



Reverberations

The Newsletter of the Northern NJ Chapter American Guild of Organists

JANUARY 2022

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Dear Members,

I wonder how many of us reflect on changes from time to time. Recently I have begun to think back at past years and note how different things are now from when I grew up years ago- in technology, in entertainment, and in religion.

I think of myself as a simple, nonviolent person, and yet find myself in a world not conducive to my desires. I prefer watching old TV shows, for egs., Andy Griffith, where the sheriff didn't wear a gun, and the children respected/obeyed their parents, teachers, and ministers. I remember when Jan. 6 was celebrated as Feast of the Epiphany. It was a Holy Day of Obligation and we went to mass. This year, all I heard was Jan. 6 was the one year anniversary of the insurrection and assault on the Capitol. Covid has readjusted how we plan our services/masses and our life in general. Personally I find email a cold way of communicating. My phone which would deliver a human voice rarely rings, but dozens of emails pile up day after day. I find it exhausting.

Of course there are positive things in our lives that were not around decades ago. Medical inventions have improved and extended the lives of many- my own included. Messages are delivered with great speed, and the computer offers extensive learning opportunities. There is much to be thankful for, I know. But I who seem to be resistant to change still long for simpler things. I thank God that chords have remained the same, so we can listen and share beautiful music universally, whether it be instrumental or vocal. I still gravitate to wonderful church music. May we all be able to take advantage of the positives in 2022.

*Sincerely,
June Marano-Murray, Dean*

Our **JANUARY 2022**
Meeting

MONDAY, JANUARY 17 9:00am – 3:30pm

A MINI-CONVENTION

Co-sponsored by **NNJ** and **METRO** Chapters

Our Lady of the Lake Church

(Note the Change of Venue!)

31 Montrose Ave., Verona, NJ

“Fueled by a passion to share new music that engages conductors, ensembles, and audiences alike, Michael John Trotta (b. 1978) is fast becoming one of the most exciting and prominent new composers of choral music.”



THE VENUE:

Our Lady of the Lake Church provides a perfect setting for our meeting in these “pandemic times”. Social distancing will be easy in the spacious venue. Masks will be required. Vince Carr is our host!

THE PLAN FOR THE DAY:

- **Empowering Ensembles:** peer modeling and leadership in the rehearsal setting
- **Reading session** - GIA Publications
- **Reading session** - MorningStar Publications
- **Organ** demo and compositions conducted by Michael Trotta

OTHER DETAILS:

- **9am** Coffee and bagels
- **Lunch** on your own (some options within walking distance of the Church, or bring your own to eat in a room with plenty of space for “distancing”..
- **Fee:** \$20 payable at the door.
- **Need a ride?** Call Stewart Holmes 914-714-8919 or Cathie Ruppi 201-871-1643

Membership News

LOOK WHAT MEMBER MARK WRIGHT IS UP TO! Click or paste this link <https://dioceseofnewark.org/content/ambitious-pandemic-project-diy-organ-rebuilding>

OUR CONDOLENCES: It is with great sadness we received word that Ching-fen Hsiao, husband of **Peggy Hsiao**, recently passed away. Please keep our faithful member Peggy in your prayers!

