Hark! The Angels’ Herald

 Youth Chorale/Schola Newsletter: September 2019

**Director’s Notes**: We are thrilled your sons/daughters have elected to join our choir program for the 2019-20 season. Thank you for supporting them in this important ministry. As I explained to the children, their voices are a gift from God and a powerful tool of evangelization for our parish. We’d like to give a warm welcome to our new music minister, Mr. Justin Umbarger. He has taught choir in middle school and is excited to work with our students. This will also be an exciting year as Mr. Koester and I will welcome our first daughter into the world in mid to late November! Mrs. Lindquist, a former music teacher, choir and band director at Our Lady of Good Counsel School, and current director of the Cathedral Choir Academy at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, has graciously agreed to guide us through the Christmas season in my absence. I plan to return in January.

**Rehearsals:** Rehearsals for **Youth Chorale** (grades 3-5) will take place every **Thursday** in the music room from 3:25-4:15, after which I will dismiss them in the courtyard at the flag pole. **Schola** rehearsals (grades 6-8) are **Wednesdays** from 3:25-4:15. If school is cancelled, not in session, or it is a half day, we will not rehearse.

For the safety of your children and as per the archdiocesan guidelines, if your child is in school but **unable to attend the rehearsal or a scheduled event**, or if they are leaving with someone other than a parent, **please contact me at** J.Koester@starpg.org or call (313)884-1070 ex. 1431.

**Masses**: Every voice is critical and impacts our ability to sing the anthems we’ve worked so hard to prepare. If you are unable to make it due to a serious conflict I need to know ahead of time. Also, just like sports, warm-ups (which are normally scheduled ½ hr. before the event begins) impact the quality of our sound production dramatically. Make sure your children arrive promptly for each warm-up.

**Choir Attire:** Each choir member’s fee covers the cost of a choir polo which will be theirs to keep. They will be distributed before our Mass on Oct. 27th. Our uniform will consist of that polo, khaki pants or (optional) skirts of appropriate length, and school dress shoes. If the weather is cold a matching or neutral-colored sweater is recommended. *Please take note that on* ***September 29th******we will wear our Friday Mass School Uniforms*** *due to our first Mass being so early in the season this year.*

**Yearly Schedule:** Our yearly schedule is attached and will be posted/updated monthly with your newsletter and on **olsosmusic.weebly.com.** For your convenience, we make every effort to plan ahead and we thank you in advance for making the allowances necessary to include these commitments in your monthly schedules.

 In His love,

 Mrs. Koester

2019-20 Youth Chorale/Schola Schedule

**All events are lead by Youth Chorale and Schola wearing their choir uniform unless otherwise noted in italics.**

**Thursday September 19th 3:30-4:15- *Kickoff/Pizza Party for Youth Chorale and Schola***

**Sunday September 29th 9:30 Mass: Feast of OLSOS**

Wear ***Friday Mass school* *uniform***, **9:00** warm-up in church choir room

**Sunday October 27th 9:30 Mass**

Wear **choir uniforms** (blue choir polo and khaki pants or skirt), **9:00 warm-up** in church choir room

**Sunday (evening) December 1st: Caroling for Tree Lighting at GPS City Hall**

*Wear warm clothes (no leggings or sweatpants please), we will be outside!*

***Schola only: Friday December 6th****: Sacred Heart Major Seminary Centennial Christmas Celebration, evening performance with Cathedral Choir Academy. (More info to follow.)*

**Thursday December 12th: No rehearsal! Christmas Concert at 1:30 & 6:30 pm in church**

***Schola and Youth Chorale*: Wednesday December 18th: Extended Rehearsal for Christmas Eve/Christmas Pizza Party**

**3:25-5:00 pm;** rehearsal in church, dismissal as usual in court yard. No rehearsal on Thursday 12-19

**Tuesday December 24th 4:00 Christmas Eve Mass (3:00 warm-up)**

 Wear *Christmas Concert* ***formal attire*** instead of your choir uniform, warm-up at 3:00.

**Sunday January 26th ?????? Mass: Kick-off Catholic Schools Week/Open House**

Wear choir uniforms, **?????** warm-up in church choir room

**Wednesday March 11th and Thursday March 12th: No rehearsals!**

\*Please join us for Disney’s Beauty and the Beast Jr., performed by our musical drama class on Thursday March 12th at 1:30 or 7:00 and/or Friday March 13th at 7:00!

**Sunday March ????????**

Wear **choir uniforms**, **9:00 warm-up**

**Sunday April 5th 9:30 Mass: Palm Sunday**

Wear choir uniforms, **9:00** warm-up in church choir room

**Thursday April 9th 7:00 pm Mass: Holy Thursday**

Wear choir uniforms, warm-up 6:15

**Sunday May 3rd 9:30 Mass: Good Shepherd Sunday**

Wear choir uniforms, **9:00** warm-up in church choir room

**Thursday May 7th- End of year pizza party for Schola and Youth Chorale members!**

(No Schola rehearsal Wednesday.)

*Dates for St. Joseph Festival and other opportunities in the second half of the year will be shared via email and in the monthly newsletter as soon as they are confirmed. Please make sure you are always checking our latest month’s schedule.*

 Updated 9/4/18