Members of the Resurrection Choir, Cantate Domino Choir & St. Cecilia Choir of St. John Cantius went on a musical pilgrimage to Italy in November, 2013. Joined by the St. Joseph College Choir, Rensselaer, IN, our musical forces swelled to nearly 95 voices. We even brought our own string orchestra, as members of the Resurrection Orchestra joined us. With over 50 friends, parishioners and relatives traveling with the choir, everyone saved their pennies to go on this musical adventure of a lifetime. Memorable moments include concerts in Rome at the Church of the Gesù, where St. Ignatius of Loyola began the Jesuits, and at St. Philip Neri’s Chiesa Nuova. We were privileged to sing Schubert’s “Mass in G” at a Pontifical Latin High Mass offered by Cardinal Raymond Leo Burke at St. Mary Major.

Singing at St. Peter’s, Vatican City, would be a once in a lifetime achievement for any church musician, but we were privileged to sing there thrice. Firstly, at the tomb of Palestrina, the “Prince of Music” (Princeps Musicae), we sang a Latin High Mass in the St. Joseph Chapel. It was very special to sing Palestrina’s famous “Sicut cervus” where he is buried. Secondly, we sang the Latin High Mass offered by the Canons at St. Peter’s on 11-17-13 to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Vatican’s Cappella Giulia, a choir once conducted by Palestrina, which today is conducted by Fr. Pierre Paul, OMV, a friend of the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius. And thirdly, to conclude the choral festival celebrating Cappella Giulia’s anniversary, we sang Vespers for the Dedication of the Basilica of St. Peter. God bless Fr. Pierre Paul, OMV, who is Cappella Giulia’s current Director, for his invitation to our choirs!
Mark your calendar for Bach’s B Minor Mass

The St. Cecilia Choir of St. John Cantius Church of Chicago will sing the beautiful “B Minor Mass” of Johann Sebastian Bach in concert at St. John Cantius on Saturday, March 8, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. The two hour performance features Choir and Organ and everyone is invited. One can obtain tickets online at www.cantius.org.

In conjunction with this special concert, the Patrons of Sacred Music are having their Annual Fundraising Dinner at 6:00 pm before the 7:30 pm concert. This gourmet dinner is $500 per plate, and will be served in the beautiful dining room of the rectory of St. John Cantius. It is a wonderful occasion to meet other members of the Patrons of Sacred Music, as well as the Priests of St. John Cantius, and to share your love for the sacred art of music, which we foster at St. John Cantius.

6:00 pm Annual Fundraising Dinner  
$500 per person (Dinner and Concert)

7:30 pm Concert Tickets  
$20 (Adult), $15 (Seniors/Students), $10 (Youth)

The Spirituality of the B Minor Mass

Over 300 years ago, a man was born who loved God and music with all of his heart, soul, and mind. This man was Johann Sebastian Bach. This man experienced emotion, pain, and suffering the likes of which you and I should hope never to see. Both of his parents died when he was ten. In his mid thirties, his wife and mother of seven children died (three of their children had already died). Only six of the thirteen progeny of his second marriage survived childhood.

In Bach’s music, we hear at times his sadness, but we hear more often great joy, humor, and zest for life. We also hear the heartbeat of one possessed of profound reverence and devotion. It is a genuine reverence which is so evident in his B Minor Mass.

C. S. Lewis, wrote: ‘We read to know that we are not alone.’ This, I think, is a very good starting place for why we do any art. We agonize through ‘Schindler’s List’ and laugh through Shakespeare’s ‘Much Ado About Nothing,’ we admire the youthful strength and idealism of Michelangelo’s David, marvel before Ghiberti’s Gates of Paradise, and reverence Leonardo’s Last Supper, to know that we are not alone. We shrink in horror as we approach the lower regions of Dante’s ‘Inferno’ and hear the shriek of Penderecki’s ‘Threnody’ to know that we are not alone. This is part of what the arts do for the human soul. And Bach does it in a most profound way. As we hear the B Minor Mass of Bach, we know we are not alone, for the love of God surrounds us through this music.
The Patrons of Sacred Music completed a grand pipe organ project in 2013 with the restoration and installation of “Tina Mae,” our 1926 Casavant pipe organ (Op. 1130). Over 2 million dollars was raised thanks to the generosity of donors to carry out this work.

The organ recitals we are now having not only give our parish members an opportunity to enjoy this grand instrument, but these musical occasions provide music lovers from all over the Chicago area the enjoyment of hearing the sublime sound of this instrument. These recitals also assist us to raise funds to pay off the remaining invoices and debts on our organ installation project:

Thanks to the kindness of Chris Martin and Margaret Martin, we are having a special Trumpet and Organ Recital on March 30, 2014, which we hope will help to alleviate this debt.

Christopher Martin, our featured soloist, was appointed principal trumpet of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 2005 by Daniel Barenboim. Martin came to the CSO from his previous position as principal trumpet of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Before joining the Atlanta Symphony, Martin was associate principal trumpet of the Philadelphia Orchestra. He has performed as guest principal trumpet with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Seattle Symphony, the Grand Teton Music Festival and the Saito Kinen Festival. Christopher is also an adjunct faculty member of Northwestern University.

Martin, a native of Marietta, Georgia, comes from a musical family. His father is a band director for a prestigious Georgia private school, his mother sings in the Atlanta Symphony Chorus and his brother is an alumnus of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. His early teachers were Larry Black and James Thompson, both formerly of the Atlanta Symphony. He received his bachelor’s degree in trumpet performance in 1997 from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, where his primary teachers were Charles Geyer and Barbara Butler. Martin can be heard on CSO Resound as well as Atlanta Symphony recordings on the Telarc label.

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**Remaining Debt on the Organ Project:**

$43,079

Engineering and Inspection: $8,528
Construction Costs: $10,991
Sound Isolation for the Organ Blower: $7,560
Financial Loan: $16,000

**Make donations payable to “Organ Fund”**

Organ Fund, Patrons of Sacred Music
825 N. Carpenter St.
Chicago, IL 60642

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**TRUMPET & ORGAN RECITAL**

Benefit Fundraiser for our Casavant, Op. 1130 (“Tina Mae”)

**Chris Martin, Trumpet**
Principal Trumpet—Chicago Symphony Orchestra

**Margaret Martin, Organ**

Sunday, March 30, 2014

1:45 pm : Lunch in the Café San Giovanni, Lower Level
2:45 pm : Concert in Church

$20 (Adult), $15 (Seniors/Students), $10 (Youth 6-18)

Get tickets online at www.cantius.org
Call toll-free: 1-800-838-3006
As the Patrons of Sacred Music strive to present the finest music at the Holy Sacrifice of Mass, we hope that the artistry & beauty of our music will help many people rediscover the beauty of God, whose voice is heard so clearly through music. We realize that without financial development, the continuation of sacred music would be in jeopardy. Thus, in solidarity with the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius, whose mission it is “to restore the sacred,” the Patrons of Sacred Music are now conducting a “Raffle Fundraiser” fundraiser to support the choirs and orchestras at St. John Cantius as they make their musical offering before God.

After the 12:30 p.m. Latin High Mass on Sunday, May 18, all are invited to attend the Raffle Drawing as we thank God for helping us raise the funds we need to restore the sacred through music. At the Raffle Drawing, we will also enjoy an afternoon of Austrian food, music & dance with beautiful lilting waltzes by Richard Strauss performed by string quartet (Quartet Fidelis). As this music delights our ears, our eyes will be amazed by the elegant Viennese waltz program.

We hope you will support this modest effort to make it a great success! I thank you in advance for your support and interest. May God bless the sacrifices you make to assist us in restoring the beauty of our Catholic faith through sacred music.

Fr. C. Frank Phillips, C.R. President of A.M.D.G.