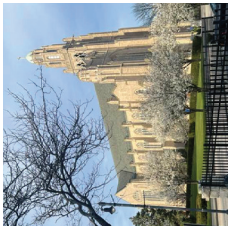


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St. Agnes Cathedral
Office of Music Ministry
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With Organ and Voice: Special Music Events at the Cathedral 2026-2027

With Organ & Voice *Music at Saint Agnes Cathedral* *Rockville Centre, New York*



The Cathedral of St. Agnes
Office of Music Ministry
Rockville Centre, New York
www.StAgnesCathedral.org



Most Rev. John O. Barres, D.D., S.T.D., J.C.L.

Diocesan Bishop

The Very Reverend Michael F. Duffy, Rector



Most Rev. William Murphy, S.T.D., Bishop Emeritus



Michael L. Bower, Director of Music



Maura Goodwin, Associate Director of Music



Rockville Centre Guild for the Arts

American Guild of Organists

Present

With Organ & Voice
Music at Saint Agnes Cathedral
Rockville Centre, New York

Special Music & Concerts *During the 2026 - 2027 Season*

We are now into the third decade of special concerts and services of music at Saint Agnes Cathedral! While there have been concerts in Saint Agnes for many, many years (under the direction of Mrs. Bertha Reilly, Msgr. Williams, Mr. Paul LaMedica, and Mr. Christoph Tietze, to name a few past directors), the present organization of these events began in 2001, when our magnificent new pipe organs were dedicated. This year, we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of our present Concerts Series in St. Agnes Cathedral: With Organ and Voice, Music at Saint Agnes Cathedral. In addition to hundreds of liturgies, the musicians of Saint Agnes, along with outstanding visiting artists, present concerts and special music to enhance the musical and spiritual life of our community. Many of the concerts feature our wonderful pipe organ and at least one of our choirs. Please plan to attend these wonderful events, which are designed to appeal to a variety of ages and musical tastes.

We are especially grateful to all who have collaborated on presenting these events: The Nassau Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and the Rockville Centre Guild for the Arts

The year will open with an Organ Concert by guest artist Gail Archer on October 4, and our Annual Girls Choirs Investiture and Mass on November 21!

To commemorate the Solemnity of Saint Agnes, our Patroness, there will be a Solemn Mass on January 21, 2027: We shall be treated to a presentation of the Westminster Choir on February 6! (Celebrating 100 years of their founding, they are considered the finest Choir in the World!) On March 14, we'll have the Choir of Men and Boys' annual Investiture Ceremony and Mass (100 Singers in our Choir!). On Wednesday of Holy Week: March 24, there will be the Office of Tenebrae, featuring our 16-Voice Cathedral Singers Ensemble, singing some of the most famous choral polyphony from the Renaissance Period of Choral Music

On Friday evening, June 4, the South Shore Symphony will join with Michael Bower for a performance of Albinoni's famous "Adagio," and other orchestral works.

And please join us in New York City for two Special Concerts by our Cathedral Choirs: Thursday Evening, December 17, 7:30 PM in "New" St. Patrick's Cathedral for the Hallmark Christmas Concert; and on Saturday Evening, May 1, 2027 in "Olde" St. Patrick's Cathedral for a Spring Concert, celebrating the Restoration of their 1868 Henry Erben pipe organ!

As well as these special presentations, the choirs, cantors, organists and musicians prepare and help us to pray with BEAUTIFUL music throughout the year, each and every Sunday, holy days (Christmas and Easter), Thanksgiving, Confirmations, First Holy Communions, etc.!

We look forward to seeing you at many of these liturgies and events, and having the opportunity to thank you for your support to our Music Ministry!

All the Very Best,
Michael L. Bower, Director of Music

Sunday, October 4, 7:00 PM
Gail Archer, Concert Organist
In Recital

Suggested Donation of \$20 and \$15

Monday, November 2, 7:30 PM
Mass of All Souls' Day
Cathedral Choirs
Free-will Offering

Saturday, November 21, 4:45 PM
Saint Cecilia Day: Choir Investiture,
Mass and Concert
Saint Agnes Cathedral Junior & Senior Girls Choirs
Free-will Offering

Sunday Afternoon, December 13, 3:00 PM
Christmas Pageant
Presented by the Children of St. Agnes Cathedral Parish
No Donation Required

Thursday, January 21, 7:30 PM Solemn Mass
Commemoration of
The Solemnity of Saint Agnes, Virgin, Martyr
Principal Patroness of the Diocese
and Titular Patroness of the Cathedral
Free-will Offering

Saturday, February 6, 6:00 PM
The Westminster Choir from Princeton, New Jersey
The most celebrated College Choir in the World in Concert
following the 5:00 PM Mass
Suggested Donation of \$25 and \$20

Sunday, March 14
10:30 AM Investiture Ceremony, 11:00 AM Mass
The 100 Voices of the Choir of Men and Boys & Diocesan Boys
and Teens Choir of Rockville Centre
Free-will Offering

Wednesday, March 24, 7:30 PM
The Office of Tenebrae
The Cathedral Singers
Free-will Offering

Friday, June 4, 7:30 PM
The South Shore Symphony & Michael L. Bower
Albinoni "Adagio" and works by Mendelssohn and Sibelius
Suggested Donation of \$25 and \$20

The Cathedral Choirs on the Road!
Two Special Concerts in New York City!

Thursday, December 17, 7:30 PM
Hallmark Christmas Concert
in "New" St. Patrick's Cathedral

Saturday, May 1, 7:30 PM
Spring Concert in "Olde" St. Patrick's Cathedral
In Celebration of the Restoration of the
1868 Henry Erben pipe organ!

With Organ and Voice | Music at Saint Agnes Cathedral | Rockville Centre, New York

Gail Archer, Concert Organist, from Vassar College Sunday, October 4, 7:00 PM



Gail Archer is an international concert organist, recording artist, choral conductor and lecturer who draws attention to composer anniversaries or musical themes with her annual recital series in New York City. These include a Bulgarian Celebration, a Slavic Celebration, Max Reger, The Muse's Voice, An American Idyll, Liszt, Bach, Mendelssohn and Messiaen. Archer was the first American woman to play the complete works of Olivier Messiaen for the centennial of the composer's birth in 2008. Time Out New York recognized the Messiaen cycle as "Best of 2008" in classical music and opera. In spring 2024, Archer received grants from the Harriman Institute, Columbia University and Vassar College to record a new CD of Bulgarian organ literature in the Concert Hall in Dobrich, Bulgaria; the CD, Dobrich A Bulgarian Odyssey was released on April 8, 2025. Her previous recordings include the 2022 Polish release, Cantius, and Chernivtsi, A Russian Journey, The Muse's Voice, Franz Liszt: A Hungarian Rhapsody, Bach: The Transcendent Genius, an American Idyll, A Mystic in the Making (Meyer Media), and The Orpheus of Amsterdam: Sweelinck and his Pupils (CALA Records). Ms. Archer's 2026 European tour took her to Lithuania, Sweden, Poland, Germany, Bulgaria, Italy and the island of Sardegna. Highlights include Tyniec Abbey, Krakow, Poland, St. James Cathedral, Szczecin, Poland, St. Casimir Cathedral, Vilnius, Lithuania, St. Joseph R. C. Church, Sofia, Bulgaria, Church of the Reconciliation, Dresden, Germany, San Lorenzo Cathedral, Grosseto, Italy, and the Cathedral of St. Mary, Alghero, Sardegna.

Archer is the director of the music program at Barnard College, Columbia University, where she conducts the Barnard-Columbia Chorus and Chamber Singers and a faculty member of the Harriman Institute, Columbia University. For the next two years, she will serve as the Co-Deputy Director of the East Central European Center in the Harriman Institute. In May 2026, Archer was awarded an endowed chair at Barnard College, Columbia University, the Mary E. Larkin Joline Professor of Music. She is artistic director of the artist and young artist organ recital series at historic Central Synagogue, New York City.

SUGGESTED DONATION: \$20 & \$15

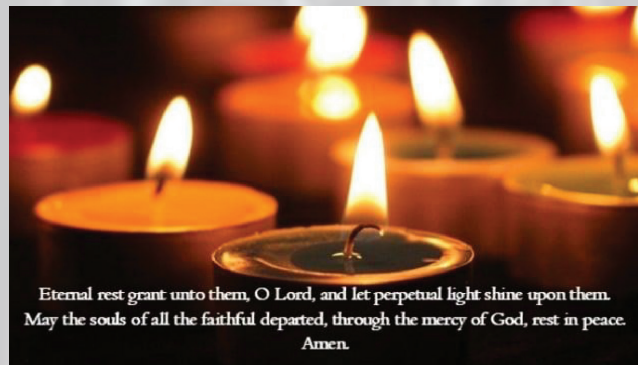
Solemn Mass of All Souls' Day Monday, November 2, 7:30 PM

The Church prays in the Requiem Mass that the holy souls in purgatory may enter into the eternal rest of heaven. While the texts contain stark reminders of final judgment, they are also filled with hope because of the redemption won for us by Jesus Christ in his saving passion and death on the Cross.

On All Souls' Day, "the Church offers the eucharistic sacrifice and its own intercession for the dead... in the yearly remembrance of all the sons and daughters of the Church who sleep in Christ. The Church seeks to help the faithful departed by earnest prayer to God for their entry into the communion of saints in heaven. In this way, because of the communion of all Christ's members with one another, the Church obtains spiritual help for the dead and brings the consolation of hope to the living." (Ceremonial of Bishops, §395).

Please join us as we pray for the repose of the souls of our loved ones who have gone before us, and of all the faithful departed.

FREE-WILL OFFERING



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.

Saint Cecilia Investiture, Mass, Concert Saturday, November 21, 4:45 PM Saint Agnes Junior and Senior Girls' Choirs; Maura Goodwin, Director

The St. Agnes Cathedral Junior and Senior Girls Choirs are very excited to share their annual St. Cecilia Choir Investiture and Mass with you! We ask the special patronage of St. Cecilia for the Girls Choirs during their Choir Investiture. St. Cecilia was a young Roman virgin and martyr, who died in the second century for her faith in Christ. She is the patron saint of music and musicians.

During our special Investiture Ceremony, we'll welcome our newest choristers into the Girls' Choir! The Mass and Concert will feature our young musicians, grades 3 through 8, as they sing their hearts to God. The girls are excited to share some of their favorite choir pieces with you! Following the Concert, please join us for a reception in the Msgr. James P. Kelly Parish Center to congratulate our young singers. We ask for the special intercession of St. Cecilia, as we give honor and glory to God through sacred music.

FREE-WILL OFFERING



The Christmas Story Sunday, December 13, 3:00 PM

For almost 35 years, the families of St. Agnes Parish have been treated to this wonderful re-telling of the Christmas Story, presented by the Children. Please join us again this year, to see and hear music, words, costumes, and pageantry—an opportunity to remind us of the TRUE meaning of the Season. The singing will be led by our Children's Choirs.



NO DONATION REQUIRED

Commemoration of the Solemnity of Saint Agnes, Virgin, Martyr Thursday, January 21, 2027, 7:30 PM Solemn Mass



Saint Agnes, Virgin and Martyr, is the patroness of our cathedral and diocese. We will celebrate this great feast with two days of celebration, including Solemn Vespers and Solemn Mass.

An important martyr in the early Church, Saint Agnes is mentioned in the second listing of saints in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I). Born in 291 AD, she was raised in a Christian family. Saint Agnes was very beautiful and highly sought after for marriage. However, she made a promise to God never to stain her purity. Her love for our Lord was so great that whenever a man wished to marry her, she would say, "Jesus Christ is my only spouse!" During a persecution, she was ordered to sacrifice to the pagan gods or be violated. She was tortured, but preserving her virginity, she was martyred and finally saw her heavenly spouse.

FREE-WILL OFFERING

The Westminster Choir Saturday, February 6, 6:00 PM

The Westminster Choir from Princeton, New Jersey will perform a Concert at 6:00 PM (following the 5 PM Mass) on Saturday Evening, February 6, right here in our Cathedral.

For just over 100 years, The Westminster Choir has set the bar for Excellence in Choral singing. The Westminster Choir is the BEST College Choir in the World. I hope you will be able to join us for this rare treat. The Choir will sing a few selections at the 5 PM Mass, and then perform a Concert which will last just about one hour. Then you may enjoy dinner following the Concert!



Please join us for this wonderful event.

**SUGGESTED DONATION:
\$25 & \$20**

Boys' Choir Investiture Sunday, March 14, 10:30 AM

Our Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys and the Diocesan Boys and Teens Choir of Rockville Centre have a rich history here in Rockville Centre and beyond. Beginning its 67th year, the flourishing 100 voice Cathedral Choirs will invest the new Probationers (first year singers) into the Choir and sing for the 11:00 AM Mass. Veteran singers will also be recognized.

The Choir was begun at the request of the first Bishop of our Diocese, the late Most Reverend Walter P. Kellenberg. Early special performances include performing with Leonard Bernstein at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and at Shea Stadium for His Holiness, Pope St. John Paul II. Under the direction of Mr. Bower, the choir has continued to travel and perform in many places, including, the White House, Lincoln Center, the Vatican, and with Gerald Wirth in Vienna, Austria.



FREE-WILL OFFERING

The Office of Tenebrae Wednesday, March 24, 7:30 PM

A new favorite at Saint Agnes, drawing from an ancient tradition, the hauntingly beautiful Office of Tenebrae commemorates the betrayal, death, and burial of Christ. In days of old, it comprised the Church's early morning prayers, though it would be anticipated on the night before. The image of light and darkness



is prominent in this celebration, as fifteen candles will be extinguished gradually, symbolizing the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples.

The prayer will begin with the Office of Readings from the Church's current Liturgy of the Hours with the chanting of the psalms and reading from scripture. It will continue with other distinctive elements of the traditional Office of Tenebrae, readings from sacred scripture and early Church Fathers, as well as the singing of the Lamentations of Jeremiah, and the Allegri "Miserere," which was originally composed for the Office of Tenebrae. The congregation will be engaged in the prayers and singing, while at the same time, masterpieces will be brought out from the Church's treasury of sacred music to enhance our prayer.



FREE-WILL OFFERING

South Shore Symphony and Michael L. Bower, Organist Adam Glaser, Conductor Friday, June 4, 7:30 PM



Albinoni: Adagio, Organ & Strings, G minor
Mendelssohn: A Midsummer Night's Dream:
Concert Suite
Sibelius: Symphony No. 5 in Eb major, op. 82

The South Shore Symphony and the Cathedral Music Program celebrate 28 years of collaboration and the beginning of summer with a concert featuring three gorgeous works. The concert begins with St. Agnes Cathedral Music Director Michael Bower as the organ soloist in Albinoni's "Adagio," for Organ & Strings, in G minor, followed by selections from Felix Mendelssohn's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." The concert and season both conclude with the majestic beauty of Jean Sibelius's "Symphony No. 5 in E-flat Major."

SUGGESTED DONATION: \$25 & \$20

The Cathedral Choirs on the Road! Two Special Concerts in New York City!

Christmas Concert in St. Patrick's Cathedral Thursday Evening, December 17, 7:00 PM 5th Avenue, New York City

St. Agnes Cathedral Choirs
St. Patrick's Cathedral Choir and Guests
Dr. Jennifer Pascual Conductor



The St. Agnes Cathedral Choirs will again have the wonderful honour to sing in this Annual Concert in the Archdiocesan Cathedral. Traditional Carols and Choral works will be presented, and all are invited to join in this Celebration.

**Please Contact St. Patrick's
Cathedral for Suggested
Donation Ticketing**

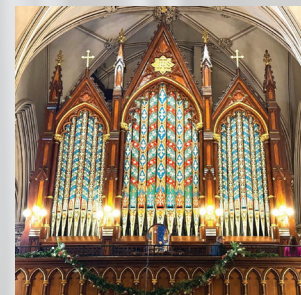
Concert in "Olde" St. Patrick's Cathedral Basilica Saturday Evening, May 1, 7:30 PM Mulberry Street, New York City

The St. Agnes Cathedral Choirs • The St. Patrick's Basilica Choirs • Dr. Jared Lamenzo Conductor
The Newly Restored 1868 Henry Erben Pipe Organ

The Cathedral Choirs will have the honour to perform in "Olde" St. Patrick's Cathedral Basilica as their Community and the City of New York celebrate the restoration of their historic organ which was first constructed in 1868.

The Choirs will present a number of favorite works from their treasury to include the use of the organ!

FREE-WILL OFFERING



SPECIAL MUSIC AND CONCERTS DURING THE 2026 - 2027 SEASON