



A HYMN IN STONE

SACRED MUSIC FROM THE BASILICA

THE CHOIR, ORGANISTS, CARILLON, AND BRASS
OF THE BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026
7:00 P.M.
GREAT UPPER CHURCH

Just as music resonates through limestone, granite, and marble, we, the Church, become the living stones through which the praise of God resounds, echoing the words of Scripture: “Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house.”

— *The First Epistle of Saint Peter 2:5*

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The Choir, Organists, Carillon, and Brass
of the Basilica of the National Shrine
of the Immaculate Conception

Peter Latona, *conductor*
Benjamin LaPrairie and Adam Chlebek, *organists*
Jeremy Ng, *carillonneur*



CARILLON PRELUDE

WALKING ON CLOUDS

Geert D'Hollander
(*b. 1965*)

SONATA À CIMBALO SOLO

Sybrandus van Noordt (*1659–1705*)
arr. Bernard Winsemius (*b. 1945*)

A SACRED SUITE

G. D'Hollander

- I. Da Pacem Domine
- II. Regina Cœli
- III. Sancti Spiritus

THEME FROM “JUPITER” FROM *The Planets*

Gustav Holst (*1874–1934*)

INCORPORATING THE HYMN TUNE “ST. COLUMBA” ARR. PAUL STELBEN (*b. 1999*)

CONCERT PROGRAM

WELCOME

Reverend Ismael N. Ayala
Director of Liturgy, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

Jennifer C. Kluge
Executive Director, National Association of Pastoral Musicians



BLESSED ARE YOU, O VIRGIN MARY

Peter Latona
(b. 1968)

Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary,
by the Lord, the most high God,
beyond all women upon the earth.

(Judith 13:23)



GRAND CHŒUR DIALOGUÉ

Eugène Gigout
(1844–1925)

Benjamin LaPrairie, organist
Brass of the Basilica

*Laudibus in sanctis Dominum celebrate supremum:
Firmamenta sonent inclita facta Dei.
Inclita facta Dei cantate, sacraque potentis
Voce potestatem sæpe sonate manus.*

*Magnificum Domini cantet tuba martia nomen:
Pieria Domino concelebrate lira.
Laude Dei resonent resonantia tympana summi,
Alta sacri resonent organa laude Dei.*

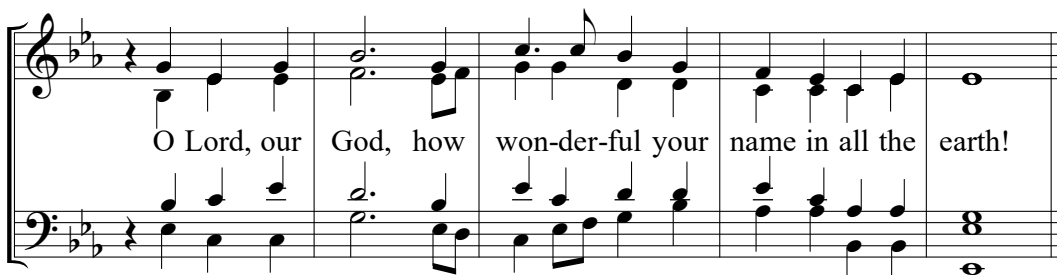
*Hunc arguta canant tenui psalteria corda,
Hunc agili laudet laeta chorea pede.
Concava divinas effundant cymbala laudes,
Cymbala dulcisona laude repleta Dei.
Omne quod athereis in mundo vescitur auris
Halleluya canat tempus in omne Deo.*

Celebrate the Lord most high in holy praises:
Let the firmament echo the glorious deeds of God.
Sing ye the glorious deeds of God, and with holy voice
Sound forth oft the power of his mighty hand.

Let the warlike trumpet sing the great name of the Lord:
Celebrate the Lord with Pierian lyre.
Let resounding timbrels ring to the praise of the most-high God,
Lofty organs peal to the praise of the holy God.

Him let melodious psalteries sing with fine string,
Him let joyful dance praise with nimble foot.
Let hollow cymbals pour forth divine praises,
Sweet-sounding cymbals filled with the praise of God.
Let everything in the world that feeds upon the air of heaven
Sing Hallelujah to God for evermore.

(paraphrase of Psalm 150, tr. John Siman)



When I see the heavens, the work of your hands,
the moon and the stars which you arranged,
what is man that you should keep him in mind,
mortal man that you care for him?

Yet you have made him little less than a god;
with glory and honor you crowned him,
gave him power over the works of your hands,
put all things under his feet.

All of them, sheep and cattle,
yes, even the savage beasts,
birds of the air, and fish of the sea,
that make their way through the waters.

(Text: Psalm 8:4–5, 6–7, 8–9;

Refrain: © 1968, 1981, 1997, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc.,

Verses: © 1974, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc.;

Music: © 1998, Peter Latona)

“Look up and count the stars if ye may,”
thus God to Abram did declare;
“So shall all your descendants be
for now and all eternity.”

We are the stars from God’s own hand,
reflections of his own true love,
the beauty of God’s heavenly plan,
the eternal gift from heaven above.

Now gaze upon the infant child
with Joseph and the Virgin nigh;
may all our families be like them
in peace and joy and unity.

Grant, Lord, we pray, the grace to be
the shining splendor of God’s love:
his radiant light of truth and hope
from heaven down to earth below.



5. So gaze u - pon the stars on high, sing praise to God with
6. Praise God the Fa - ther, God the Son and Ho - ly Spi - rit

sin - gle voice Ac - cept his gift and
with them one. We pray they bless our

guard it well and let his will be our hearts' choice.
fam - 'lies now and through-out all e - ter - ni - ty.

Descant for Verse 6



6. Praise God the Fa - ther, God the Son,
and Ho - ly Spi - rit with them one.
We pray they bless our fam - 'lies now
and through-out all e - ter - ni - ty.

*(Text and Music: Peter Latona, © 2015, Birnamwood Publications,
a division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.)*



SEEK HIM THAT MAKETH THE SEVEN STARS

Jonathan Dove
(b. 1959)

Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion
and turneth the shadow of death into the morning.
Alleluia, yea, the darkness shineth as the day,
the night is light about me. Amen.

(Amos 5:8; Psalm 139)

SICUT CERVUS

Ziprianus
(fl. 1560)

*Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum,
ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.
Miserere mei et parce peccatis meis.*

As the deer longs for fountains of water,
so my soul longs for thee, O God.
Have mercy on me and spare my sins.

(Psalm 42:1)



SERVANTS OF GOD

Peter Latona

Ser-vants of God, bless the Lord; praise the Lord,

praise and e - xalt him a - bove all for - e - ver.

Al - le - lu - ia.

Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord,
Praise and exalt him above all forever.

Angels of the Lord, bless the Lord,
You heavens, bless the Lord.

All you waters above the heavens, bless the Lord.
All you hosts of the Lord, bless the Lord.

Sun and moon, bless the Lord.
Stars of heaven, bless the Lord.

Every shower and dew, bless the Lord.
All you winds, bless the Lord.

Fire and heat, bless the Lord.
Cold and chill, bless the Lord.

Let the earth bless the Lord.
Praise and exalt him above all forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

*(Text: Daniel 3:85, 57–67, 74, adapted from the New American Bible, Revised Edition;
Music: Peter Latona, © 2024, Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP),
a division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.)*



DROP, DROP, SLOW TEARS

Peter Latona

Drop, drop, slow tears, and bathe those beauteous feet,
which brought from heaven the news and Prince of Peace.
Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat;
to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.
In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears;
nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

(Phinneas Fletcher, 1582–1650)

AVE VERUM CORPUS

Colin Mawby
(1936–2019)

*Ave verum corpus
natum de Maria virgine:
vere passum immolatum
in cruce pro homine,
cujus latus perforatum
unda fluxit aqua et sanguine,
esto nobis prægustatum
in mortis examine.*

Hail, true Body,
born of the Virgin Mary:
having truly suffered,
sacrificed on the cross for man,
whose pierced side
flowed water and blood,
be for us a foretaste
in the test of death.

(attr. Pope Innocent VI, 1282–1362)



PUES DIOS TE DA SUS DESPOJOS

Juan Bautista Comes
(1568–1643)

*Pues Dios te da sus despojos
aquesto sólo has de hacer:
creer y cerrar los ojos,
abrir la boca y comer.
En esto está su sosiego,
si a tanto bien tu alma aspira:
porque ninguno al sol mira,
que no quede en todo ciego.
Come y quita tus antojos,
porque aquí sólo has de hacer:
creer y cerrar los ojos,
abrir la boca y comer.*

May God grant you his morsels.
This is all you need do:
believe and close your eyes,
open your mouth and eat.
In this lies your peace:
if your soul aspires to such good;
for no one looks at the sun
without going wholly blind.
Eat, rid yourself of your notions,
for this is all you need do:
believe and close your eyes,
open your mouth and eat.

(Anonymous, XVII c.)

LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE

Edward Cuthbert Bairstow
(1874–1946)

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and stand with fear and trembling,
and lift itself above all earthly thought.

For the King of kings and Lord of lords, Christ our God,
cometh forth to be our oblation,
and to be given for Food to the faithful.

Before him come the choirs of angels
with every principality and power;
the Cherubim with many eyes, and winged Seraphim,
who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the hymn:
Alleluia!

(Liturgy of Saint James)



SICILIENNE

Maurice Duruflé
(1902–1986)

Adam Chlebek, organist

A HYMN FOR SAINT CECILIA

Herbert Howells
(1892–1983)

Sing for the morning's joy, Cecilia, sing,
In words of youth and praises of the Spring,
Walk the bright colonnades by fountains' spray,
And sing as sunlight fills the waking day;
Till angels, voyaging in upper air,
Pause on a wing and gather the clear sound
Into celestial joy, wound and unwound,
A silver chain, or golden as your hair.

Sing for your loves of heaven and of earth,
In words of music, and each word a truth;
Marriage of heart and longings that aspire,
A bond of roses, and a ring of fire.
Your summertime grows short and fades away,
Terror must gather to a martyr's death;
But never tremble, the last indrawn breath
Remembers music as an echo may.

Through the cold aftermath of centuries,
Cecilia's music dances in the skies;
Lend us a fragment of the immortal air,
That with your choiring angels we may share,
A word to light us thro' time-fettered night,
Water of life, or rose of paradise,
So from the earth another song shall rise
To meet your own in heaven's long delight.

(Ursula Vaughan Williams, 1911–2011)

PSALM 71: I WILL SING OF YOUR SALVATION

Peter Latona

I will sing, I will sing of your sal - va - tion.

I will sing, I will sing of your sal - va - tion.

I will sing, I will sing of your sal - va - tion.

In you, O LORD, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.
In your justice rescue me, and deliver me;
incline your ear to me, and save me.

Be my rock of refuge,
a stronghold to give me safety,
for you are my rock and my fortress.
O my God, rescue me from the hand of the wicked.

For you are my hope, O Lord;
my trust, O God, from my youth.
On you I depend from birth;
from my mother's womb you are my strength.

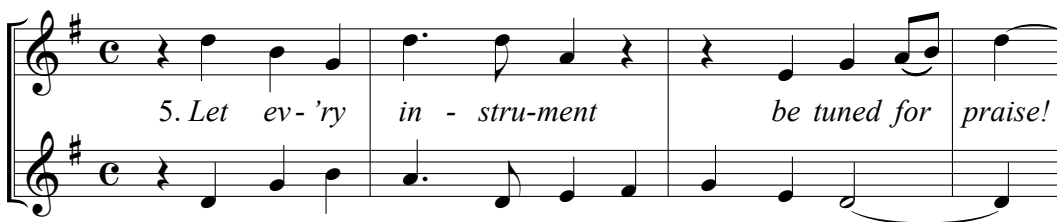
My mouth shall declare your justice,
day by day your salvation.
O God, you have taught me from my youth,
and till the present I proclaim your wondrous deeds.

*(Text: Psalm 71:1–6 15, 17; Refrain: © 1968, 1981, 1997, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc.,
Verses: Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States, second typical edition,
© 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine;
Music: © 2021, Peter Latona)*

WHEN IN OUR MUSIC GOD IS GLORIFIED

ENGELBERG

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924); Descant: Richard Proulx (1937–2010)



1. When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied,
 2. How oft - en, mak - ing mu - sic, we have found
 S/A 3. So has the Church, in lit - ur - gy and song,
 T/B 4. And did not Je - sus sing a psalm that night
 5. Let ev-'ry in - stru-ment be tuned for praise!



And ad - o - ra - tion leaves no room for pride, It is as
 A new di - men - sion in the world of sound, As wor-ship
 In faith and love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong, Borne wi-tness
 When ut-most e - vil strove a - gainst the light? Then let us
 Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise! And may God



though the whole cre - a - tion cried:
 moved us to a more pro - found
 to the truth in ev - 'ry tongue:
 sing, for whom he won the fight:
 give us faith to sing al - ways:

Al - le - lu - ia!

THE CHOIR OF THE BASILICA is the resident choir of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (Washington, D.C.). The choir is comprised of sixteen professional singers from the greater Washington metropolitan area and is dedicated to providing excellence in sacred choral music in the context of Liturgy throughout the Liturgical Year. The choir is engaged in almost one hundred performances each year, and prepares approximately three hundred works each season drawn from the wealth of the Roman Catholic sacred music tradition. In addition to performing choral literature from the vast treasury of sacred music, the choir champions newly composed works and has given numerous premieres including Henryk Górecki's *Pod Twoją Obronę* (North American premiere) and James MacMillan's *Tota pulchra es* (world premiere).

The choir maintains an active recording schedule and their performances have been broadcast throughout the world on the Eternal Word Television Network, NPR, WAOB Radio, Salt and Light Media, and the Catholic Channel on Sirius XM. The choir has been featured at numerous festivals and conferences including the International Festival of Sacred Music and Art in Rome, the National Conventions of the American Guild of Organists, the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, the Conference of Roman Catholic Cathedral Musicians, and the American Choral Directors Association.

The choir has performed for dignitaries and heads of states including during the apostolic visits of Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis in 2008 and 2015 respectively.

Visit us at www.nationalshrine.org and www.facebook.com/nationalshrinemusic.



Soprano

Emily Krasinski
Crossley Hawn
Austin Nikirk
Grace Srinivasan
Alissa Suver
Nicole Vernot-Jones

Alto

Hannah Baslee
Janna Critz
Charlotte Stewart

Tenor

Timothy Coombs
Dennys Moura
John Mullan
John Logan Wood

Bass

David Breen
Shreyas Patel
Corbin Phillips
Thomas Rust
Carter Sligh

PETER LATONA (b. 1968) is the Music Director for the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., the pre-eminent Marian shrine of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States. Recognized as a conductor, composer, organist, improviser and teacher, he is dedicated to providing the highest standard in sacred music within the context of the Roman Catholic Liturgy.

An award-winning organist, Dr. Latona has performed throughout the United States, Europe, and the Holy Land, has presented workshops on improvisation, and has released a recording, *An Organ Pilgrimage*, on the Raven label, featuring all four pipe organs at the Basilica. In 2012 he performed to an audience of one thousand having been invited as a featured artist for the *Festspiele Europäische Wochen* in Passau, Germany.

As the conductor of the Choir of the Basilica, he has released numerous recordings of sacred choral music and presented concerts in the United States and abroad, performing nationally for the American Guild of Organists, National Pastoral Musicians Association, Conference of Roman Catholic Cathedrals, and Church Music Association of America, and internationally as a featured conductor in the *Festival Internazionale di Musica e Arte Sacra*. Among his recently completed recording projects are *Tu es Petrus: A Papal Tribute in Music*, which commemorated the Papacy of Pope Benedict XVI and celebrated the Petrine ministry of Pope Francis, and *Te Deum: The Sacred Music of Peter Latona*, which was commissioned by the Knights of Columbus and features many of the works composed by Dr. Latona for the National Shrine.

Dr. Latona's compositions are published by Morningstar Music Publishers as well as CanticaNOVA Publications and G.I.A. His music has been featured in various media productions including Bishop Barron's well-known series, *Catholicism*. He recently won first prize in a composition competition sponsored by the Conference of Roman Catholic Cathedral Musicians for his *Priests of God/Servants of God* and *Go into All the World*. He has received commissions from the Knights of Columbus and the Dioceses of Wheeling-Charleston and Helena, as well as by the Archdioceses of Washington, New York and Philadelphia. His music was performed during the Apostolic Visit of His Holiness Benedict XVI to the United States in 2008 and in each city visited by Pope Francis during his 2015 Apostolic Visit to the United States. In recognition of this accomplishment, Dr. Latona was awarded the *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* medal by Pope Francis. Most recently, the National Association of Pastoral Musicians recognized Dr. Latona as the 2026 Pastoral Musician of the Year for his dedication to providing the highest standard in sacred music within the context of the Roman Catholic liturgy.

Dr. Latona has also served on the composition faculty of the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music at The Catholic University of America. Dr. Latona's teachers include Gerre Hancock, McNeil Robinson, Thomas Murray, and Jean Langlais; he is a graduate of Bucknell University (B. Mus.), the Yale School of Music (M. Mus.), and the Manhattan School of Music (D.M.A.).

BENJAMIN LAPRAIRIE (b. 1981) serves as Associate Director of Music at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. Since 2011, he has assisted in the leadership of the music department and has regularly accompanied daily, Sunday, and other special Masses throughout the year. Notable liturgies include the Canonization Mass of Saint Junípero Serra, celebrated by Pope Francis, and the Funeral Mass of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. In May of 2019, Benjamin performed with the Choir of the Basilica in concerts and liturgies in Rome for the commemoration of 35 years of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Holy See. Previous posts include Principal Organist at Saint Dominic Catholic Church in Washington, D.C., and Director of Music at Saint Patrick Catholic Church in Saint Charles, Illinois.

As a composer, Benjamin's works have been performed by the Choir, Brass, and Orchestra of the Basilica, and have been recorded and broadcast worldwide on EWTN, Salt & Light Media, and CatholicTV. His setting of *Christus Vincit* was premiered upon the entrance of Pope Francis into the Great Upper Church of the National Shrine in September of 2015. Recent works include a setting of *Ye Sons and Daughters* for the Choir and Orchestra of the Basilica, a setting of *Joy to the World* for the choirs and orchestra of The Catholic University of America, and a choral setting of *ISTE CONFESSOR* for the Diocese of Orange, California. As an organist, Benjamin has performed throughout the United States and abroad, and has been featured as a soloist with the Pine Mountain Music Festival, at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, New Jersey, at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., the Eccles Organ Festival at the Cathedral of the Madeleine in Salt Lake City, Utah, the Sacra Liturgia Conference at Saint Patrick Seminary in San Francisco, California, the Cathedral Concert Series at Saint Augustine Cathedral in Kalamazoo, Michigan, the Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, and the Festival Organistico Internazionale della città di Alba, Italy.

A native of Michigan, Benjamin is a graduate of the University of Michigan School of Music, Theater, and Dance, where he studied organ with Robert Glasgow. He received a Master of Music degree from the Peabody Conservatory of Music, where he studied organ with John Walker, and was the recipient of the Bruce R. Eicher Prize in Organ. In the fall of 2019, Benjamin was appointed Lecturer in Organ at The Catholic University of America Rome School of Music, Drama, and Art, and in the spring of 2024, he joined the music faculty of Christendom College in Front Royal, Virginia. Since 2022, Benjamin has been a member of the board of the Catholic Sacred Music Project, under the patronage of Robert Cardinal Sarah.

ADAM CHLEBEK (b. 2000) serves as the Assistant Director of Music at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. A Polish American from Chicago, Illinois, he completed his Master of Music in Organ Performance at the Eastman School of Music in the studio of Nathan Laube. He earned second prize at the 2022 Taylor Organ Competition and was a finalist in the 2024 Elizabeth Stephens International Organ Competition. Adam has performed throughout the United States and Poland and has participated in masterclasses with organists Janette Fishell, William Porter, and Arvid Gast. In 2022, he served as the first Sacred Music Intern at the Basilica.

Adam is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, where he earned his Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance with Jonathan Moyer; there, he also focused on choral singing and conducting. He sang in the Oberlin Musical Union, under the direction of Gregory Ristow, and Collegium Musicum, under the direction of Steven Plank; and studied choral conducting with Jodi Kerchner and Ben Johns. Adam likewise participated as a jazz pianist in Oberlin's Performance and Improvisation Ensemble, performing with Jamey Haddad, Jay Ashby, and Becca Stevens, among others.

As a Catholic musician, Adam previously served as the Director of Music at Saint Thomas More Parish in Rochester, New York, and at Saint James Parish in Lakewood, Ohio, and sang in the acclaimed Christ Church Schola Cantorum under the direction of Stephen Kennedy.



JEREMY NG (b. 2004) is a software engineer, certified Carillonneur Member of the Guild of Carillonneurs of North America (GCNA), and former Assisting Carillonneur of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. He graduated from Yale University in 2026 with a B.S. in Computer Science and Astrophysics, studied carillon with Ellen Dickinson for four years and spent a summer at the Royal Carillon School “Jef Denyn” in Mechelen, Belgium, and was a member of the Yale University Guild of Carillonneurs from 2022 to 2026. In 2024, he helped organize and perform in the Yale Summer Carillon Concert Series at Harkness Tower as Co-Summer Carillonneur, and he has performed on carillons across the United States, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, and the Netherlands. Also an accredited member of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), Jeremy studied organ under Dr. Mark Brombaugh for two years and became the first Yale undergraduate in seven years to debut a solo recital on the Newberry Organ in Woolsey Hall.

Before Yale, Jeremy spent four years in the Manhattan School of Music Precollege Division, studying piano with Efreem Briskin and cello with David Geber; as a seasoned performer, he has appeared as a pianist at Carnegie Hall and played cello and organ in numerous orchestral ensembles, most recently with the Yale Symphony Orchestra. He also studied conducting under William Boughton and led the Yale Davenport Pops Orchestra as Conductor for two years.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PASTORAL MUSICIANS (NPM) fosters the art of musical liturgy. The members of NPM serve the Catholic Church in the United States as musicians, clergy, liturgists, and other leaders of prayer. Membership to NPM includes benefits like both local and national networking opportunities, liturgical planning resources, certificate programs, and discounts on continuing education. An annual membership starts at \$49. For more information about NPM and how to become a member today, visit npm.org/join-or-renew



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The National Association of Pastoral Musicians



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DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

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Vincent Fung, M.M.
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Crossley Hawn, M.M.
Choir Manager



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BASILICA *of the* NATIONAL SHRINE *of the* IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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