

Times and dates for 2008-2009 – date of this list August 2, 2008

Beginning of Choir Season

- September 3 Choir rehearsal for all Touring Boys & Girls & Schola Cantorum Girls
6.30-7.45. Please bring photos from the tour to share with others!
7.45-8.15 Refreshments & reminisces of the tour
- September 4 Girls 7.00-8.30pm
- September 7 Boys rehearsal 4-5pm
- September 8 Normal routine begins (NB new routine)

Highlights of Season

Sept 21 4pm Evensong - Choir Dedication Sunday. All choirs sing 2.45 rehearsal.

During this service we will robe (i.e. give the surplices) to our new Touring choir members. (i.e. all the previous Resident Choir members) Also we will welcome the new head choristers, the new resident choir members, the new adult choir members and bless the choirs for the year ahead. It will also be an important time to welcome and meet the new resident choir parents. The new Schola Cantorum (High School Girls) will be officially dedicated and blessed.

Light refreshments in the narthex following the service at 4pm –

October 12 Boys trip to New York

to hear the famous St Thomas Fifth Avenue Choir. Departure late morning. Chaperone volunteers please to drive to NY.

October 18 Masterclass with Ralph Allwood (Girls TC & SC & Redeemer choir)

Ralph Allwood is the Precentor (which means Director of Music in this case) of Eton College (where the British Royal Family go to school). He will be our artist in residence for 4 days.

Girls Touring & Schola Morning rehearsal with him. Time tbc

October 19 Evensong 4pm (2.45 rehearsal) Girls Touring & Schola & Redeemer & Chancel choir.

We are conducted by our artist in residence Ralph Allwood (see Oct 18) and joined by the Chamber Choir of Bryn Mawr, Presbyterian. Our organist will be Jeffrey Brillhart, of Yale University and Bryn Mawr Presbyterian. The music will include Bernstein Chichester Psalms (words in Hebrew) which is written for organ, percussion and harp. As well as celebrating our guest conductor's presence with us, this Evensong just follows the

interfaith dialogue between the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr Presbyterian and the Main Line Reform Synagogue – hence the choice of the Bernstein. We will be joined by our neighbour Jeffrey Brillhart from Bryn Mawr Presbyterian (& also a teacher at Yale)O. This promises to be an exciting event.

October 21 Our guest from Eton College, Ralph Allwood will take the boys rehearsal

October 26 4pm Hereford Cathedral Choir, Concert

One of the most famous boys choirs in the world, Hereford Cathedral Choir, England will be singing a concert for us. Mark this in your diary, it will be an excellent event. We will be hosting the choir of some 18 boys and 12 adults, so if you are able to offer hosting for 2 or more boys, or a single adult for the evenings of Oct 26 & 27 then I would appreciate hearing from you. The girls will be singing in Hereford Cathedral next July. It would be excellent if most of our choir were able to attend (free tickets for all choir members) and to meet the singers afterwards in the parish hall supper.

November 2 John Rutter's Requiem at morning services

All choirs sing John Rutter's Requiem at the 9am and 11.15 service. These services, featuring all the Redeemer choirs will celebrate All Saints & all loved ones who have died. John Rutter is best known for his Christmas music in Carols for Choirs. However this lovely Requiem is very approachable and will feature 6 instrumentalists joining the choir during the service. There will be no rehearsal after the 9.00am service so children who wish to go to Church School are able to do so.

November 9 - Morning Services sung by the Girls Schola Cantorum and The Notables

9.00am Eucharist and the 11.15 Morning prayer services are led by the Girls Schola Cantorum who are joined by The Notables and their director Michael Stairs. (Adults have the morning off to prepare for the Brahms!)

November 9 Brahms Requiem sung by the adult choirs. Come and support your friends & parents

November 16 Evensong sung by the boy choir. 4pm (rehearsal 2.45)

December 7 Advent Carol Service 4pm. All choirs 2.45 rehearsal.

The mystical and atmospheric season of Advent of watching and waiting for me is a much more interesting season than Christmas itself. Theologically it is quite stark and intense and is a penitential season (like Lent) which is meant to prepare us for the Excitement of the Feast of Christmas. The Advent Carol Service is an atmospheric service featuring candlelight and represents symbolically the 'coming of the light'. All choirs 2.45 rehearsal.

Dec 13 or 14 Concert with all Redeemer choirs 'A British Christmas'

A Celebration of Christmas will feature poetry and music – the best from the religious and secular traditions. From the 12 days of Christmas to Away in a manger. This is one of the events we would really like to be a flagship fund raiser for the 2009 tour to the UK.

Dates for your diaries in 2009

January 11 Amahl and the Night Visitors

January 18 Choral Evensong with performance of Britten's A Ceremony of Carols (with harp) Girls choir

January 25 Redeemer and Chancel Choir

January 31/Feb 1 away day or w/e adult choir (or March 21)

February 8 tbc 4pm Concert *A night at the opera* featuring our diva solo singers!

February 15 Evensong – boys choir

February 25 Ash Wednesday Eucharist Redeemer Choir

February 27 Concert and recording in Kimmel Center with Vox Ama Deus

A small group of Boys and Girls will perform children's choir part in Handel Judas Maccabeus.

March 6 and 7 Boys sing in Wilmington Cathedral as part of Diocesan Choirs Festival in Wilmington, Delaware

March 8 GCGC Children's concert featuring Jonah man Jazz

March 15 Girls Choir sing Choral Evensong at the Redeemer in partnership with the Voices Foundation. The Voices Foundation is an organization which celebrates the contribution of women to the Christian faith. Famous Biblical women, Saints and historic women such as Hildegard of Bingen and Julian of Norwich stand alongside modern day women authors and composers. We will be featuring music published by the Voices Foundation during this service.

March 21 tbc Adult choir away day (or Jan 31/Feb1)

March 27 or 29 Tewkesbury Abbey Boys & Men Choir

We will again be hosting a choir from England. Tewkesbury Abbey Choir will be singing a concert here. We would like to be able to accommodate 18 boys and 12 adults. The girls will be singing at Tewkesbury Abbey in July 09.

April 5 tbc only)	GCGC Howells Requiem, Poulenc Motets du penitence (Adults only)
April 12	Easter Sunday
April 18	Rehearsal with Princeton (Handel Coronation Anthems)
April 26	Concert at Redeemer – Redeemer choir & Princeton
May 3	Concert at Princeton – Redeemer choir + Princeton
May 21 Notables	Music for Ascension Day – The Schola Cantorum girls with the
May 31	Pentecost – all choirs at the morning service
June 7 or 14	10 year anniversary of the Bryn Mawr Boy and Girl Choirs. Guest conductor and speaker Dan Moriarty.
June 21 tbc	End of year concert and Appreciation dinner – prize giving by Tom Whittemore Director of Music Trinity Church, Princeton
June 30-July 13 (inc)	Proposed dates for Girls Tour to UK
July 10-20 (inc)	Proposed dates for Boys Tour to UK
August 27-30	Girls Summer Camp in St Thomas, Fifth Avenue, New York