

As we make our way into the Lenten season, the choir is fast at work on several extraordinary pieces of music that should be new to the Parish. During the first three weeks of Lent, the Ladies of the Choir will be singing the serene *Messe Basse pour Voix de Femmes* of Gabriel Fauré, with Jade Blocker, Caroline Carr and Maggie Pavlovich as soloists. This will be followed by the soaring, yet haunting melodies of McNeil Robinson's *Missa Brevis* during the final two weeks of Lent and on Palm Sunday. This season of self-reflection and renewal will include anthems by such composers as Brahms, Rutter, Howells, Duruflé, Wood and Bairstow, as well as David Friedell, who shares a personal history with the town of Manhasset.

On Easter (April 4), we will continue our exploration of the choral masses of Joseph Haydn with the monumental *Missa in Augustinis* ("Mass for troubled times"), more commonly known as the Lord Nelson/Imperial Mass in D minor. Perhaps the most ambitious undertaking the Christ Church choir has ever accepted, this masterpiece utilizes the full extent of the Classical voice paired with the flawless craftsmanship of one of history's greatest musical minds. Written during Haydn's later period, it is the perfect offering for the troubled times we currently face—juxtaposing nearly profane expostulations of despair and anguished confusion with exuberant outbursts of deep joy and ecstasy. Haydn's presentation is utterly without irony—the idea that the world may be beset with dangers and terrors, but at the same time it is a glorious place of diverse miracles and incomparable beauty. It will feature a Classical-era chamber string orchestra and the operatic, virtuoso solos will be masterfully sung by our gifted section leaders (Hannah Fuerst, soprano; Harriet Kapner, mezzo soprano; Brian Harris, tenor; and Vaughn Fritts, baritone).

Fitting into an altered version of the "Family Eucharist" format at 11 A.M., the Easter service will also include anthems by both the Chancel *and* Chapel Choirs. Please mark your calendars and be sure NOT to miss what will surely be a most spectacular musical celebration of the Resurrection. Prior to that service, there will be an informal celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 9 A.M., with special music provided by Brian Harris, tenor, and Akiko Kobayashi, violinist.

## **MUSICAL OFFERINGS DURING LENT AND HOLY WEEK 2010**

### Ash Wednesday (February 17) – 7:30 P.M.

Mass setting by Gerald R. Near

### The First Sunday of Lent (February 21) – 10:00 A.M.

Gabriel Fauré – *Messe Basse pour Voix de Femmes* (Jade Blocker, Caroline Carr, Maggie Pavlovich, soloists)

Richard Farrant – "Call to remembrance, O Lord"

John Rutter – "A Gaelic blessing"

### The Second Sunday of Lent (February 28) – 10:00 A.M.

Gabriel Fauré – *Messe Basse pour Voix de Femmes*

Henry Purcell – "Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts"

Charles Wood – "Expectans expectavi – This sanctuary of my soul"

### The Third Sunday of Lent (March 7) – 10:00 A.M.

Gabriel Fauré – *Messe Basse pour Voix de Femmes*

Edward C. Bairstow – "Jesu, the very thought of thee"

John Blow – "Let my prayer come up"

### The Fourth Sunday of Lent / Mid-Lent (March 14) – 10:00 A.M.

McNeil Robinson – *Missa Brevis*

Herbert Howells – “Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks”  
Henry Walford Davies – “God be in my head”

The Fifth Sunday of Lent (March 21) – 10:00 A.M.

McNeil Robinson – *Missa Brevis*  
David V. Friedell – “Lord, thou hast searched me”  
Maurice Duruflé – “Notre Père,” Op. 14

The Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday (March 28) – 10:00 A.M.

Churchyard Procession and Triumphal Entry  
McNeil Robinson – *Missa Brevis*  
A. Sevinson – “Sing Hosanna!” (Chapel Choir)  
Thomas Morley – “Nolo mortem peccatoris”  
McNeil Robinson – “Improperium”

Maundy Thursday (April 1) – 7:30 P.M.

Mass setting by McNeil Robinson and Franz Schubert  
Michael Sitton – “Tantum ergo”  
Andrew Lloyd Webber – “Pie Jesu” from *Requiem* (Jade Blocker and Caroline Carr, soloists)

Good Friday (April 2) – 12:00 Noon & 7:30 P.M.

Solemn observance of Good Friday with the singing of hymns

The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord / Easter Sunday (April 4) – 9:00 A.M.

Mass setting by William Mathias  
Frances Allitsen – “The Lord is my light” (Brian Harris, tenor)  
Special music by Johann Sebastian Bach and Ludwig van Beethoven (Akiko Kobayashi, violinist)

The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord / Easter Sunday (April 4) – 11:00 A.M.

Joseph Haydn – *Missa in Augustinis* (“Lord Nelson Mass”) in D minor, Hob. XXII:11  
Mary Caldwell – “Polish Easter Carol” (Chapel Choir)  
Great Easter hymns for choir, congregation, orchestra and organ