

**2026 PUERI CANTORES**  
**NEW ENGLAND YOUTH CHORAL FESTIVAL AND MASS**  
**CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY CROSS, BOSTON**  
**MARCH 14, 2026**



On Saturday, March 14, 2026, Mass will be celebrated by His Excellency Archbishop Richard Henning. Guest conductor, Paul French is President of *Pueri Cantores* and a world-renowned conductor, composer, and clinician.

All treble and mixed voice choirs — grades 4 - 12 are welcome! Bring your entire choir or just a few singers. This festival is not merely for strong singers, but for those for whom this may be a welcome challenge. *It is especially for those who wish to be nurtured by like-minded students who love their faith and love to sing.*

**\*\* MP3 Practice Recordings are available when you register!**

**\*\* For registration and info see the brochure below**

*Pueri Cantores* is the international student choral organization of the Roman Catholic Church, whose mission is to evangelize and catechize choristers through the medium of sacred music, aiding them in growing in their faith and rooting them ever deeper to the Church.

We look forward to seeing you at the beautiful Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston on Saturday, March 14, 2026!

For questions or information, contact Richard Clark at [Richard.Clark@rcab.org](mailto:Richard.Clark@rcab.org).

# 2026 NEW ENGLAND PUERI CANTORES

## YOUTH CHORAL FESTIVAL & MASS

*for Mixed Voice & Treble Choirs (grades 4-12)*



Saturday, March 14, 2026 • 10:30 a.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Cathedral of the Holy Cross

1400 Washington St., Boston, MA 02118

Archbishop Richard G. Henning, S. T. D., Celebrant

Paul French, Guest Conductor



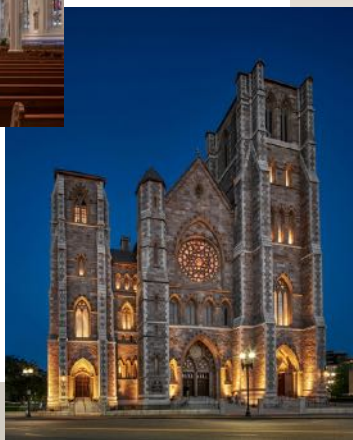
8 Professional Development Credits are available for school conductors & MP3 rehearsal tracks of the Festival repertoire will be available for participating choirs.



# ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

Pueri Cantores, the national student choral organization of the Catholic Church, invites all parish and school treble and mixed voice choirs (grades 4-12) in the region to participate in a Choral Festival & Mass. Singers will unite with hundreds of their peers as one combined choir to sing beautiful music from the Church's rich historical repertoire.

[Watch this video](#) to learn more about Pueri Cantores and how best to prepare your choir for the Festival day. [Check out these FAQs](#) about the Festival, including attire, how to access music and MP3 rehearsal tracks, and much more.



## FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

10:30 .....	Registration
11:00 .....	Choir Warm-up
11:15 .....	Choir Placement
11:30 .....	First Rehearsal
12:30 .....	Lunch
<i>Individual choirs rehearse for Choral Prelude at this time.</i>	
1:15 .....	Second Rehearsal
2:15 .....	Break /Snacks
2:30 .....	Final Rehearsal
3:30 .....	Break – put on robes if needed
4:00 .....	Choral Prelude begins
4:30 .....	Festival Mass begins

*Friends and family members are cordially invited to attend the Festival Mass.*

## MEET THE CONDUCTOR

PAUL FRENCH is Music Director at Chicago's Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, where he leads a thriving choral program for both children and adults. For twelve seasons he was music director of the William Ferris Chorale, the acclaimed Chicago-based professional choral ensemble. He is the composer of more than 200 choral and orchestral works and serves as the President of the American Federation of Pueri Cantores.



# The American Federation Pueri Cantores

## 2026 New England Festival Repertoire

for Mixed Voice Choirs (SATB) Grades 4-12

### CHORAL PRELUDES

A. Choral works sung by individual choirs (*optional – limited to 5 choirs*)

B. Choral works **sung by ALL choirs**

\*Praise to the Lord (canon for 3 voices)

\*Cantate Domino (SATB, unaccompanied)

\*Ave Regina Caelorum

William Boyce  
AFPC Public Domain Series  
Giuseppe Pitoni  
AFPC Public Domain Series  
Lenten Marian Antiphon

### INTRODUCTORY RITES

\*Entrance Hymn: The Glory of these Forty Days

\*Introit *Laetare Jerusalem*, Mode V

*Performance Instruction:* Choirs are to prepare both the antiphon and the *Gloria Patri* verse.

\*Kyrie: (Mass XI "Orbis Factor")

Tune: ERHALT UNS HERR  
Gregorian Chant

Gregorian chant

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23

\*Lenten Gospel Acclamation:

*Performance Instruction:* 1. Response – unison choir    2. Response – choir/ALL  
3. Verse (sung by cantor)    4. alto-tenor-bass-melody, soprano-descant

Theodore Marier  
Theodore Marier

### LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts Motet: If Ye Love Me (SSATB)

\*Sanctus: (Mass XVIII)

\*Memorial Acclamation: (*We proclaim your death O Lord*) / Amen: (Unison chant, organ)

\*Lord's Prayer/Doxology: Chant

\*Agnus Dei (Mass XI "Orbis Factor")

*Performance Instruction:* Choirs Directors are asked to dedicate extra rehearsal time to the Agnus Dei.

Philip Wilby  
Banks Music Publications #ECS 191  
Gregorian chant  
ICEL

Gregorian chant

Communion Procession

\*1. Communio (English Proper-chant)

*Performance Instruction:* Choirs are to prepare and memorize the antiphon.  
Cantor will chant the verses.

Adam Bartlett  
Source & Summit

\*2. Post-Communion motet: Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

Richard Farrant/John Hilton  
AFPC Public Domain Series

### CONCLUDING RITE

Choral Recessional: Cantate Domino (SAB, organ)

Jesús López Moreno  
VocalEssence Music Press – <https://graphitepublishing.com/product/cantate-domino-sab/>

**\* Indicates free downloadable music from [pcchoirs.org](http://pcchoirs.org)**

With the mention of your AFPC affiliation, the published song titles (few exceptions), when purchased through Loser's Music at [losers@lmf.net](mailto:losers@lmf.net), will be discounted 25% off the original price. *As a matter of justice to composers, arrangers and publishers, please plan to order an adequate number of music copies and refrain from distributing photocopied scores of those works under copyright protection.*

**NOTE:** The William H. Hannon Scholarship Fund is available for choirs in need of financial assistance to purchase music for Festival participation. Letters should be submitted to: AFPC, 1188 N. Tustin St., Orange, CA 92867.



Join us & register your choir today!

## New England Youth Choral Festival & Mass for Mixed Voice & Treble Choirs

>>> **CLICK HERE TO REGISTER AND PAY ONLINE** <<<

**OR MAIL FESTIVAL FEES & MATERIALS TO:**

American Federation Pueri Cantores 1188 N. Tustin St., Orange, CA 92867

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER:  
February 14, 2026**

Upon receipt, AFPC will send each registered choral conductor a welcome packet containing a sample repertoire music packet and important information needed to participate in this year's Festival.

### **FESTIVAL REGISTRATION APPLICATION**

**COMBINED ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP/FESTIVAL REGISTRATION FEE: \$150/choir**

**and PARTICIPANT FEES: \$25/singer**

Participant fees include medallions, snacks & other festival expenses. (No cost for conductors & chaperones)

***PARTICIPANTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN BAG LUNCHES***

\* Financial assistance is available through the *William H. Hannon Scholarship Fund*. Please contact the AFPC office for more information.\*

Total Number of Participants (Conductors, Singers & Chaperones) \_\_\_\_\_ (1 chaperone per 10 singers requested)

# of singers: \_\_\_\_\_ # Sopranos: \_\_\_\_\_ # Altos: \_\_\_\_\_ # Tenors: \_\_\_\_\_ # Basses: \_\_\_\_\_

Choir Name (as it should appear in program): \_\_\_\_\_

Choir Director/s (as it should appear in program): \_\_\_\_\_

Parish/School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Diocese: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ New Choir ☐ Returning Choir

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### **PRELUDE INFORMATION** (optional)

☐ My choir would like to sing a piece in the individual prelude portion of the festival (before the combined prelude pieces)

Choral Selection: \_\_\_\_\_

Composer: \_\_\_\_\_

Tempo: \_\_\_\_\_ Duration: \_\_\_\_\_ Key: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Major or ☐ Minor

Will you be requiring the services of an accompanist? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ A CAPELLA

\* The first five choirs to submit this application form and a print copy of their 2-4 minute music selection will be accepted to sing.

### **LIABILITY/MEDIA RELEASE FORM**

Downloadable at <https://www.pcchoirs.org/liabilityreleaseform>

***Forms must be completed for all singers and signed by parent or guardian.***

### **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

Choir directors and chaperones must provide the AFPC office a copy of their child protection certificate of completion. To read AFPC's complete Child Protection Policy, please click [HERE](#).

Required Forms

***Conductors must submit to the AFPC office the Liability/Media Release Forms and Child Protection Certificates no later than one month prior to the Festival date. Mail: 1188 N. Tustin St., Orange, CA 92867 or email [info@pcchoirs.org](mailto:info@pcchoirs.org)***

[Official Festival Choir Participant Cancellation & Refund Policy](#)

**QUESTIONS? Contact AFPC at 714.633.7554 or visit our website at [pcchoirs.org](http://pcchoirs.org)**

# CHOIR REHEARSALS JUST GOT EASIER!

**MP3 repertoire practice recordings for the 2026 Pueri Cantores Festival Season are available!**



## How to gain access to the MP3 recordings:



Register your choir for a Pueri Cantores Festival or renew your annual membership.



Once your registration is processed by the AFPC office, you will receive an email with instructions to access the music files from a secure webpage on the AFPC website.

*These rehearsal tracks are carefully recorded in a studio with professional singers, and offer many different listening options for each piece, including the complete work, the individual voice parts, and even the accompaniment alone.*



Just follow the directions in the email, download the MP3s, and start rehearsing!

