



THE BASILICA

of the NATIONAL SHRINE of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Together with Notre-Dame de Paris: A Benefit Concert at the Basilica

Featuring Notre-Dame Organist Johann Vexo and the Choir of the Basilica

Friday, April 26 at 7pm - Great Upper Church of the Basilica

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception will host a special concert to benefit the Cathedral of Notre Dame on Friday evening, April 26, at 7 p.m.

The concert will feature the Choir of the Basilica and Johann Vexo, the Notre Dame organist who was playing at the time the devastating fire broke out at the cathedral the evening of April 15.

Titled *Together with Notre Dame de Paris*, the concert is free and open to the public, with a freewill offering to benefit the rebuilding and restoration of this historic church that dates back more than 850 years. The concert will celebrate the spiritual and cultural significance of the Cathedral of Notre Dame in the world, as well as the hope for its future.

Organized by the Basilica and the Embassy of France in the United States, in partnership with the Friends of Notre-Dame and the French-American Cultural Foundation, the concert will be broadcast live through the generous support of the Knights of Columbus on the Eternal Word Television Network.

In solidarity with Notre Dame Cathedral, the Basilica began a special online collection the evening of the fire to support its restoration. To donate or learn more about this special collection, please visit www.SupportNotreDame.org.

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is the largest Catholic church in North America and is among the ten largest churches in the world. Designated a national sanctuary of prayer and pilgrimage, the Basilica is the patronal church of the United States and the nation's preeminent Marian shrine. Often referred to as *America's Catholic Church*, the Basilica will celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the laying of its foundation stone in 2020. To learn more please visit www.nationalshrine.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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