

# Tridentine Community News

January 29, 2023 – Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

## *Detroit to Host the 2023 Sacred Music Colloquium of the Church Music Association of America*

Last Saturday, January 21, the Church Music Association of America announced that the 2023 Sacred Music Colloquium will be held in Detroit, Monday – Saturday, June 19 – 24. One of the largest traditional liturgical conferences held in any country, the Colloquium brings together approximately 300 singers and musicians of all levels of experience from across the world who are seeking to improve their talents in singing Gregorian Chant and sacred polyphony, organ playing, and conducting. People from novices to experts attend; no prerequisites are necessary.

First, some history: A few years ago, Detroit was in the running to host a Sacra Liturgia conference. In order to be considered, we were required to provide the following:

- 1) Relatively inexpensive housing for attendees, close to classroom and music rehearsal space
- 2) Public transit that people could use to get from their housing to the church(es) where the principal liturgies would be held
- 3) Architecturally significant, acoustically impressive church(es) with a grand pipe organ to host the liturgies
- 4) Local volunteers to coordinate and administer the daily operations of the conference, including ticketing, reception, and meals
- 5) A bus tour of historic churches in the area

Detroit was indeed able to offer all of the above. Wayne State University offered its campus, largely unused during the summer months, both for housing and for classroom and auditorium space. Old St. Mary's Church offered to host the liturgies. The QLINE streetcar and the Detroit People Mover provided the requisite transportation between Wayne State and Old St. Mary's. A bus tour was no problem. Many readers of this column would provide the volunteer corps.

Only one thing was missing: The bishops of the other cities in the running proactively reached out and solicited the organizers of Sacra Liturgia to come to their cities. It didn't matter how good we were in other aspects; without a bishop's personal outreach effort, Detroit was not able to compete. Interestingly, one of the cities whose bishop did reach out was ultimately unable to round up the necessary volunteers, so that year's conference was scrapped.

Fast forward to 2022. Sacra Liturgia was held in San Francisco, which offered all of the above enticements. Indeed, this writer ran the bus tour of historic San Francisco churches. One of the organizers of Sacra Liturgia is also one of the Church Music

Association's Colloquium organizers and was aware of the effort Detroit had put forth to solicit the former conference. This was considered a benefit to the organizers: essentially all of our plans for Sacra Liturgia could be replicated to host the Colloquium.

And so the lectures, music practice sessions, and living quarters will be provided by Wayne State. All of the liturgies will be held at Old St. Mary's. A bus tour of Detroit's historic churches – and a separate talk about those churches, both led by this writer – are on the schedule.

World-famous musical talent will comprise the faculty, including (San Francisco) St. Patrick Seminary music director Dr. Jennifer Donelson-Nowicka; London Oratory Schola music director Charles Cole; and Detroit's own Horst Buchholz, music director of the Archdiocese of Detroit and Blessed Sacrament Cathedral.



A full schedule of events and registration information is available at: <https://www.churchmusicassociation.org/colloquium/>

The liturgies and their associated exceptional music are open to the public, free of charge. You do not need to be registered for the conference to attend the liturgies. Both Ordinary and Extraordinary Form Masses are planned.

Episode 21 of Extraordinary Faith covered a previous Sacred Music Colloquium in Pittsburgh. Watch this episode if you would like to see what this event will be like:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-RXI-6INTls>

It is a great honor for our region to host such a major event. We hope you will be able to join us for some of the liturgies if not for the entire conference.

## *Tridentine Masses This Coming Week*

Thu. 02/02 12:00 Noon: High Mass at *Holy Family, Detroit* (Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary) – Blessing of Candles and Procession precedes Mass

Thu. 02/02 7:00 PM: High Mass at *Our Lady of the Scapular* (Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

Thu. 02/02 7:00 PM: High Mass at *St. Thomas the Apostle, Ann Arbor* (Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary) – Blessing of Candles and Procession precedes Mass

Fri. 02/03 7:00 PM: High Mass at *Old St. Mary's* (St. Blase, Bishop & Martyr) – Celebrant: Fr. Joe Tuskiewicz. Devotions to the Sacred Heart before Mass. Blessing of Throats after Mass. Reception in the parish hall follows.

Sun. 02/05 9:00 AM: High Mass at *OCLMA/Orchard Lake Shrine Chapel* (Septuagesima Sunday) – Blessing of Throats after Mass.

Sun. 02/05 2:00 PM: High Mass at *St. Benedict/Holy Name of Mary, Windsor* (Septuagesima Sunday) – Blessing of Throats after Mass.