

## *What's a Choir School??*

For centuries, the church has provided quality education in music and the arts.

The Choir School at St. Peter's Church will provide this quality education, liturgical experiences, and performance opportunities to young people on the South Shore. Membership in the choir is NOT limited to Episcopalians or members of St. Peter's Church, and the rehearsal and performance schedule will be designed so as NOT to conflict with regular Sunday attendance in other churches.

At present, there will be one choir of girls and boys of unchanged voices. In time, it is expected that we will expand to include multiple choirs and opportunities for boys of changed voices.

Founder and director is Mark Engelhardt. A church music professional with over 40 years experience, Mr. Engelhardt served for 16 years as Organist and Director of Music at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral in Boston and was Music Consultant for the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. As Lay Associate and Director of Music at Grace Church in Salem, he founded the Choir School at Grace Church. He is widely known in this country and in England as a polished organ recitalist, choral conductor, and composer. He has led music for conferences and workshops throughout the country and has wide experience working with children's voices.

## *So NOW you know why YOU should consider joining us!*

The Choir School at St. Peter's Church is open to children of all faiths and creeds but specifically offers training in the finest traditions of liturgically based choirs found in England, on the Continent, and in several churches and schools in the United States.

In addition to choral training, the choir school introduces young singers to the art of handbell ringing and music theory.

**Rehearsals to be scheduled,  
pending meeting with  
interested singers  
and their families  
early in September 2019.**

*Please contact*

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# THE CHOIR SCHOOL AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH 2019-2020



**St. Peter's by-the-Sea  
Episcopal Church**

**500 South Country Rd.  
Bay Shore, NY 11706**

**631-665-0051**

**[www.stpetersbayshore.org](http://www.stpetersbayshore.org)**



*"I will sing with the Spirit and with the understanding also."* (1 Corinthians 1:15)

The motto of the Royal School of Church Music forms the basis of the Philosophy of the Choir School. It is the belief that all children should have the opportunity to expand their horizons through music, and specifically through the finest music of the church.

The Choir School at St. Peter's Church is offered to boys and girls who like to sing. Children in grades 2 through 8 are invited to participate.

The training program is a tailored adaptation of the "Voice for Life" program of the Royal School of Church Music. This extensive program encourages a high level of music education which may be taken through a singer's entire lifetime.

Other benefits of the school include

- Opportunity for Piano Instruction, Handbells and Music Theory
- Recreation
- Fellowship

## VOICE for LIFE THE PROGRAM

NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE is necessary, and no qualifying audition is required. However, each singer's potential will be assessed, particularly in the areas of deportment, reading ability, and the ability to match pitch.



**MUSICALLY**, the chorister will

- Learn to read music and to sing at sight
- Perform a variety of choral music spanning 5 centuries
- Study Latin, English, French, German and African diction

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** includes learning about the church and all aspects of its liturgy, including, among other things

- Liturgical and Ecclesiastical terms
- Use of the Prayer Book and the Hymnals
- The Liturgical Year
- Memorizing Prayers and Creeds

**CITIZENSHIP AND SOCIAL SKILLS**—because membership in the Choir School is drawn from various ethnic groups and singers are of varying ages, members learn to work together for a common goal as we grow in musicianship.

**WORK ETHIC**—developing good habits to sustain throughout their lives, Choristers learn to

- Compete in a healthy fashion
- Focus on tasks
- Develop individual standards and leadership skills, and become a team player

## COMMITMENT: TIME

St. Peter's Church and the participating families share in a commitment to excellence in order for our choristers to achieve the highest standards possible.

Singers and their families must commit to on-time attendance at rehearsals, services and concerts, and communicating limited but necessary absences in a timely fashion to the director.

The Choir School program has many built-in incentives and rewards, however, parental support and encouragement is very important.

Participants DO NOT have to be Episcopalian or parishioners of St. Peter's Church.

## COMMITMENT: SCHOLARSHIP

As an incentive to work hard, an Annual Tuition of \$100.00 per singer is requested. This is held as a Scholarship for the singer, and is accrued for as long as the singer attends. Upon graduating out of the program, the full funds are given back to the singer as a scholarship to be used as they choose.