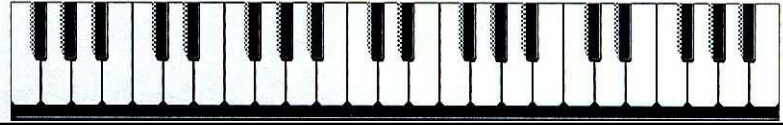


In - CHOIR - Et

Publication of the
Greek Orthodox Metropolis
of San Francisco
Church Music Federation



SPRING 2009



Beloved Church Musicians, Christos Anesti!

May 2009

“O Christ You have destroyed Hades and in Your Resurrection You have Resurrected humanity. Make us worthy in purity of heart to praise You, glorifying You with song.”

Praises – Paschal Orthros

Singing and chanting during our Divine services is truly a special way to give glory and honor to the Lord. By offering your time and talent to the Church through your service as choir members, chanters, organists and directors, you are demonstrating true Christian stewardship and this example should be emulated by others.

The Paschal season gives us many beautiful hymns which tell of the joy of the Lord's Resurrection. In the Paschal Kontakion, “*I Kai En Tafo*”, we learn that the Lord announced to the Myrrh-bearing women “Rejoice”, brought peace to His apostles, and bestowed Resurrection upon the fallen. What a full message of joy, hope and love we hear each Sunday from Pascha through the Feast of the Lord's Ascension.

I extend to you my paternal blessings and gratitude for all that you offer to the Church through your music ministry. May the Lord richly bless you with every good and perfect gift from above this Paschal season and always.

With Love in Our Risen Lord,

✠**Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco**

A FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Greetings to all my fellow church musicians!

Christos Anesti! I pray that all of you had a beautiful Lenten and Paschal season. Another Federation year is coming to a close with our Church Music Conference hosted by **Sts. Constantine and Helen** in Cardiff by the Sea, California on June 25-28, 2009. Our friends at the parish are eagerly awaiting everyone's arrival.

This year we are paying tribute to the late **Dr. Frank Desby**. His son, **Neal Desby** will be our guest conductor along with **Christopher Yokas** as our guest organist. We are very pleased to have Neal and Chris with us. Belmont's own **Eva Canellos** will be our guest conductor for our youth. She is so talented and loves to work with the kids. It is sure to be a fun time for them. I ask that all of you please send your kids for a great weekend. **Fr. Deno Pappademos** will be working with our chant group. I know that I want to chant under his direction.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank **Carol Pekras** and the hosting parish for all the work they have put in to making our Conference come together. I am looking forward to a great weekend of prayer, fellowship, and song with all of you. If you have not made your reservations yet or sent in your registration, please see the enclosed information.

I would like to take an opportunity to thank my hard working board for another year of team work. I could not do this without all of them. God Bless them!

See you in Cardiff!

Singing His Praises,

Kathy Loukatos Meck
President

The *In-Choir-Er*

A publication of the
Greek Orthodox Metropolitan of
San Francisco
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IN MEMORIAM

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our good friend, **Tom Lappas**, also known as "Tommy" to many people.

Tom, along with his best friend, Composer **Frank Desby**, and others founded the **Greek Sacred and Secular Music Society**. That project was Tom's labor of love for decades -- an amazing effort that made available many liturgical works by composers of the Greek Orthodox Church such as **Dr. Desby, Dr. Tikey Zes, Steve Cardiasmenos** and many others.

Tom was an active member of the Saint Sophia Choir in Los Angeles for many years, Saint Katherine's Church in Redondo Beach and most recently, Assumption in Long Beach. He was also a long-time supporter of the Federation and the National Forum of Church Musicians. The Forum awarded him the **Saint Romanos Medallion** for Exemplary Archdiocesan Service. In 2007, the Church Music Federation honored Tom with the **St. John the Damascene and St. Cosmas the Melodist Award** for his dedication and outstanding service to our Federation. He attended numerous Church Music Conferences and even served as Chairman of the 1989 Conference hosted by Saint Sophia in Los Angeles.

Tom loved music, and his church, but more than anything, he adored his family. Many a choir member heard Tom often "gush" about his wonderful children. Tom always made it a point to pass along a kind word, a warm hug, a beautiful smile or loving words to everyone with whom he came in contact.

The Greek Orthodox Metropolitan of San Francisco Church Music Federation will miss Tom who truly loved the music ministry of the church with all of his heart and soul. His legacy of dedication lives on forever.

Many of us are better Orthodox Christian musicians because of Tom. The Greek Orthodox Music Ministry is stronger because of Tom's efforts. Tom, we will never forget you. May you know the glory of God.

IT IS COMING QUICKLY!

Church Music Conference
June 25th to 28th

The community of **Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church** is busily preparing for your arrival at the 2009 Church Music Federation Conference, June 25th through June 28th. We are excited to have you with us!

The events will take place at our church, the Del Mar Marriott San Diego, and aboard the Midway Aircraft Carrier, where dinner will be served on the flight deck after a tour of this historic vessel.

The blending of the voices from so many parishes will unite in praise to God during the Hierarchical Liturgy with **Metropolitan Gerasimos**. This will be a very memorable time together....make your plans to be with us.

We are especially honored to have as Guest Conductor **Neal Desby**, son of **Dr. Frank Desby**, noted choir director and composer/arranger of liturgical music. Neal will be directing his father's highly respected and widely-used music. Joining **Neal Desby** will be **Christopher Yokas** as our guest Organist, **Eva Canellos** as our guest Youth Director and **Father Constantine Pappademos** as guest Chant Director. Exceptional leadership for an exceptional experience....you won't want to miss it!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me at capekras@att.net or call me at 858-720-0125. See you then!

Carol Pekras
Conference Chairperson

YOUNG SINGERS, SET YOUR COURSE FOR CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA!

By Eva Canellos, Conference Youth Choir Director

Ahoy there, young matesys! Sail to Cardiff-by-the-Sea and drop anchor at the annual Metropolis Church Music Conference, June 25-28. You won't want to miss all the fun, including an awesome dinner-tour aboard the aircraft carrier museum, USS Midway!

That's right, we'll storm the gangway, batten down the hatches and explore this huge Navy vessel from top to bottom. You'll go overboard with excitement (that's just a figure of speech, please stay on the ship) when you spy the two dozen aircraft on the deck, the ship's jail, crew's sleeping quarters, engine room, massive galley, and more (see www.midway.org)!

As if that weren't enough to get you clamoring aboard, you'll also splash your way to fun with a beach/pool party; you'll shake your booty (ahem, that's just another figure of speech) at the dinner-dance; and you'll have a blast with

other Orthodox young people from various churches in our Metropolis.

You'll also learn and sing portions of the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at Sts. Constantine and Helen Church in beautiful Cardiff, located in northern San Diego County. And you'll enjoy the spotlight as you perform at the big banquet!

So get your gear (and your family) and cast off for Cardiff! Young people ages 8 ½ to 17 who love to sing and have fun should register NOW for this fabulous Conference and contact me, Eva Canellos, to get your rehearsal music CD! Practice the music at home, and then we'll sing as a beautiful Youth Choir when we get to the Conference!



A dinner-tour aboard the historic USS Midway aircraft carrier museum awaits Conference Youth Choir singers!

Contact Eva Canellos at

cecanellos@aol.com, or (650) 529-0180.

KATHERINE TRAPP YOUTH MUSIC AWARD

Our beloved Kathy Trapp served as our Church Music Federation's first youth music specialist. She lovingly taught our youth to sing our orthodox hymnology. Her legacy lives on today by acknowledging youth musicians in our parishes who demonstrate a love for church music through singing, chanting, and/or playing the organ.

Children must be between the ages of 8-18 and nominated by their Parish Priest and one of the following: Choir Director, Youth Choir Director, Organist, Sunday School Teacher or Protopsaltai.

Please send application forms to **Dr. Chris Vitakes**, 1353 "C" Street, Hayward, CA 94541, or Fax to: 707-745-1995. Deadline is **Saturday, May 30th, 2009**. All nomination forms must be signed by the parish priest.

ARCHDIOCESAN LISTSERV

The Federation is in communication with the Archdiocesan office of Internet Ministries in order to implement the web site begun last year and to set up a public ListServ e-mail mailing list. This ListServer would allow sending announcements to the 560 individuals who have provided us with an e-mail address and will also allow those of you who have not previously provided an e-mail address the opportunity to do so. We expect to send out announcements about regional events in the Metropolis, information on the Summer and Winter Business Meetings, Church Music Institute, Conductor's Training Academy, and Summer Conference information. With some additional work we expect to be able to offer the In-Choirer via e-mail as a PDF to those who wish to receive it electronically.

2008 ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

By Christopher Yokas

It is an honor and a privilege for me to chair the awards committee for the Xenia Anton Desby Memorial Organ Scholarship. I wish to thank the members of the committee, **Anita Mottola** and **Maria Deville**, who have served with me in this capacity for many years. At last year's summer conference in Long Beach, California, scholarships were awarded to **Anthony Gallanis** and **Adora Samaan**.

Anthony Gallanis attends Saint Spyridon in San Diego California. He received the following recommendation from his parish priest, **Father Andrew Scordakis**: "Anthony is a very nice young man who is serious and conscientious in his approach. He is dedicated and involved with GOYA, serves as an altar boy and participates in all the youth related activities. He is a mature, attentive and kind person who is serious in his Orthodox Christian Faith." Anthony wishes to become the organist for his youth choir. At the time of his application, his youth choir had no organist and his instructor needed to teach the singers and play the organ at the same time.



Anthony Gallanis

Adora Samaan, organist at Saint Anthony in Pasadena California, received the following recommendation from her parish priest, **Father Peter Stratos**: "In October of 2006 when I was assigned to the parish, I found that the community did not have an active choral program. I was given the directive by Metropolitan Gerasimos that the formation of a choir should be a top priority of my ministry. We needed an organist



Adora Samaan

and without hesitation, **Adora Samman** accepted the position. She is a core member of the choir and be-

cause of her excellent sight-reading abilities is relied upon heavily. She is conscientious in her attendance and can be counted on in spite of her academic and job commitments." Adora understands that there is more to playing "the king of instruments" than applying piano playing skills to the organ. She enjoys accompanying the choir very much and would like to use the scholarship funds to enhance her ability to help in putting the choir's "best foot forward" musically.

The committee was proud to award these scholarships to the above musicians in memory of **Xenia Anton Desby** who is greatly missed along with her husband our beloved **Dr. Frank Desby**.

Applications for this year's \$500 scholarships are now being accepted. Contact your choir director or priest for the application. **Deadline is May 30.**



GEORGE N. GEORGE AWARD

Nominations now being accepted for 2009

George George was an active choir member for over 50 years. He expressed his faith through the music of the church and dedicated his life to the choir. In his memory, the **George N. George Award** was established. Nominations are now being accepted for the year 2009. The winning recipients will be announced at this summer's Choir Conference in Cardiff by the Sea.

All our choirs are full of individuals, like George, who are dedicated to this vital ministry of the church. This award goes to deserving church musicians for their past and present dedication and support to their choirs. Last year's recipients were **Mrs. Elaine Arapostathis** of St. Spyridon Church in San Diego, and **Mrs. Tina Correra** of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Long Beach.

Please send this year's nominations to **Dr. Chris Vitakes**, 1353 "C" Street Hayward, CA. 94541. Nominations can also be faxed to 707-745-1995. Any questions? I would love to hear from you, call me at 510-825-9105 or e-mail me at cmvitakes@sbcglobal.net.

Deadline is May 30.

Remember to have the nomination form signed by your choir director and parish priest.

COMPOSER'S CORNER



Ted Bogdanos has recently written and published two liturgical works: 1. A **Cherubic Hymn** in the Fourth Mode Legetos, a penitential mode with a scale rather unusual in our times. 2. An **Enite ton Kyrion** (Communion Hymn) in the Hard Chromatic Second Plagal Mode. The work begins as a chant with ison, then opens into a choral composition, using the chant as its underlying theme. Both works have been written in a polyphonic style, which treats each voice part (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) as an independent cantorial chant melody with its own structure and appeal. These works are challenging but eminently singable and engaging.

Various choirs in the United States, in Greece and in Europe that sing Ted's liturgical music have already expressed interest in acquiring these works as well. One of them is the outstanding choir of the **St. Sophia Cathedral in London**, who recently put out a CD containing some of Ted's liturgical music. Another group is the **Panorthodox Voices**, a choral society in Athens, which has taken Ted's **Hymn of Kassiani** and his **Trisagion** to their concert tour in Europe, and now want to make the two new pieces part of their repertoire.

This, by the way, reflects a strong interest, especially in Greece, in the works of the California composers. As far back as the 1970's, the eminent Byzantine musicologist **Markos Dragoumis** began to make the Greek musical public aware of Frank Desby's work (*Kathimerini*, 1977), pointing to its artistic excellence and its distinct Byzantine modality. Some time after, the conductor-musicologist **Yiannis Filopoulos** broadcast, on the National Cultural Radio in Greece, choral works by **Desby, Zes, Cardiasmenos and Bogdanos**. Filopoulos even published a monogram describing the liturgies of these four composers.

Bogdanos has, furthermore, completed transcribing from Byzantine to Western musical notation (with an interlinear English translation) all the Saturday Vespers Services in all the 8 modes. This work will be published by the Denver Music Federation, already funded by a donor. Ted has also completed his work as contributing translator and editor of G.V. Violakis' **Typikon**, a monumental treatise issued by the Patriarchate in 1888, stipulating the order of all our church services.

Though retired from university teaching and from choir conducting, Bogdanos continues to chant in church services and to give lectures on the role of art and music in Orthodox worship, the development of Byzantine music and hymnology through the centuries, and the interrelationship between Byzantine and Western culture and literature in the Middle Ages, to various cultural and academic centers such as the **Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute** at the University of California, Berkeley, and the Medieval Institute of America.

The **Cherubic Hymn** and the **Enite** may be obtained from the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Denver Church Music Federation, 12 Tamerlain Ct., Highlands Ranch, CO 80130-3984, ph (303)773-0777.

(Editor's Note: This new column has been added to keep the Church Music Federation members informed of the recent activity of its composers. In this issue, we begin by becoming acquainted with the activity of Dr. Theodore Bogdanos.)

WINTER BUSINESS MEETING 2009

On January 23rd and 24th The Federation met in Pasadena for its annual Winter Business Meeting. We were hosted by the fabulous parish of St. Anthony's. We began our evening at the home of **Jim** and **Maria Hronas** for a lovely dinner and fellowship. Maria outdid herself with a scrumptious meal. On Saturday morning we were welcomed at the church with a continental breakfast and a delicious lunch. Over 30 delegates participated that day.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to **Fr. Peter Stratos, Jim Hronas**, his choir members, and the Ladies of Philoptohos for a terrific weekend. God Bless you!!



Meeting in Pasadena



Delegates taking a break

POPULAR CHURCH MUSIC INSTITUTES RETURN IN OCTOBER

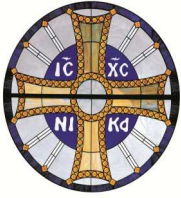
Five Church Music Institutes will be given on Saturday, October 10 this year. They will be co-sponsored by our **Church Music Federation** and the **National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians**. The topic of these CMI's will be the Nativity. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided and the registration will be FREE.

The host churches will be as follows:

1. Sacramento, Annunciation
2. San Bernardino, Prophet Elias
3. Castro Valley, Resurrection
4. Scottsdale, Assumption
5. Northwest - To be announced

Mark your calendars now so that you will not miss this opportunity to attend the CMI in your region in October.

Tikey Zes
Music Minister



Commemorative Album

Σε υμνουμεν, και Σε δοξολογουμεν
We praise You and glorify You



Thank you for your contribution toward the success of the
Metropolis of San Francisco Church Music Federation Conference
Hosted by Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church
Cardiff-by-the-Sea, California

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AD DEADLINE : JUNE 5, 2009

CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA - SUMMER CONFERENCE 2009

Section	Hymn(s)	Mode/Sung By	Music/Composer/Language
ORTHROS			
Orthros	Through Doxastikon	2 nd Mode	Father Pallad's transcriptions (Chanters)
Great Doxology	Doxology	Adult	Desby (1952) Liturgy pg. 1 (Greek)
Orthros Dismissal	Simeron Sotiria	Adult	Desby (1952) Liturgy pg. 18 (Greek)
LITURGY			
Great Ektenis	Responses	Adult	Desby (1952) pg. 19-20
Antiphon	Tes Presvies	Youth	Desby (1952) pg. 21-22 (+psalm verses)
Antiphon	Soson Imas	Youth	Desby (1952) pg. 23 (adults at Doxa Patri)
Antiphon	O Monogenis	Youth	Desby (1952) pg. 26
Small Entrance	Ote Katilthes	Adult	Desby (1952) pg. 77-78
Small Entrance (After)	Repeat	Clergy	
Small Entrance (After)	Church Hymn	Adult	TBD
Kontakion	Prostasia	Clergy	(chanters sing final line)
Trisagion	Agios O Theos	Both	Desby (1952) pg. 30 + Tu Vimatos (eis polla – youth)
Hierarchical Acclamations	Fimi, responses	Adult	Desby Arrangements
Gospel	Responses	Adult	Desby (1952) pg. 39
Cherubic Hymn	Cherubic Hymn	Adult	Desby Alternate Cherubic
Plyrotika	Responses	Adult	Desby (from alternate cherubic)
Plyrotika	Agapisose Kyrie	Adult	Desby (1952) pg. 74 (Greek)
Anaphora	Responses	Both	Desby (1952) pg. 54
Anaphora	Holy, Holy, Holy	Both	Cardiasmenos (YSATB)
Anaphora	2 Amins	Both	Cardiasmenos (YSATB)
Anaphora	Se Ymnoumen	Both	Cardiasmenos (YSATB)
Megalynarion	Axion Estin	Adults	Desby (1952) pg. 59-60
Pre-communion	Responses	Both	Desby (1952) pg. 61
Pre-communion	Eis Agios	Adults	Desby (1952) pg. 65
Communion	Aineite	Adults	Desby (1952) pg. 66-69
Additional Communion	Praise The Lord	Both	Cardiasmenos YSATB (English)
Additional Communion	Mystic Supper	Both	Zes
Post Communion	Eidomen to Fos	Both	Desby (1952) pg. 69-70 (plus responses)
Post Communion	Ei to Onoma	Both	Desby (1952) pg. 70-71
Memorial Service	Entire Service	Chanters	
Dismissal	Responses	Both	Desby (1952) pg. 70-71
Dismissal	Ton Despotin	Both	Zes arrangement (TBD)
Dismissal	Final Amen	Both	Poss. Neal Desby arrangement (YSATB)
During Antithoron	Several Hymns	Both	Possible Choices a) Neal Desby - Aineite b) Lord I Cry

**BRING
YOUR DESBY
BOOK**

MUSIC

The host parish will not be providing Frank Desby Liturgy books or the large Cherubic Hymn. To order music, please see the information below.

Greek Sacred and Secular Music Society
2020 S. Western Avenue #6
San Pedro, CA 90732-4343

Or visit the website at:
<http://gssms.org>

(The Church Music Federation will be providing a small companion notebook of selected hymns which are not published at this time)

DUES AND STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

By Mario DiGiovanni, Chairman

From the beginning of our fiscal year beginning August 1, 2008 through April 25th, 2009, the Federation has received a total of \$10,820 in dues and stewardship with a little over two months left in the fiscal year. This includes:

- Parish dues totaling \$2,625 for 35 adult music programs and \$490 for 14 youth music programs
- Stewardship in the amount of \$7,705 from 332 stewards, averaging \$23.21 each has also been received.

Receipts and membership dues are running even with the 2007-08 fiscal year but behind the

best of 2004-2007 when we received adult membership dues from as many as 46 parishes and dues from 18 youth programs. Stewardship is also down from its peak of \$12,690 in 2006 but close to the average of the other 5 of the last 6 years. The Federation Board has discussed this fall off and is striving to reach out to member parishes to make a personal contact between the Regional Administrator and decision makers at the parish level. One act considered critical is splitting the Southern California region into two, so that the two area Regional Administrators will have no more than 10 parishes with which to develop a good working relationship.

CHRISTOS ANESTI!



CHRIST IS RISEN!



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS
OF SAN FRANCISCO
CHURCH MUSIC FEDERATION
2467-16th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94116

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