

You are among a select group of singers invited to join others interested in sacred Renaissance polyphony *February 24-26* for a weekend singing the music of Orlando di Lasso. The occasion is the 26th year for the Dallas-Fort Worth area **Renaissance Polyphony Weekend.**

This year's singers' retreat will again be led by **Dr. William Mahrt** of Stanford University. The retreat will be held at Mater Dei Latin Mass Parish in Irving. The church is located at 2030 E. Hwy 356 (Irving Blvd.) just off Loop 12.

RPW participants will sing Lasso's *Missa Quand'io penso al martire* on **Sunday afternoon, February 26**, in Mater Dei's parish hall, along with some related motets and chants.

About the Mass

Our Lasso Mass is based on a madrigal of Jacob Arcadelt which was well-known in the sixteenth century, mainly in its transcription for lute. It "is not a parody Mass in the normal sense, though, for while it uses significant parts of the madrigal in the Kyrie, the rest of the movements do no more than quote the beginning of the madrigal and then proceed to interesting and varied ways of setting the text quite characteristic of Lasso," Dr. Mahrt said.

"While the harmonic language of Arcadelt's madrigal is delicate, Lasso departs from it, introducing more colorful harmonies. The Credo includes an exquisite 'et homo factus est,' as well as



two canons, soprano with alto, then tenor with bass. The Sanctus departs from the madrigal completely, fashioning the most expressive counterpoint at its beginning. The Agnus recapitulates the beginning of the madrigal, but now in five voices and with ornamental elaborations," he explained.

"All of the makes for a most varied work that will form a beautiful program. Some Lasso motets will contribute further variety to the program," Dr. Mahrt concluded.

Logistics

Retreat check-in (with coffee) is at 6:30 p.m. Friday, February 24, at Mater Dei; followed by a 7:30 p.m. rehearsal. Rehearsals continue at 9 a.m. Saturday (coffee and bagels at 8:30 a.m.), and conclude with wine and cheese at about 5 p.m. There is excellent parking at the church.

It is possible not to attend all of the sessions and still sing the Mass on Sunday afternoon. A Sunday morning rehearsal is optional for participants with church music commitments.

After a 1:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon rehearsal at Mater Dei, we will sing the Mass, some motets, and chants, in a concert presentation on Sunday afternoon. Further details will be provided in a welcome letter to participants.

All music will be rehearsed and performed *a capella*. Participants need not be professional singers, but should be proficient readers with a good sense of pitch.

Enrollment, housing, meals

Housing is not available through the workshop. Please note if you need information about area hotels.

Fee for the retreat is \$95; student scholarships are available. Meals are on your own, although there is a possibility of a lunch at the church (planning is still going on).

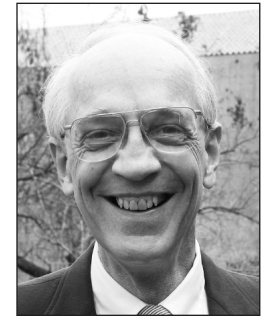
Please return your reservation along with the \$95 participation fee as soon as possible. Refunds for cancellations will be made until February 15, 2017.

Dr. William Mahrt

Dr. Mahrt teaches musicology at Stanford University, Stanford, CA, where he directs the Early Music Singers.

His scholarship centers upon the performance of Medieval and Renaissance music and its relation to liturgy and to music theory. He has also written on music and poetry in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, on Gregorian chant and on the music of Guillaume de Machaut, Orlando di Lasso, and Johannes Brahms. He gives workshops on chant and Renaissance music around the country.

Dr. Mahrt also directs the St. Ann Choir in Palo Alto, CA. He is president of the Church Music Association of America and editor of its journal *Sacred Music*, the oldest continuously-published music journal in the United States. His book, *The Musical Shape of the Liturgy*, was published in 2012. For an article on Dr. Mahrt, go to <http://www.stanfordalumni.org/news/magazine/2003/marapr/showcase/noteworthy.html>.



Renaissance Polyphony Weekend Registration Form

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____
E-Mail _____

My vocal classification:

soprano alto
 tenor bass

I need housing _____

My roommate(s): _____

I would like information on area hotels
and motels _____

Please send me _____ additional brochures for
the Renaissance Polyphony Weekend.

Please send a brochure to _____



Please return this form along with a check
for \$95.00 to:

Renaissance Polyphony Weekend

Susan J. Scheib

9215 Forest Hills Blvd., Dallas TX 75218-3632

E-mail: sjscheib@yahoo.com

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Renaissance Polyphony Weekend 2017

*Missa Quand'io penso
al martire*

Orlando di Lasso

February 24-26, 2017

Mater Dei

Latin Mass Parish, Irving, TX

Leader: Dr. William P. Mahrt
Stanford University, Stanford, California