

ST. MICHAEL'S CATHEDRAL BASILICA | 65 BOND STREET | TORONTO

St. Michael's Concerts 2019 – 2020

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A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

“O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise” (Psalm 95).

We are delighted, once again, to welcome you to this Cathedral Basilica of St. Michael in the heart of downtown Toronto in order to enjoy this year's Concert Series. Countless hours and sacrifices are made to make this series happen and I am so grateful for all of the efforts of our talented musicians that allow this beautiful and sacred music to echo through these hallowed walls. As you experience the beauty that this music offers, may you be drawn into the mystery of God's infinite goodness and love.

Rev. Edward J. Curtis, Rector of St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica

DAVID SIMON – ORGAN
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 | 7:00 P.M.

Organ Symphony #10 “Romane”
– Charles-Marie Widor

Prélude, Adagio et Choral varié sur le thème du
“Veni Creator” – Maurice Duruflé

St. Michael's Concerts and the Royal Canadian College of Organists are proud to present David Simon (SMCS 2011) in a recital featuring two significant works based on chant.



FOUNDER'S DAY CONCERT
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 7:00 P.M.

“Dona Nobis Pacem”

The Choirs of St. Michael's Choir School
Maria Conkey, Teri Dunn, S. Bryan Priddy – Conductors
William O'Meara – Organ

The annual Founder's Day Concert honours the memory of Msgr. John Edward Ronan, who founded St. Michael's Choir School in 1937. The 280 SMCS choristers perform varied works based on the Latin words “dona nobis pacem,” which appear as the last phrase of the Agnus dei section of the Mass and translate as “grant us peace.”

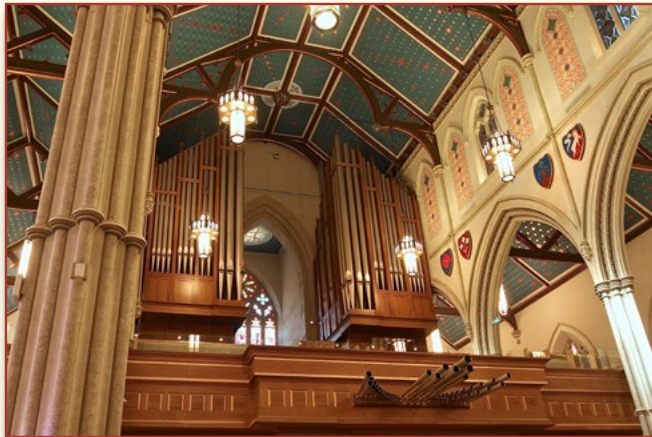


ORGAN SPECTACULAR

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8 | 7:00 P.M.

John Paul Farahat
Paul Jenkins
Christopher Ku
William O'Meara
David Simon

Dazzling and colourful works by Dupré, Koehne, Rheinberger, Tabakova, Togni, Wammes, Widor and Vierne, performed by the cathedral organists on the new Casavant Opus 3907, 56 stops/76 ranks.



ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18 | 7:00 P.M.

Sacred Music & Readings for Advent
The Choirs of St. Michael's Choir School

Lessons and Carols is a service of Christian worship celebrating the coming birth of Jesus at Christmas. It tells the story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus in short readings of scripture and in sacred song. St. Michael's Choir School will offer seasonal choral music and lead all in favourite Advent hymns.



SACRED ELEGIES

THURSDAY, MARCH 12 | 7:00 P.M.

Stabat Mater – Gregorian Chant

Dead March from Saul – G.F. Handel

Requiem in D Minor, K. 626 – W.A. Mozart

Schola Cantorum from **St. Michael's Choir School**

Schola Cantorum Orchestra & Guest Soloists

S. Bryan Priddy – Conductor

A program of reflective music on life's endings and the promise of the everlasting life to come. Mozart's powerful and enduring Requiem is complemented by Gregorian Chant and the emotionally charged, yet restrained Dead March from Handel's oratorio, Saul.



SPRING CONCERT

THURSDAY, MAY 14 | 7:00 P.M.

The Choirs of **St. Michael's Choir School**

Maria Conkey, Teri Dunn, S. Bryan Priddy – Conductors

William O'Meara – Organ

The choirs of St. Michael's Choir School – Elementary, Junior, Senior, Tenor/Bass, and Massed – present their final concert of the school year. Favourite repertoire from the past year blends with choral gems performed during the annual Spring Tour.



Donate



Support **St. Michael's Concerts** by directing your donation to
St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica
or
St. Michael's Choir School

Suggested donation for each concert is \$25.00

We welcome gifts of all levels in support of **St. Michael's Concerts**.
Donor names will be printed in the concert programs
and on **St. Michael's Concerts** web page.

Please visit **www.stmichaelscathedral.com/concerts**
to make your donation

*A tax receipt will be issued early in the new year if your total donation for
the current year is \$25.00 or more*





ROY THOMSON HALL

ST. MICHAEL'S CHOIR SCHOOL | ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sunday, December 8, 2019 | 3:00 p.m.

Ticket Price: \$30 – \$80

Ticket Info: 416.872.4255

www.smcs.on.ca/christmasconcert



Conductors:

Maria Conkey, Teri Dunn, S. Bryan Priddy

Accompanist:

William O'Meara

Guest Instrumentalists:

True North Brass

A musically rich blend of both secular and sacred carols to usher in the Christmas season. A Toronto holiday tradition, this is the Choir School's 82nd year. This year's concert, presenting exceptional choral repertoire along with featured concert work, John Rutter's celebrated Gloria for choir, soloists and brass, is sure to be one of the best yet.

ST. MICHAEL'S CATHEDRAL BASILICA

St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica, the mother church of the Archdiocese of Toronto, has been a visible sign of the Catholic faith for over 165 years and is one of the oldest churches in the downtown core. In 1844, the first Bishop of Toronto, Michael Power, purchased a plot of land for the building of the Cathedral from his own savings and penny collections from the Irish Catholic community. Architect William Thomas designed the Cathedral in the Gothic Revival style. Construction began in 1845 and the Cathedral was blessed on September 29, 1848, the Feast of St. Michael. Construction of the Cathedral's tower was completed in 1868 as a joint project with the city to commemorate the birth of Canada. St. Michael's Cathedral underwent a major restoration project over the past 5 years to return the Cathedral to its original Neo-Gothic heritage. The Cathedral was rededicated on September 29, 2016 and designated a Basilica by the Papal See.

St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica remains a powerful symbol for many Catholic faithful today. It is a testament to the faith of the people and a reminder of the presence of the Catholic community in Toronto. It reflects the sacrifices and struggles of those faithful Catholic pioneers that are laid to rest in its very foundations.

WWW.STMICHAELSCATHEDRAL.COM



ST. MICHAEL'S CHOIR SCHOOL

Founded in 1937 with the purpose of providing sacred music for services at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica in downtown Toronto, St. Michael's Choir School is a centre for musical and academic excellence. It is one of only six choir schools in the world affiliated with the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music in Rome. Each student admitted to the Choir School is trained in vocal and instrumental music, and sings in at least one of the school's choirs. In addition to the annual Christmas concert, the choirs tour regularly and perform at many local events.

Balancing the sacred and the secular is customary for the school. St. Michael's Choir School is not only famous for its music program, but also is known for its academic achievement, consistently ranking at the top of Fraser Institute surveys. For 80 years, graduates of the Choir School have pursued studies in science, education, medicine, law, business, and, of course, music. In the last group are the Crew Cuts and Four Lads of the 1950s and present-day musical artists Michael Colvin, Stewart Goodyear, Kevin Hearn (Barenaked Ladies), John McDermott, Claude Morrison (The Nylons), Robert Pomakov, Michael Schade, and the late Michael Burgess.



WWW.SMCS.ON.CA

