

Proposal

Choir to sing at Metropolitan Cathedral, Liverpool

I have been in discussion with the Master of the Music at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King in Liverpool. We have an opportunity to sing at the 11.00 a.m. Solemn Choral Mass on Sunday 22nd June 2003 in place of the Cathedral Choir. This is the day after the summer concert. That concert includes the Haydn 'Little Organ Mass' (also known as "St. John of God") and Monteverdi's "Beatus Vir". The intention would be to sing these, plus a few hymns and maybe some other items, at the Mass.

Patrick, unfortunately, is not able to attend, Andrew is available. Before we can take this any further, we need to determine if there is sufficient support from the Choir. We need as full a choir as possible with adequate numbers in all sections to create a good impression. There is no point in going ahead with this if there are not enough of us.

We realise, that many of you have church and other commitments on a Sunday, hence why we are trying to give everyone as much notice as possible, so that hopefully you can all be there. We feel that this is an excellent opportunity to broaden the choir's horizons, to sing in a great modern cathedral which has a very good organ, and to perform in a liturgical context.

It's not easy to organise events like this because of the need to rehearse repertoire and the constraints of our concert schedule. This presents us with a unique opportunity because we will have the advantage that we will have performed the music in concert the night before.

I will be asking for a show of hands to gauge the level of support this evening. If this seems to be viable, then we will start to formally put the arrangements in place.

If anyone has any questions they would like to ask about this, please don't hesitate to speak to me.

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Visit to Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King,
Liverpool
Sunday, 22nd June 2003

Main Points

- We need a decent sized and balanced choir to do this.
- There is no point in sending a small unrepresentative choir – it wouldn't be fair to the choir's reputation.
- I need to confirm that we are going to be able to sing to the Master of the Music at the Cathedral in the next couple of weeks.
- We will sing at the 11.00 Solemn High Choral Mass. This usually finishes at about 12:15
- Liturgically, it is two weeks after Pentecost and a week after Trinity Sunday, which may help if you need to negotiate with your church choir etc!
- As a minimum we would sing Haydn's 'Little Organ Mass' plus about 4 hymns
- We will have sung the Haydn the night before in concert so we will know it well
- There is an opportunity to sing more than this, but it depends on rehearsal time etc. This can be decided later. I have a separate note detailing the possibilities for singing if you want to have a look at it.
- Andrew is available, Patrick is away. We will probably ask Norman to conduct us
- Parking would be available in the Cathedral's underground secure car park. In general parking is not an issue (I speak from nearly 25 years' association with the Cathedral)
- Rehearsal in the Cathedral would probably be from 9.30 to 10.30
- From Nantwich, Liverpool city centre is about 40 miles, less than an hour's drive.
- There are sheets to sign-up and show if you require or can offer a lift.
- There is no plan to organise a coach. If someone wants to organise say a mini-bus for a group of people, that's up to the individuals involved.

I will publish more material and information once I know that it's going ahead.

If you have any questions, please speak to me and I will do my best to answer them.

Ron