

METROPOLITAN CANTOR INSTITUTE

for the

ARCHEPARCHY OF PITTSBURGH

at the

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY

3605 Perrysville Avenue
Pittsburgh PA 15214



2011-2012

The Metropolitan Cantor Institute in the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, initiated in 1998, has a threefold purpose, to:

- prepare men and women to serve as parochial cantors,
- serve as a resource center for liturgical music, and
- provide professional support for the cantors of the Archeparchy.

The first year of the four-year cantor education program aims to teach new cantors to lead the **singing of the Sunday and weekday Divine Liturgy** in a parish setting. This material is provided every year to first-year students. It is set up to provide instruction for those new to church singing, and for experienced cantors who are just entering the MCI program.

The remaining three years of the program, taught on a rotating basis, will teach the liturgical aspects and music of the various groups of services in our tradition:

Year A: **The fixed cycle of feasts and fasts** (services of the Menaion). The service of Vespers. The Christmas and Theophany services

Year B: **The moveable Paschal cycle**: from the beginning of the Great Fast through Pentecost and the Sundays that follow it. Presanctified Liturgy, Holy Week and Pascha.

Year C: **The occasional services**: baptism, chrismation, anointing, marriage, ordination, the funeral service, and devotional services (panachidea, moleben, akathist).

In 2011-2012, we will be teaching **Year A**, with concentration on the liturgical year and the service of Vespers.

Students of the cantor institute program are also expected to take the 6-week course for reader education, which teaches the preparation and reading of the Epistle and other Scriptural texts, the reading tones and psalm tones. We plan to offer the reader education course twice each year, in the Fall and Spring.

Each session of the cantor education course provides liturgical education, vocal lessons with an experienced voice teacher, and opportunities to learn and practice our Church's plainchant. Students will receive practical experience singing in the seminary chapel during services held as part of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute sessions.

Completion of the reader course and all four years of the cantor course should prepare an individual to lead the singing of all the services ordinarily celebrated in a parish of the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. Examinations are given at the end of each year, and a Certificate in Church Music is awarded at the successful completion of the reader and cantor courses.

All students, new and returning, should fill out the enclosed registration form and return it with your payment to the Metropolitan Cantor Institute by September 10, 2011. Thank you and God bless you for your devotion to our Church and its chant.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____
PARISH _____

I am a first-year MCI student _____ I have completed 4 years of MCI course work and desire to graduate this year _____

Complete the form and RETURN BY SEPTEMBER 10, along with a check for \$75.00 (payable to the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh), to: METROPOLITAN CANTOR INSTITUTE, 3605 Perrysville Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15214-2297

DIRECTIONS TO THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY

From the East:

Follow **Parkway East (Route 376)** towards Pittsburgh and exit at **Route 579 North (Blvd of the Allies)**

Follow **579 North** to **279 North** and exit at: **Hazlett Street**

***At the end of the exit ramp, turn **left** (onto East Street) and proceed **four traffic lights**

At the fourth traffic light, turn **left** (still on East Street) and proceed to the next traffic light

Turn **left (onto Perrysville Avenue)** and proceed approximately .3 miles. Seminary is on the right at 3605 Perrysville Avenue (large identification sign)

From the South:

Take **Route 279 North** through Pittsburgh, and exit at **Hazlett Street.**

Follow directions above from (***)At the end of...)

From the North:

Take **Route 279 South** to the **Perrysville Avenue exit.**

Turn **right** onto **Perrysville Avenue**, and proceed **south several miles.** Seminary will be on the right at 3605 Perrysville Avenue (large identification sign)

Schedule

Each Saturday session is held at the Byzantine Catholic Seminary in Pittsburgh, and begins promptly at **8:30 am.**

Lunch is provided.

During one of the sessions, students will have an opportunity to visit the Byzantine Seminary Press book store.

The lunch break will also provide time for discussion, feedback, and an update on what is going on with church music in our Archeparchy.

Classes conclude at **3:30 pm.**

Continuing students are expected to stay for the service of Great Vespers in the seminary chapel at 4:00 pm. Between the conclusion of classes and the start of Vespers, Cantor Institute staff will be available to meet with students to provide additional coaching and address specific questions and needs.



More information about the Metropolitan Cantor Institute and its programs can be found at

www.metropolitancantorinstitute.org

You can also contact us by phone at (412) 735-1676, or send e-mail to:

admin@metropolitancantorinstitute.org

Cantor school for 2011-2012:

Saturday, September 17, 2011

Saturday, October 15, 2011

Saturday, November 12, 2011

Saturday, February 18, 2012

Saturday, March 24, 2012

Topics for **first year students:**

1. Intro to the Divine Liturgy; singing the basic responses
2. The beginning of the Divine Liturgy
3. The Anaphora
4. Communion
5. Review and special topics

The Sunday hymns in the eight tones will also be learned in the course of the year.

Topics for **continuing students:**

1. The service of Vespers, with the eight samohlasen tones
2. The liturgical year
3. Services of Christmas and Theophany
4. The liturgical year - continued
5. Review



PLEASE NOTE

There is a \$75.00 fee for the 2011-2012 season of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute, payable before the first session.

Check should be made out to:

**METROPOLITAN ARCHDIOCESE OF
PITTSBURGH**