



NPM Cincinnati Chapter Winter Newsletter

New Chapter Director Lynn Meisberger

Greetings! At our fall dinner party, our chapter elected some new members to the board, and I am happy to serve now as the chapter director for 2007. Other new board members are Tim McManus from St. Vivian as the associate director and Darin Art from St. Clare as the new treasurer. Thank you to outgoing director Brian Bisig and outgoing treasurer Michael Dailey for their work that past two years. If you were not at the dinner party, you missed a fun time and a great meal! Our local chapter will continue to have social and musical events to support and foster the art of musical liturgy in Cincinnati, but we need your help. Membership in the chapter is still only \$10 for individuals or \$25 for a parish membership (3 people from the same parish). Please return the enclosed membership form with your dues to remain (or become!) an active member. For more information, visit our website at www.npmcincinnati.org. If there is any way I can be of help, please contact me at lmeisberger@npmcincinnati.org or at 513-777-6302.

Pastoral Musicians Lend a Hand

On December 5, a group of members from our chapter volunteered at the Old Saint Mary's Pregnancy Center in Over-the-Rhine. This was an opportunity to "practice what we preach" and do some hands-on service to those in need. The workers at the Pregnancy Center were very appreciative of our help, and those who volunteered found the experience very rewarding. Thanks to Ange Birkhead-Flight for setting this up. We're looking for other volunteer opportunities. If you have an idea, please contact Tim McManus at tim.mcmanus@stvivian.org.



*Rick Foegler conducts St. Catharine of Sienna's choir.
For more photos, go to www.npmcincinnati.org.*

Adult Choir Festival Sings the Season

Pastoral musicians know that Christmas is a season ... and despite what we hear on the radio, it *begins* on December 25!! So why not hold our Choir Festival during this season and give choirs an opportunity to share some of their favorite Christmas repertoire. Eleven parish choirs took part in the Festival held on Jan. 5 at St. Columban and Jan. 7 at St. Bartholomew: All Saints, St. Catharine of Siena, St. Michael, St. John West Chester, St.

Susanna, St. Columban, Assumption, Our Lady of the Rosary, St. Savior, St. Therese the Little Flower and St. Bartholomew. Choirs joined forces on several festival hymns, including an SATB verse to "Of the Father's Love Begotten" written for this event by our outgoing treasurer, Michael Dailey. The beautiful music and wonderful hospitality was a fitting way to close out the Christmas season!

P.R. – An Old Necessity in the Media Age...
P.R. – A New Necessity in the Church of Cincinnati

As I shared with you last time, I'll be taking the opportunity in the next several newsletters to discuss "P.R." in the archdiocese. Not public relations, but pastoral regions!

Throughout the entire archdiocese, our parishes are now grouped into 98 pastoral regions. This planning process has occurred now so that *in the event there would ever be only 100 priests in the archdiocese at some future time*, there would be one diocesan priest per region. (Note – this does not include retired diocesan priests or priests from religious orders.) So one thing we must all do is pray for vocations to the priesthood!

How were these regions decided? Not *solely* on geographical and numerical considerations, but ministerial completeness in each region and how parishes (and schools) could best cooperate and collaborate with each other were given as much, if not more, consideration than contiguous parish boundaries or Sunday attendance figures.

When a pastoral region would be implemented, those parishes in that specific pastoral region would share a pastor. Note that pastoral regions will not all be implemented at one time, but over the course of several years. ***Do not confuse implementation of a pastoral region with parish mergers or closures!*** There could be many different levels of independence as well as many different levels of cooperation and collaboration among parishes in a pastoral region. The key terms, perhaps even more accurately the *key attitudes*, in this process are *cooperation* and *collaboration*.

For the next several newsletters, I would like to share with you some thoughts and reflections on the implementation of the pastoral regions in our archdiocese. I am going to divide my thoughts and reflections into seven "P.R." categories...

- Past Remembered
- Parish Reorganization
- Personal Repercussions
- Professional Revamping
- Psychological Readjustment
- Prayerful Rejuvenation
- Powerful Rejoicing

If any of these topics strikes you, and you would like to share some thoughts or ideas with me as I continue to formulate this series for the NPM newsletters, please email at gdddrew@yahoo.com.

Know that all of you are in my prayers daily, and please remember to keep the clergy in your prayers as well. God bless one and all!

Executive Board

Director	Lynn Meisberger (777-6302)	Assoc. Dir.	Tim McManus
Secretary	Matt Phelps (574-4840)	Treasurer	Darin Art
Koinonia	Tina Geers (921-7842)	Chaplain*	Rev. Geoff Drew
DMMD*	Jeremy Helmes	Organist*	Javier Clavere
Advisory members Dave Allen, Eugene Englert, Anne Ketzer, Betty Reiber			

* *Appointed members*