Solemn Vespers in Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Presented by the Friends of Cathedral Music

Panel from “Adoration of the Mystic Lamb”, Early Flemish, 15th Century
St. Bavo Cathedral, Ghent, Belgium

May 1, 2016
The Cathedral of St. John the Baptist

Celebrant: The Very Reverend J. Gerard Schreck, JCD
Rector, Cathedral of St. John the Baptist
PRELUDE

During the prelude, feel free to light a votive candle in front of the Blessed Virgin's Chapel

Music for Renaissance Lute and Archguitar

SOLEMN PROCESSION

All stand

CHORAL INTROIT: Ave Maria Gregorian Chant


Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

INVITATORY

All remain standing

Celebrant: O God, come to our aid.

All: O Lord, make haste to help us.

All bow and sing:

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

All rise and sing:

All: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

HYMN: Hail, Holy Queen Enthroned Above

1006, Hymnal
The people sit.

PSALMODY

The Cantor begins by singing. The Antiphon is then it is repeated by all. The verses are then chanted, alternating between women and men. The * sign indicates a pause. At the end of each psalm, all stand and sing together “Glory to the Father...”, then the psalm concludes with the Antiphon.

Psalm 122

Antiphon: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Women: I rejoiced because they said to me, * we will go up to the house of the Lord.

Men: And now we have set foot * within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Women: According to the decree for Israel, * to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

Men: In it are set up judgment seats, * seats of the house of David.

Women: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! * May those who love you prosper!

Men: May peace be within your walls, * prosperity in your buildings.

Women: Because of my brothers and sisters * I will say, “Peace be within you!”

Men: Because of the house of the Lord, our God, * I will pray for your good.

The people stand and bow

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit *

The people rise

All: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Repeat Antiphon

After the Antiphon is sung, all sit.

A period of silent reflection is observed
Psalm 118

Antiphon

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love is ever lasting.

Women: Let the house of Israel say * “His mercy endures forever.”
Men: Let the house of Aaron say, * “His mercy endures forever.”
Women: I was hard pressed and was falling, * but the Lord helped me.
Men: My strength and my courage is the Lord, * and he has been my savior.
Women: The stone which the builder rejected * has become the cornerstone.
Men: By the Lord has this been done; * it is wonderful in our eyes.

The people stand and bow

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit *

The people rise

All: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

Repeat Antiphon

After Antiphon is sung, all sit.
A period of silent reflection is observed
Matthew 5:3-12

Antiphon

O blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
O blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
O blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
O blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
O blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
O blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
O blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called Children of God.
O blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
O blessed are you when the world reviles you and persecutes you; and utters all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake.
Rejoice and be exceedingly glad; for great is your reward in heaven.

The people stand and bow

All:    Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit *

The people rise

All:    as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
        Amen.

Repeat Antiphon

After Antiphon is sung, all sit.
A period of silent reflection is observed

READING    Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10a,b
CANTICLE Magnificat (Song of Mary) Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

Magníficat ánima mea Dóminum. Et exultávit spíritus meus: in Deo salutári meo. Quia re-
spéxit humilitátem ancíllae suae: Ecce enim ex hoc beátam me dicent omnes generatiónes.
Quia fécit mihi mágna qui pótenst est: et sánctum nómen eius. Et misericórdia eius in progénies
et progénies timéntibus eum. Fécit poténtiam in bráchio suo: dispérsit supérbos mente cordis
sui. Depósuit poténtes de sede: et exaltávit húmiles. Esuriéntes implévit bonis: et dívites dimísit
in ánes. Suscépit Ísrael púerum suum: recordátus misericórdiae suae. Sicut locútus est ad pa-

My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior. He looks on his servant
in her lowliness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. The Almighty works marvels for
me. Holy his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. He puts forth his
arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted. He casts the mighty from their thrones and
raises the lowly. He fills the starving with good things, and sends the rich away empty. He
protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy, the mercy promised to our fathers, to
Abraham and his sons for ever. My soul glorifies the Lord.

The people stand and bow

Choir: Glória Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto,

The people rise

Choir: Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum.
Amen.

The people remain standing.
PRAYERS AND INTERCESSIONS

Celebrant: Blessed be the Lord Jesus, our Peace, who came to unite us with God.
Let us pray to him in humility:
Lord, fill our hearts with your love.

Celebrant: When you were born you showed your kindness and gentleness; help us always to be grateful for all your blessings.
People: Lord, fill our hearts with your love.

Celebrant: You made Mary, your Mother, full of grace; give all people the fullness of grace.
People: Lord, fill our hearts with your love.

Celebrant: You came to announce God’s good news to the world; may we be hearers and disciples of your word.
People: Lord, fill our hearts with your love.

Celebrant: You desired to become our brother by being born of the Virgin Mary; teach men and women to love each other in mutual respect and charity.
People: Lord, fill our hearts with your love.

Celebrant: You look with love on the humble, and fill the hungry with your gifts; raise up the downcast, help all in need, comfort and strengthen the dying.
People: Lord, fill our hearts with your love.

Celebrant: You came as the Sun rising over the earth; show the light of your countenance to those who have died.
People: Lord, fill our hearts with your love.

Celebrant: Lord our God, you alone work wonders and with you all things are possible, give us the fullness of salvation when you raise up the dead on the last day. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
People: Amen.

The people sit.
ANTHEM: A Hymn to the Virgin

Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)

Of one that is so fair and bright, Velut maris stella (Like the star of the sea). Brighter than the day is light, Parens et puella (Parent and maiden). I cry to thee, thou see to me, Lady, pray thy Son for me, Tam pia (So tender). That I may come to thee, Maria (Mary)! All this world was forlorn, Eva peccatrice (Eve was a sinner), Till our Lord was y-born, De te genetrice (Of you, his mother). With it went away darkest night, and comes the day, Salutis (Of salvation); The well springeth out of thee, Virtutis (Of virtue). Lady, flow’r of ev’rything, Rosa sine spina (Rose without thorns), Thou bare Jesu, Heaven’s King, Gratia divina (By divine grace): Of all thou bear’st the prize, Lady, queen of paradise, Electa (Chosen): Maid mild, mother, es Effecta (You are fulfilled).

The People stand.

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

FINAL BLESSING

Celebrant: The Lord be with You.
People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.
O God, who, through the fruitful virginity of Blessed Mary bestowed, on the human race the grace of eternal salvation, grant, we pray, that we may experience the intercession of her, through whom we were found worthy to receive the author of life, our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

All sing

Regina Caeli (Queen of Heaven) 
Hymnal #612
12th Century Chant

RECESSIONAL: Finale, Organ Symphony No. 6
Charles-Marie Widor (1844 – 1937)

This Vespers concludes the first season of our Friends of Cathedral Music concert season.
Many thanks to those who made our first year so successful.
MUSIC NOTES

AVE MARIA CHANT

This sublime chant has been sung for centuries in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Ave Maria (or ‘Hail Mary’) was one of the most powerful prayers of Christianity in the Middle Ages, and is still widely uttered in the Catholic Church today. The prayer contains two parts. The first part derives from the Gospel of Luke; the second part (beginning ‘Sancta Maria…’ [or ‘Holy Mary…’]) is simply an attached petition, not based on Scripture. The second part of the prayer is thought to have emerged and transmitted orally in the fifteenth century in various forms, later solidified with the issue of the Roman breviary in 1568. The melody dates from the Middle Ages.

HAIL, HOLY QUEEN ENTHRONED ABOVE

This hymn is based on the Latin text Salve Regina. The text was written during the Middle Ages and originally appeared in Latin, the prevalent language of Western Christianity until modern times. Though the text has traditionally been ascribed to the eleventh-century German monk Hermann of Reichenau, it is regarded as anonymous by most musicologists. Traditionally it has been sung in Latin; this English translation is the most widely known, and first appeared with this tune in the Roman Hymnal, 1884. The tune is taken from a 1736 German hymnal.

THE BEATITUDES

The text of the verses to the third Antiphon are taken from the solemn blessings (or “Beatitudes”) which mark the opening of the Sermon on the Mount, the very first of Christ’s sermons in the Gospel of St. Matthew (5:3-13). American composer Richard Proulx (1937-2010) set the verses to a Russian Orthodox hymn tune. Mr. Proulx had a long association as Director of Music at Holy Name Cathedral, Chicago, Illinois.

MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat was composed in 1989 by Estonian composer Arvo Pärt (b. 1935). A setting of the Latin Magnificat text, it is in tintinnabuli style, which was invented by Pärt in the mid-1970s. This simple style was influenced by the composer’s mystical experiences with Gregorian chant. Musically, Pärt’s tintinnabular music is characterized by two types of voice, the first of which (dubbed the “tintinnabular voice”) arpeggiates the tonic triad, and the second of which moves diatonically in stepwise motion. Tintinnabulation is the most important aspect of Pärt’s Magnificat. According to Pärt’s biographer and friend Paul Hillier, the Magnificat “displays the tintinnabuli technique at its most supple and refined.” Hillier says that “many pieces [by Pärt] tend through length and repetition to establish a sense of timelessness or a continual present; the use of drones (which are in a sense a continuous repetition) reinforces this effect.”
MAGNIFICAT (CONTINUED)

Arvo Pärt’s wife Nora has said of his music: “The concept of tintinnabuli was born from a deeply rooted desire for an extremely reduced sound world which could not be measured, as it were, in kilometers, or even meters, but only in millimeters....By the end the listening attention is utterly focused. At the point after the music has faded away it is particularly remarkable to hear your breath, your heartbeat, the lighting or the air conditioning system, for example”. Pärt has been the most performed living composer in the world for 5 consecutive years.

A HYMN TO THE VIRGIN

Benjamin Britten (1913 – 1976) was an English composer, conductor and pianist. He was a central figure of 20th-century British classical music, with a range of works including opera, other vocal music, orchestral and chamber pieces. His best-known works include the opera Peter Grimes (1945), the War Requiem (1962) and the orchestral showpiece The Young Person’s Guide to the Orchestra(1945).
As young as he was, aged only 16, Britten produced in this carol a tiny masterpiece. This is one of the most well-known and best-loved of his choral pieces. The Latin responses of the semi-chorus to the medieval English words of the main chorus give these responses a further element of mystery which adds another layer of spiritual drama. The ratcheting up of the intensity in the final verse by increasing the tempo, by the ATB of the main chorus singing continuous rising phrases and by the sopranos singing a short phrase which is answered by the semi-chorus brings the piece to its climax. The final tranquillo page leads the carol to its conclusion in a mesmerizingly beautiful final phrase sung by the semi-chorus.

REGINA CAELI

The Regina Cæli (“Queen of Heaven”) is an ancient Latin Marian Hymn. It is one of the four seasonal Marian antiphons of the Blessed Virgin Mary, prescribed to be sung or recited in the Liturgy of the Hours at the conclusion of the last of the hours to be prayed in common that day, typically night prayer (Vespers or Compline). The Regina Cæli is sung or recited in place of the Angelus during the Easter season, from Holy Saturday through Pentecost.
While the authorship of the Regina Cæli is unknown, the hymn has been traced back to the twelfth century. It was in Franciscan use, after Compline, in the first half of the following century. According to Catholic tradition, St Gregory the Great heard angels chanting the first three lines one Easter morning in Rome, while following barefoot in a great religious procession of the icon of the Virgin painted by Luke the Evangelist. He was thereupon inspired to add the fourth line.
Friends of Cathedral Music

Friends of Cathedral Music relies on your ongoing philanthropic support to sustain our inaugural concert season. The Friends of Cathedral Music welcomes your support at any level. Donations are tax deductible, and supporters are recognized as follows: $50+ (Associate), $100+ (Contributor), $250+ (Donor), $500+ (Benefactor), $1000+ (Conductor's Circle), $2500+ (Bishop's Circle), and $5000+ (Founder's Circle). To become a Friend of Cathedral Music, sign and return the enclosed card to the Cathedral (checks payable to Friends of Cathedral Music) or enroll on-line at sjbmusic.org.

This honor roll is correct at time of printing.

Associate
E. Bryan Jr. and Fran Connerat
Jack and Judy Daniels
Richard and Anne Hackett
Aaron and Geraldine Pufahl
Jim and Kathy Siler
Carlos and Myriam Ordaz
Kay and Tom Osborn
John Palmer
Joe and Suzanne Plucker
Jane and Dan Pruitt
John and Jacqueline Pryor
Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Rechtiene

Contributor
Cliff and Karen Angers
Dr. Francis E. and Dr. Deborah A. Antosca
Carl and Sarah Boehm
John J. Chidsey
Cecilia C. Courtenay
J. Steven and Carol Day
Harriett B. Delong
Tom W. Endress
Hon. Judith Erola, PC
Bill and Judi Green
Kate and Tom Haase
Dennis and Mollie Hamilton
Thomas and Maryanne Hedrick
Joseph and Joan Heinen
Frank and Becky Hester
Dolores R. Highland
Marc and Michelle Hillebrand
Brian and Marylyn Howe
Donald Jemella
Robert Keber
James and Nancy Krembs
Dr. Kim Kuebler
Holly Lawhorn
Ned and Cathy Mahoney
Dick Miller
Peter and Loretta Mitchell
Joseph and Angeline Mullin
Dolores H. Myatt
Richard and Linda North
Charlie and Julie Hitchins
James and Kathleen Moore
Dr. and Mrs. Peter Rives
Dan and Bebe Rose
Joseph and Marie Rozman
Thomas and Karen Stack
Matilda Stacy
Paul H. and Marie Wilson

Benefactor
Bruce and Mary Barragan
Joseph and Janet Brennan
McDowell Fogle
Mark Girardeau
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Kehoe, III
John and Gretchen Reese

Conductor’s Circle
Michael and Linda Lee Brown
Marjory R. Conners
Sr. John Moravec
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Poole
Jerry and Mary Rooney
Michael and Linda Stephens

Bishop’s Circle
Abbott-Harty Families
Stuart Meisenzahl

Founder’s Circle
The Most Rev. J. Kevin Boland,
Bishop Emeritus, Savannah
The Most Rev. Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv.
Bishop of Savannah
The Estate of the Most Rev.
Andrew J. McDonald,
Former Bishop Little Rock

Donor
Anonymous
Mark Bandy
Amber Bignault
William and Angela Coonce
Council of Catholic Women (CCW)
Judith and Paul Fardy
Evelyn A. Ganem
Mary and Maurice Greene
Roger and Rita Haneline

This honor roll is correct at time of printing.
Cathedral of St. John the Baptist

Bishop of Savannah       Most Reverend Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv.
Bishop Emeritus of Savannah Most Reverend Kevin Boland, DD
Rector                   The Very Rev. J. Gerard Schreck, JCD
In Residence             Msgr. William O’Neill, Rector Emeritus
In Residence             Very Rev. Daniel F. Firmin, JCL, VG
In Residence             Rev. Pablo Migone
Permanent Deacon         Rev. Dr. Dewain E. Smith, Ph.D.
Director of Religious Education Mrs. Janee Przybyl
Director of Music         Mr. McDowell Fogle, MM
Asst. Organist           Ms. Heidi Ordaz, MM
Cantors                  Rebecca Flaherty and Jillian Pashke Durant
Sacristan                Lynne Everett, MD

Friends of Cathedral Music Board of Directors

Fr. Gerry Schreck, Cathedral Rector
McDowell Fogle, Chair
Pattye Meagher, Parliamentarian
Joe Rozman
Mia Thomas
Jerry Rooney
Mary Lawrence Kennickell
Bishop Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv. ex officio
Bishop Emeritus J. Kevin Boland, ex officio