mailto:caritasvincitomnia@gmail.com)

## SLEEPY EYE'S PARISH AND SHRINE



Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, named after the eponymous lake by which the town is sited, and by which the Sisseton Dakota Chief Ish-Tak-Ha-Ba ("Sleepy Eye" or "Drooping Eyelids") used to make his camp, was platted in 1872. A derelict mill still looms over the town, hearkening back to a time when Sleepy Eye was inland flour capitol of America, and when the clever machinations of the School Sisters of St. Francis were able to coax a visit out of the legendary Babe Ruth in 1922, who even hit a home run.

The first building of St. Mary, Help of Christians Catholic Parish was built in 1876, and a school was opened in 1883. As the parish and town grew together, the congregation quickly outgrew the small wooden church, and the present neo-Gothic structure was dedicated in 1902, with woodwork by the famous Hackner firm, whose work abounds in the American Midwest (an altar of his is found at St. Francis de Sales Oratory, ICKSP, in St. Louis). These original furnishings survived the post-conciliar decimation that affected so many American churches, and the High Altar was restored as recently as 1976. The organ was installed in 1907 by the Schaefer Organ Company of Wisconsin, and while the instrument has been expanded / restored twice (sadly losing its original case in the late 1940s), it has never been replaced. St. Mary's has maintained a vibrant, weekly parish choir for well over 100 years, with the legendary Lady Clara Schroepfer (recipient of a papal knighthood for her years of service) directing and maintaining the St. Mary's Caecilian Choir through a period that saw so many parishes abandon choral music from 1916 through the 1980s.

In 1918, the grade school was expanded to include a high school, and St. Mary's is now one of only two parishes in the Diocese, and one of the very few in the United States today, to maintain a single, pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup>-grade school.

After it was revived in the Diocese under Bishop John LeVoir around 2007, the Extraordinary Form Mass moved in 2016 from the neighboring parish of St. Michael, in Morgan, MN, where it had been since that time, (served for the last several years by the same clergy as serve St. Mary's) to its present home at St. Mary's. Staffed by diocesan priests, and especially the pastor, Msgr. Lozinski, there is EF Mass offered at St. Mary's every Sunday and major holyday throughout the year, more often than not sung by the ~15 voice St. Mary's Latin Mass Choir. The parish itself also maintains a parish Caecilian Choir, a JH/HS Schola Cantorum through the school, and an incipient Elementary Chorister program.

The Schoenstatt Shrine and Retreat Center is a Daughter Shrine of the Catholic Marian Movement of Schoenstatt. Known as the Family Jubilee Shrine, and dedicated to Our Mother, Thrice-Admirable, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt, it was erected in 1976. Staffed by lay sisters of the Schoenstatt movement and lay staff, the Retreat Center hosts diocesan and national youth camps and retreats, as well as family-centered devotional and spiritual exercises throughout the year. It is usually buzzing with activity, and breathes incredible life into the Catholic presence in Sleepy Eye. We are grateful that they could find / make the time to host this Retreat.