

NPM Committee for Chapters

Programming Suggestions for Chapter Meetings

In an effort to share our best practices, we have compiled the following programming suggestions for chapter meetings and events. Many of them have been successfully implemented in chapters around the country. Some of the implementing chapters are indicated. You may contact Sister Nylas Moser directly at mosern@adorers.org or m0s3ern@gmail.com, if you need assistance with planning or programming for your NPM chapter. Also contact Sister Nylas if you have any ideas to share. The more we have the better.

Cantors

- Lectionary Psalm Workshop (Lansing)
- Vocal Skills for Choir Members (Louisville)
- Cantor Training and Certification (Metuchen, Baltimore)
- NPM Cantor Intensive (Lansing)
- Cantor Workshops (Hartford, Toledo, Worcester)
- Cantor Workshop—Basic, Advanced, and Spanish Tracks and Basic Cantor Certification (Austin; Galveston, Houston, Palm Beach)
- Dealing with the Aging Voice
- Care for the Aging Voice (Dallas)
- The Training and Recruiting of Cantors
- Vocal Health Workshop, partnering with a health van for blood screening and light health check (Metuchen)
- Vocal Health for All Ages (Toledo)
- Resources for Psalm Settings
- Psalm Settings for the Triduum, especially Easter Vigil
- LTP's Virtual Cantor Workshops (Dallas)
- Cantor Certification/Good Vocal Techniques, Vocal Warm-ups (Rapid City)
- Transformed through Excellence: Meeting the Vocal Challenge
- The Care and Feeding of the Human Voice
- The History of the Israelites and the Psalms
- Are Your Pipes Rusty? A Workshop of Vocal Techniques
- The Psalms—Response to God's Word
- Proclaiming the Psalms
- Methods of Presenting the Responsorial Psalm
- Cantor Tune Up (Worcester)
- Role of the Cantor in Light of *Sing to the Lord* (Washington, DC)

Choir Directors

- Conducting a Good Rehearsal
- Warm-ups That Improve Singers' Sound
- Intergenerational Choirs
- Conducting from the Keyboard
- Lectionary-Based Choral Repertoire

- Conducting Workshop
- Artistry in Choral Music
- Music for Small Choirs
- Warmups for Choirs
- Group Vocal Technique
- Using Your Hymnal for Choirs
- Conducting Chant
- Lent/Easter Music for Small Choirs/Taizé (Albany)
- Chant Workshop with an experienced presenter (Philadelphia)
- Choral Workshop, partnering with the Archdiocese (Baltimore)
- Fall Choir Boot Camp Workshop with guest presenter (Hartford)
- Choral Music for the Less-Skilled Choir (Hartford)
- Where Have All the Choirs Gone? How to Create and Maintain a Parish Choir
- Building a Parish Music Program from Youth to Adult—Who, What, Where, When
- How to Build and Maintain a Viable Music Ministry
- Let's Make a Recording of Our Choir
- Make an NPM Recording using several parishes in the diocese. Culminate with a concert that includes sales of the recording (obtaining copyright and performance permissions, of course)
- Small Groups from within the Choir—Trios, Quartets, Octets, Women's Choir, Men's Choir
- Funeral Choirs—What Are the Benefits? How Do We Begin?
- Successful Recruitment Strategies for Children's Choirs (Pittsburgh)
- "Booster Shot" Choral Workshop presented by national clinician (Pittsburgh)
- Techniques to Teach Your Singers Basic Note Reading
- Teaching Music Fundamentals to Your Choir/Ensemble
- Music and the Presider
- Do We Sing What We Believe?
- Can My Choir Do THAT? Beautiful Music with Choirs of All Levels (Louisville)
- Striving For Excellence
- How Do You Spell R.E.L.I.E.F.? The Stretching of Musicians
- Solfege and Music Reading
- Dos and Don'ts of Good Musicianship
- Directors' Favorites—Directors bring multiple copies of their favorite anthems and all read through them.
- The Eclectic Choir
- Choral Techniques for All Ages
- Choral Masterclass (Baltimore)
- "Director's Choice." Directors, organists, and choir members brought twenty-five to thirty copies of two anthems from the liturgical year that work well at their parishes
- Choral Sounds and Rehearsal Techniques (Cleveland)
- Preparation for Choral Workshop--MP3 files and music packets made available ahead time (Grand Rapids)

Ensembles

- Small Ensemble Techniques
- Incorporating Instruments into the Liturgy (Rapid City)
- Ensemble Workshop with breakout sessions for different instrumentalists
- Workshop on practical ways to improve contemporary ensembles (Pittsburgh)

- Duets: piano; piano and organ with voice or synthesizer; violin; flute and violin (Rapid City)
- Utilizing Small Ensembles from within a Choir—Include Different Voicing (SATB, TTBB, SAB, SSAA, etc.)—Plus Shared Repertoire
- How to Combine Organ, Choir, and Guitar Ensemble
- Members' Recital

Festivals and Concerts

- Mini-Conference (Friday evening concert, Saturday keynote and workshops) (Miami)
- Lenten Choral Festival with Sister Chapter (Trenton)
- Evening Concert followed by All-Day Workshop with a guest presenter (Altoona-Johnstown)
- Sabbath Gate Performance (Marquette)
- Hymn Sing (Pittsburgh)
- Choral Festival (Pittsburgh)
- Columbus Day Annual Chapter Day (New York)
- Children's Choir Festival with well-known conductor (Rockville Centre)
- Collaboration with Diocese on a Children's Choir Festival (Toledo)
- Parish Choral Festival with a concert of choral and organ music (Milwaukee)
- NPM Concert Representing a Variety of Choirs from throughout the Diocese: Themes could vary—Marian, Spirit, Love, Chant, Praise, a cappella, motets, polyphony, etc., or a certain composer such as Bach, Rutter, etc. Include the title, composer, and publisher number in program
- NPM Festival or Concert, which includes a freewill offering to a worthy cause
- St. Cecilia Sing (Sioux Falls; Austin, Detroit—with several parish choirs)
- St. Cecilia Hymn Festival
- St. Cecilia/Veterans Day Celebration (Louisville)
- St. Cecilia Presentation with a guest presenter (St. Paul/Minneapolis)
- St. Cecilia Celebration in hymns, psalms, sacred songs, prayer, reflection, and dance (Cleveland)
- Collaboration with Hymn Society of America—St. Cecilia Sing evening of prayer and singing (Dallas)
- Multicultural Hymn Festival in honor of St. Cecilia (Shreveport)
- At St. Cecilia Sing a special collection to benefit Chapter programming and a reserve to cover expenses to bring in a national artist (Baltimore)
- Workshop on building up children's choirs (Greensburg)
- Sing the Seasons [materials furnished by a publisher]/thank-you lunch (San Antonio)
- Music Celebration at Tiffin Franciscan Mother House (Toledo)
- Easter Choral Festival with multiple choirs and a combined choir (Cincinnati)
- Pentecost picnic, games, and music showcase from all corners of the diocese (Worcester)
- Friday dinner followed by guest presenter concert. Saturday morning – 6 workshops (Memphis)
- February Psalm Event featuring local composers and Epiphany choir concert in conjunction with the Duchesne Branch (St. Louis)
- Duo Organist Concert and Workshop (Baltimore)
- Plan an NPM Institute/School through the National Office
- NPM Lessons and Carols—In December, meet with different parishes singing anthems, leading the readings, and providing instruments
- NPM Choir Tour in Europe

- NPM Choir Relief Concert—Benefits go toward a fund for people in the diocese affected by a recent disaster (e.g., hurricane, drought, tornado, flood, etc.)
- NPM Institute Choir
- Festival of Congregational Song (hymn fest) (Grand Rapids)

Fund Raising

- Special collection for the Mark C. Kulyk Fund (Pittsburgh)
- Sacred Music Estate sale (Wichita)
- Following annual Fall Musicians' Blessing, exit free-will offering for NPM Student Initiative (Grand Rapids)
- Choir Festival culminating with a concert to benefit Catholic Social Services (Rapid City)
- Silent Auction—Use FACEBOOK and encourage priest donations (dinners and golf are popular clergy donations)
- Clergy Talent Show
- Publish a Cookbook—Recipes are submitted from NPM members
- Gift baskets for the NPM Silent Auction (Midsouth—Memphis, Tennessee)

Handbells

- Handbell Festival
- Incorporating Handbells into Your Music Ministry
- Handbell Techniques
- How to Use Handbells in the Roman Catholic Liturgy (Cincinnati)
- Handbell Workshop (Washington, DC)
- Handbells for All Ages
- Children's Choir and Handbell Festival

Keyboard (Organ and Piano)*

- Approachable, Practical Organ Repertoire
- Organ Techniques
- Piano Techniques
- Helping a Pianist Learn the Organ
- Organ Registration for Hymn Singing
- Organ Registration for Pianists (Cleveland)
- Preparing for the AGO/NPM Certification Exams
- Hymn Playing Masterclass
- Tips on Incorporating the Use of Both Piano and Organ Together at Worship
- Getting Youth Involved in Organ Playing
- Organ/Piano Duets
- The Liturgical Organist: Achieving Artistry through Skill (Philadelphia)
- Free Organ Masterclasses for Archdiocesan Musicians (Hartford)
- Pipes and Pizza—Youth explore the organ with pizza afterward
- From Pianist To Organist 101 *or* One Person, Two Benches
- Creative Hymn Playing and Accompaniment
- Organ Crawl
- The Organ and Its Role in the Church
- Organists—registration and accompaniment skills
- Tips to assist assembly singing, including techniques at the organ, use of interludes (Worcester)

- Accessible Organ Literature (Buffalo)
- Accessible Choral Literature (Buffalo)
- Use of the Piano in Catholic Worship (Buffalo)
- Members' Recital

**These offerings could be done in collaboration with the local AGO Chapter Programming Suggestions for Chapter Meetings*

Liturgy

- An Overview of *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship*
- An Overview of the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*
- General Instruction of the Roman Missal: Why We Do What We Do*
- What Was It Like to be in Rome during the Second Vatican Council? (Scranton)
- Introducing the Proper Antiphons during the Mass
- Sunday: The Original Feast Day
- An Overview of the Liturgical Year
- Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy
- The Parts of the Mass
- Music and the New Evangelization
- Composer/Clinician Workshop and Concert (St. Petersburg)
- Beauty in Music, Liturgy, and Evangelization (Rapid City)
- Diocesan Choir for presbyteral ordinations (Lansing)
- Workshop on Psalmody (Philadelphia, Washington, DC)
- NPM Liturgical Institute
- The Role of the Liturgy Committee in Parish Worship
- A Day of Reconciliation
- Workshop for musicians working in parishes with liturgies in Spanish (Arlington, Virginia)
- Focus on the First Document of Vatican II—Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, in four workshop sections: Mystery of the Eucharist, Sacraments and Sacramentals, Sacred Music, and Art and Architecture.
- Music and Musician in the Church: A Conversation with Your Bishop (Joliet)
- Incorporating Psalms and Antiphons into Our Music Choices (Dallas)
- Two-day Formation and Retreat on *Sing to the Lord*. Topics: “The Music Documents,” “Skills and Techniques,” and “Chant and Hymnody” (Seattle)
- “Illuminating the Word through Art and Music” event (Louisville)
- Encouragement of all music ministers and clergy throughout the diocese to attend quarterly NPM meetings (Rapid City)

From *Pastoral Music* magazine—March 2014, pp. 37-38*

***Foundations for Pastoral Music Leaders:**

- Focus on the first document of Vatican II—The Sacred Liturgy, in four workshop sections: Mystery of the Eucharist, Sacraments and Sacramentals, Sacred Music, and Art and Architecture.
- Lent, the Triduum, and *The Roman Missal: A Morning of Mystagogical Catechesis*.
- Singing through New Mass Settings for the Revised *Roman Missal*.

***A Five-Part Series for Pastoral Musicians:**

- Session I: In the Beginning: A Brief History of Music in the Catholic Church
- Session II: Vatican II and Sacred Music: What They Were Thinking?

- Session III: Why Do We Sing? Who Sings? What Parts Should We Sing?
- Session IV: We Sing What We Believe: The Music of Catholic Worship
- Session V: Preparing Music Today: Principles for Selecting Music for the Mass.

*In the fifty years since the promulgation on the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, musically, where have we come? Where are we now? Where are we going?

**Rite of Marriage* and the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*

*Implementation Efforts and Pastoral Musicians

- Follow-up on Implementing New Mass Settings: What Works and Does Not Work?
- Liturgy and Music: Walk-Through of the Sunday Mass, *Order of Christians Funerals*, and pastoral music for the three “stations” of the funeral liturgy.
- Choreographing the Musician’s Work for the Liturgy: prelude, assembly singing the liturgy, choir/ensemble embellishments, and styles of preludes and postludes.
- Throughout All Time: Scripture and Song for the Liturgical Year (parishes come prepared to feature and play liturgical music designed for a particular liturgical service).
- Presentations on one of the four constitutions and, through sharing personal stories and theological reflection, attendees take a fresh look at the teachings of Vatican II for their lives today.

Membership

- 100% Parish Plan for NPM Membership (Grand Rapids)
- Parish membership, through which every member of a parish’s music ministry can join for one price (Trenton)
- Membership drive with prize drawing for Chapter members who register by a specific date (Chicago)

Multicultural Concerns

- Intercultural Celebrations of Mass—Native American, Hispanic, Asian
- The Immigrant Church and How It Affects Music Ministers
- Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Suggested Bilingual Repertoire for All
- African American Sacred Music, Part 2 (Washington, DC)
- Singing the Rafters [African American Music] (San Antonio)
- Gospel Choral Workshop (Worcester)
- Breakfast meeting followed by working to select bilingual setting of the Mass acclamations (Oklahoma City)
- Successful Approaches to Music Ministry in a Bilingual and Multicultural Environment (Rapid City)
- Vote on bilingual songs to be incorporated into liturgies (Rapid City)
- Music in Spanish for the Liturgy (Wichita)
- Develop a List of Bilingual Songs for All Parishes in the Diocese to Use Regularly
- The Church after 2,000 Years—Where Are We Going?
- Inculturation and Liturgy
- Many Cultures and One Church: Sharing Each Other’s Joy
- Cross-Cultural Songs for Any Parish: What Songs and Why
- It’s More Than Just Language

- Why Should We Learn Songs from Other Cultures?
- One Body! One Voice!—A celebration of the many ethnic groups and the cultural diversity embodied in the diocese
- traditional fall Mass and dinner with music for the liturgy led by a Gospel choir (Arlington, Virginia)
- Successful Approaches to Music Ministry in a Bilingual and Multicultural Environment (Rapid City)
- Top five Spanish-English songs voted for use in parish hymn repertoire (Rapid City)

Planning

- Table groups review list of programming ideas with each group selecting top three (Toledo)
- “NPM Preview Night” in style of parish ministry fair featuring upcoming programming and events (Baltimore)
- Winter Gathering on Presidents’ Day or Martin Luther King Day, for those who may have a day off (Baltimore)
- Principles of Planning
- Planning for the Seasons
- Selecting Appropriate Music for Liturgy
- Planning the Seasons: The Sacred Paschal Triduum (Orlando)
- Parish consolidation—**Disciples in Ministry** program to discuss the challenges and benefits in collaboration (Boston)
- Strategies for music planning
- Emails and Christmas cards to all the priests and parishes in the diocese: “Saginaw Chapter NPM is coming!”

Professional Concerns and Development

- Salary Guidelines
- Creating Worship Aids and Booklets
- Using Technology in Music Ministry
- Staying on the Right Side of the Copyright Laws
- Developing a Music Ministry with Limited Resources
- Church Music in Rural Areas
- Time Management Skills for Musicians
- Managing Music Ministry (Trenton)
- Promoting a Good Relationship between Music Ministers and the Pastor
- Volunteerism: How to Make It Happen for Music Ministers
- How to Make Rehearsal CDs
- Recruiting Musicians
- Sharing Ideas from the NPM Annual Convention
- Musical Resources for the Music Minister
- Purchasing Hymnals
- Clergy/Musician Relations (Wichita)
- Clergy/Musician Work Relationship—question and answer discussion (Louisville)
- Clergy/Musician Fellowship, Meal, and Talk: The Role of Music during the Triduum (Worcester)
- Introducing New Music to Your Assembly
- Financing Music Ministry
- Music Ministry Furthering Education

- “Sensational Summer Sessions”—3-week sessions in Beginning Theory or the Liturgical Calendar (Philadelphia)
- Bring Your Concerns—Question and Answer Panel Discussion
- NPM Annual Convention (Galveston-Houston)
- Revision of bylaws and efforts to follow the guidelines more closely. (Buffalo)
- Music Ministry Recognition Service with Bishop (Metuchen)
- Recognition of Service (Rapid City)
- Composing: From Conception to Published Product (Cincinnati)
- Academic Grants and Scholarship Program to encourage professional development among pastoral musicians (Philadelphia)
- Liturgical Music Tune-Up for All Liturgical Musicians
- Panel Discussion Involving Those Who Attend the NPM Annual Convention
- Short- and Long-Term Planning in Music Ministry—The Values and Tools To Make This Happen
- Addressing Music Complaints in a Professional Christian Manner—Panel Discussion
- Discussion and Review of Articles from *Pastoral Music* Magazine
- Stress Management
- Styles of Celebration
- Communication Skills
- Transformed through Excellence: Music Minister, Person of Prayer and Song
- The Role of the Pastoral Musician as Minister and Evangelizer
- Tax Returns and the Church Musician
- Singing the Mass, Not **AT** the Mass
- Helping Each Other: The Call in Music and Worship
- Bracketing Our Egos—How clergy and musicians can find a common ground for their ministry
- Keys to Vibrant Worship
- Joint Meeting with a Neighboring NPM Chapter—This could be an annual event
- Diocesan Survey to Determine the Needs of Its Music Ministers
- The Eclectic Music Program—A Convocation for Pastoral Musicians
- Diocesan Survey to Determine the Needs of Its Music Ministers
- A roundtable discussion: “Polyphony of Music Ministries”
- Diocesan Survey to Determine the Needs of Its Music Ministers
- A “Day of Study and Prayer” for clergy, musicians, and parish liturgy committees (Rockville Center)
- Educational sessions for liturgical musicians and liturgical leaders at diocesan formation events (Albany, New York)
- “Liturgical Congress” held in conjunction with Archdiocese Office of Worship, ALMA/NPM (Milwaukee)
- “Music as Mystagogy: Catechizing through the Sacred Arts” (Buffalo)
- “Putting Meaning into Ministry” workshop (Baltimore)
- Developing Strong Music Ministers with Limited Resources (Rapid City)
- Institute for Learning to Read Music (Newark)
- “Merging Parish Music Ministries” related to parish mergers (Pittsburgh)
- Practical Suggestions for Service Playing (Pittsburgh)
- Using the iPad in Liturgical Ministry (Cincinnati—PM, May 2018)
- Church Music Directors and Their School Music Directors—Working Well Together (Louisville)
- Sage on Stage—a veteran music minister shares what he/she has learned
- Chapter Meeting with breakout sessions on organ, keyboard, guitar, and vocal and

conducting techniques. (Rapid City)

Music Ministry Skills and Music (from *Pastoral Music* magazine—March 2014, pp. 37-38)

- Choral Reading Workshop
- Children's Choir Workshop: Growing the Next Generation of Pastoral Musicians
- Conducting Skills for Directors of Church Ensembles
- Basics: How to Read Music—for Volunteer Directors and Leaders
- Keyboard Basics: The Prelude, the Sung Liturgy, and the Postlude
- The Art and Mechanics of Liturgical Music Composition
- A study day for organists/pianists led by local AGO member(s)
- Workshop for the Cantor and Psalmist
- The Small Rural Choir: Schola, Ensemble, and Quartet Music
- Piano to Organ Crossover
- Selecting Music for Liturgy
- A study day to work keyboard and cantor skills
- Choir Leader's Study Day: Sample Rehearsal Outlines, Leader to Leader

Repertoire

- Reading Sessions on New Mass Settings (Trenton)
- Octavo Salad, aka "Bring Your Own Octavo" (Richmond)
- The Place of Chant in Liturgy
- Bring Your Favorite Octavo (Marquette)
- Music Swap (Marquette)
- Choral Repertoire (Basic/Intermediate/Advanced)
- Choral Reading Session, with choir prayers, warm-ups, and techniques for teaching various anthems (Rockville Center)
- Sight-reading sessions (Rapid City, Boston)
- Unity with Variety: Embracing All Musical Forms and Styles in the Liturgy (Sioux Falls)
- "Made in Detroit"—a showcase of liturgical music by Detroit composers (Detroit)
- Music Publishers—How Do We Get on Mailing Lists? Receive Free Music? Listen to New Musical Compositions? What Services Are Available?
- A Choral reading session with a guest presenter (New Orleans, Metuchen)
- Workshop with presentations on sound systems, repertoire, contemporary, and praise music (Baltimore)
- Free Music on the Internet and the Use of Social Media (Rochester)
- Free Sacred Music on the Internet (Cleveland)
- Gregorian Chant, Chant-based Motets, and Organ Music (St. Louis)
- New Settings for Acclamations and the *Gloria* (Wichita)
- Choir Festival culminating with a concert to benefit Catholic Social Services
- "Ever Ancient, Ever New: Introducing Chant into Our Parish Repertoire" (Philadelphia)
- "Choirs in the Round" with sung prayer, choir and cantor works, singers' clinic, discussion of music director issues, potluck (Worcester; Rapid City)
- A Day of Duets—Both Instrumental and Vocal—Share titles, composers, and publisher numbers
- Breathing New Life into Old Repertoire
- A Taste of Taizé
- Sing, O Sing: Steps toward Developing a Parish Repertoire
- Music That Serves
- Unison and Two-Part Choral Music

- Songfest and Banquet—exploring settings of the *Gloria* for Mass and listening to vocal and instrumental performances (Erie)
- Mass Sharing—Several parishes share the Mass settings that they are using. If the diocese does not have a designated diocesan Mass setting, make an effort to establish one
- Composers' Day—Composers in the chapter share their compositions
- Demonstration of Current Catholic Hymnals
- New Repertoire—How to Find It
- “Exsultet Workshop” for musicians and deacons (Rockville Center)
- “Parish Music Showcase, “where parish choirs and ensembles can share and show their stuff”(Albany, New York)
- NPM Worcester Chapters Publishers' Showcase for social singing and parish music planning

Sacraments and Rituals

- Music for the Order of Christian Funerals
- Music for the Sacraments of Initiation
- Music for the Sacraments of Healing
- Weddings: Challenges and Opportunities
- Introducing the Liturgy of the Hours in Your Parish
- The Basics of the Liturgy of the Hours and appropriate adaptations used at diocesan functions (Orlando)
- New Marriage Rite Workshop (St. Paul/Minneapolis)
- Devotions
- Stations of the Cross
- Sharing Handouts for Sacraments: Weddings and Funerals
- Communal Reconciliation
- Easter Lessons and Carols (Rochester)
- Taizé Prayer for the members who died in the last year (Boston)
- Taizé Prayer around the Cross (Rockville Center)
- El Día de Los Muertos* Mass at Cemetery (San Antonio)
- Singing and participation in Archdiocesan Assembly (San Antonio)
- Opening Mass and Dinner with installation of new officers and pastoral musicians' commitment to serve (Washington, DC)
- Music Choices for Weddings (Wichita)
- A Priest's Perspective on the Direction Sacred Music Should Lead Us (Rapid City)
- Wedding Psalms and keyboard and organist resource materials (Rapid City)
- Wedding Music: Problems and Solutions Revisited
- The Role of Music in RCIA
- Communion Rite Webinar

Seasonal

- Fall Wine and Cheese Meet and Greet (St. Petersburg)
- Annual Fall Mass and Dinner for Members, Choir, and Clergy
- Chapter Director's Holiday Lunch—an informal December gathering and sharing of seasonal presentations and upcoming programs (Baltimore)
- Winter Workshop: From Hosanna to Hallelujah: Music of Holy Week (Philadelphia)
- Candlemas Celebration and Liturgy Hymn Festival (Pittsburgh)
- Summer Musician Picnic (Albany, New York)
- “Summer Sing” for choral singers from parishes and choral societies to sing through settings of the *Te Deum* by Franz Haydn and John Rutter (Rockville Center)

- St. Cecilia Summer Choir Event (Seattle)

Social

- Annual Chapter Cookout (Boston)
- Talent Night Fundraiser
- Game: Name That Hymn
- Clergy/Musician Cocktail Party (Rochester)
- Clergy/Pastoral Musician Banquet (Seattle, Indianapolis)
- Clergy/Musician Dinner (Boston)
- Clergy/Musician Appreciation Night (Washington, DC)
- Annual Dinner/Meeting (Cincinnati)
- Annual dinner at NPM Convention, Courtesy of Diocesan Liturgical Commission (Richmond)
- Barbecue (Metuchen)
- Breakfast Gatherings and Discussion (Oklahoma City)
- Slideshow from Previous Years' Photos on NPM Anniversary Years
- Present a Recorded Interview of previous NPM leaders/award recipients from past
- Gatherings of new members throughout the Archdiocese (New York)
- Mardi Gras Fundraiser—social gathering featuring New Orleans style food and music and a basket raffle (Pittsburgh)
- Candlemas Day—religious and social event (Pittsburgh)
- Closing Banquet with Praise and Worship Exalt (St. Louis)
- Musician Appreciation Picnic (Worcester)
- Pre-St. Cecilia celebration gathering at a restaurant (Rochester)
- “Chew and Chat,” e.g. What is good about your parish? How can NPM help you? (Hartford, Philadelphia, Baltimore)
- “Chew ’n’ Chat”: “Musicians and Staff Relationships: Expectations, Hopes, Difficulties, Solutions.” (Joliet)
- “Chew ’n’ Chat” –a conversation around “Sounds of Success/Share Your Year.” (Joliet)
- “Meet-and-Greet” breakfast for members and guests prior to choral workshop (Baltimore)
- Town hall meeting to meet NPM president and learn his vision for NPM (Washington, DC)
- “Name That Hymn” exercise followed by dinner (Rapid City)
- Catered dinner to celebrate the anniversary of becoming a chapter (Louisville)
- Musical charades—in teams to guess a favorite hymn title; karaoke (Worcester)
- Membership banquet with Archbishop (Chicago)
- Annual Chapter Anniversary Dinner
- How Do You Welcome New Members To Your Choir/Ensemble? Panel Discussion
- Choir/Ensemble Party Ideas—How Do You Celebrate? Panel Discussion
- Pot-Luck Picnic
- Shrove Tuesday Luncheon
- Christmas Party
- Mardi Gras Party
- A Caribbean Cruise after Easter
- Take Your “New” Bishop to Lunch. When a new bishop comes to your diocese, the NPM Board takes him out to lunch to explain what your chapter does and extend hospitality
- “After the Marathon Christmas” Party *or* “I Survived Christmas” Party. Catered meal between Christmas and New Year’s
- Family NPM Picnic

- BYOG—Bring Your Own Group
- BYOP—Bring Your Own Priest
- Dinner and Evening Prayer
- “Eat. Pray. Network”—A Saturday morning brunch for area pastoral musicians (Dallas)
- St. Cecilia luncheon (Rockville Center)
- “Cheaper than Therapy” lunches in months that do not have a major scheduled program (Milwaukee)
- “Oktoberfest” with German meal and opportunity to socialize and network (Baltimore)
- “How Do You Do?” Twofold goal: to introduce members to someone new and survey other parishes’ practices (Louisville)
- Cleveland (or your diocese) Diocesan Trivia

Gatherings for Affirmation From *Pastoral Music* magazine—March 2014, pp. 37-38

- Lunchtime gatherings on a regular basis with those involved in liturgy and pastoral music to relax, share ideas, encourage each other, and talk about the joys and sorrows of the life of a church musician
- Celebrating musicians on St. Cecilia Day: morning roundtable discussions, lunch, midday prayer, blessing of musicians, and presentation of the St. Cecilia Award to two noteworthy liturgical musicians

Spiritual

- Spirituality of the Music Minister
- Taizé Prayer Service (New York)
- Music Minister as Spiritual Leader
- Retreat Day for Music Ministers
- Vespers with Blessing of Musicians (Dallas)
- Celebrating the Holy Year in Song – 8 presentations around the diocese (two in Spanish) (Grand Rapids)
- Taizé prayer for a deceased chapter member (Boston)
- Cantors’ retreat day (Paterson)
- Pastoral Ministers Retreat (Pittsburgh)
- It’s Not about “Me” but “WE”
- Annual Blessing of Musicians in the diocese with bishop presiding during Evening Prayer with reception following (Grand Rapids, Wichita)
- “A Lenten Weekend, Gratitude and Grace” with a guest presenter (Gary)
- Chapter Retreat Day including Evening Prayer and dinner (Rockville Center)
- Lenten retreat, focusing on private and public types of prayer (Washington, DC)
- Lenten retreat, “The Mystery that Contains Us” (the Paschal Mystery) (Washington, DC)
- “East Meets West” [areas of diocese] pilgrimage to Mother Seton Shrine and Mt. St. Mary’s Seminary (Baltimore)
- “East Meets West” [areas of diocese] Liturgical Space Tour and Organ Crawl (Baltimore)
- “In the Spirit of St. Francis” architecture tour (Baltimore)
- Music Ministers’ Evening Retreat (Hartford)
- Holy Hour Including Exposition and Benediction with prayer, music, and Scripture (Raleigh)
- “Lent to Easter: From Darkness to Light” pre-Lenten reflection (Wichita)
- Examination of Conscience for musicians from NPM *Sing to the Lord* Study Guide [Bishop’s talk] (San Angelo)

- Colloquium Day: The Body of Christ at Prayer: What Is All the Singing About? A Paschal Mystery Approach (Lansing)
- Spirituality for the Pastoral Musician, evening celebration (Washington, DC)
- “Ignatian Discernment: Tools for the Road Ahead” to address major changes in diocese (Pittsburgh)
- Prayer at Rehearsal
- Some Say They Don’t Pray Adequately At Mass While Involved in Music Ministry—Tools to Reverse This So That Their Prayer Is Even Richer
- Music for Spirituality and Prayer
- Finding the Balance between Music Ministry and Prayer
- Do We Take Time to Pray For Ourselves?
- Spirituality of Hymn Texts for Catholic Worship
- Spiritual Medicine for the Church Musician
- Celebrating the Holy Days—Panel Discussion
- Spring Awakening Retreat for Music Ministers (Louisville)
- The Holistic Minister (Orlando)
- Morning of reflection on the theology of ministry on the weekend before Palm Sunday (Paterson)
- Lenten Weekend Retreat (Grand Rapids)
- “Re-igniting Your Mission: Balance, Self-Care, and Ministry” (Orlando)
- Faith Sharing: NPM Board of Directors will meet prior to all of our board meetings for faith sharing
- “Sing the Joy of the Gospel: Igniting the Fires of Mission through Song.” (Albany, New York)
- “Taking Back Sunday”: Examining how to get youth and families to move church up on the priority list (Albany, New York)
- Music Ministry and Evangelization—presentation and discussion (Baltimore)
- Prayer Encounter of Hearing and Seeing the Word of God: *Visio Divina* (Rapid City)

Technology & Publication to Promote Programming and Meetings

- Develop an NPM website and post the programming for the next NPM meeting
- Develop an NPM FACEBOOK page and post the programming for the next NPM meeting
- Active Facebook page (Sioux Falls)
- Publish a Newsletter
- Chapter newsletter sent to chapter members, those in parish liturgical and leadership roles, NPM colleagues from around the country, music ministers in parish who have an NPM parish membership (Grand Rapids)
- Develop a Database of All NPM Members Including Contact Information
- Develop an Email Group Mailing List for NPM Members
- Include an article in the diocesan publication after each NPM meeting
- Publish upcoming NPM meeting information in the diocesan publication
- Ask the Chancery to send out bulletin announcements to all parishes regarding upcoming NPM meetings
- A Review of the National NPM Website and What It Offers
- Technology Institute for Music Ministers
- Sound in Worship Seminar* addressing the basic theory of sound configurations in worship settings, sound operators, sound components and their specific usage, application of aural skills (St. Paul-Minneapolis)
- The Dos and Don’ts of Acoustics and Amplification

- “Clouds Are Not Just for Rain”—on the use of new technologies that impact our ministries (Pittsburgh)
- “Compiling, Formatting, and Publishing Worship Aids with Copyright Permission” (Rapid City)
- “Demonstrating the New National NPM Website in Real Time” (Rapid City)
- Tips and Tricks in using *Finale* (Cincinnati)
- Using *Finale* with Microsoft *Word* and *Publisher* (Cincinnati)
- Do You Hear What I Hear? or Sound Advice—Sound Systems and the Use of Microphones: a presentation on sound systems, acoustics, and microphones
- Compiling, Designing, and Printing Worship Aids with Proper Copyright
- Sound for Worship Seminar*, a demonstration and discussion with sound technicians and music and worship directors about sound quality, components, and configuration in live music ministry. (St. Paul/Minneapolis)
- Online survey completed by music coordinators throughout the Archdiocese (Louisville)

Youth

- Chapter Dinner with Panel Discussion on Engaging Youth/Young Adults in Music (Louisville)
- Best Practices for Children and Youth Choirs
- Youth in Music Ministry
- Resources for Instrumentals
- Organizing a Church Orchestra—Bring On the Youth
- Day-long workshop on roles and skills for youth musicians grades 7–12 (Washington, DC)
- Concert of Youth Voices (Hartford)
- Youth Make a Joyful Noise: A workshop for youth grades 8–12 and adults interested in teen-led music ministry (Washington, DC)
- Excellence in Music Award for a graduating high school senior (Philadelphia)
- NPM for Youth
- Youth and Liturgy
- Music and Liturgy in Newman Centers
- Laudate*: Forming Youth for Music Ministry
- High School Recognition Awards for youth participation through the years in parish music ministry
- “Teaching Values beyond Music through Music”—the goal is “to change kids, one song at a time.” (Indianapolis)
- Liturgical Band Camp for Youth (Saginaw)

Awards & Acknowledgements

- Emerging Youth Music Ministry Award
- Emerging Music Ministry Award
- Teen Awards (Rochester)
- 25, 40, and 50 Years of Service Award For Music Ministry
- St. Cecilia Award For Clergy
- St. Cecilia Award For Laity
- St Cecilia Award for longtime service to a parish
- Scholarships
- Continuing education awards (Rochester)
- Young Liturgical Musician Certificates (Wichita)