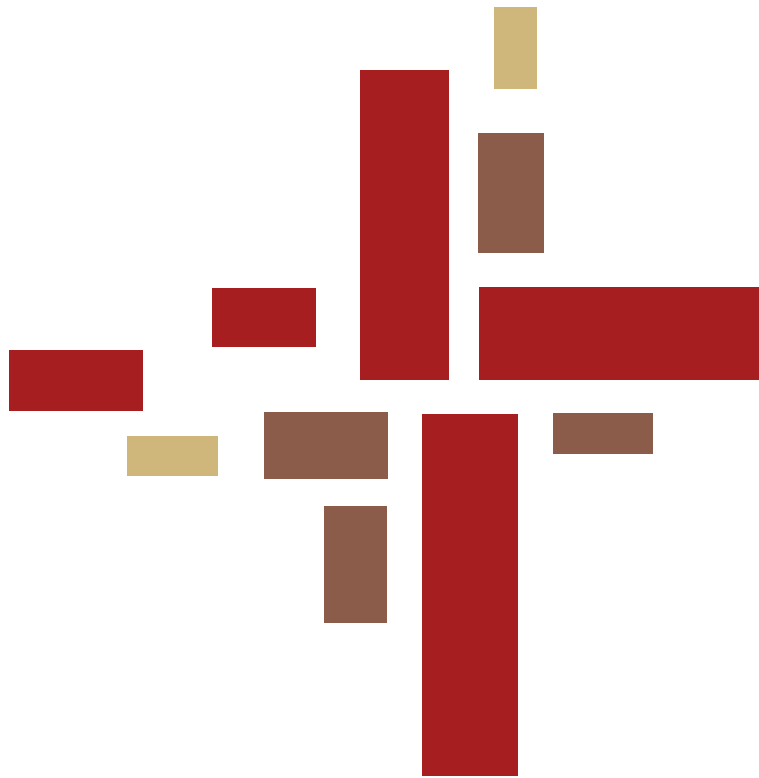


Preparatory Choir

The Church of St. John the Divine



2025-2026

RSOM AMERICA



"I will sing with the spirit and with the understanding also."

1 Corinthians 14:15

The Church of St. John the Divine Music Staff

Steve Newberry
Director of Music & Worship
snewberry@sjd.org
713-354-2242

Anna Teagarden
Assoc. Dir. of Music-
SJD Choristers
ateagarden@sjd.org
Cell: 713-446-3428

John Meier
Assoc. Dir. of
Music & Worship
jmeier@sjd.org
713-354-2243

Dr. Hayden Coie
Administrator for Music,
Worship & Choristers
hcoie@sjd.org
713-354-2241

Mission Statement

At St. John the Divine we are striving to foster and strengthen a lifelong appreciation for music in children and adults - cradle to grave. SJD Choristers will apply the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) *Voice for Life* Curriculum, beginning with ages 3-18 with the goals:

- to teach and guide children and youth in sacred, choral and worship music to sing for JOY and all to God's Glory,
- to encompass pedagogy, theory, and liturgy into the program for age appropriateness,
- to work in conjunction with Children, Youth and Family Ministries,
- to pass on a love and appreciation of Anglican worship and to sing intergenerationally with the SJD Chorale in the Anglican Cathedral tradition in addition to other styles of sacred music.

Guidelines

Attendance

Commitment to regular attendance is essential and expected for the success and formation of our Choristers. Please email Ms. Anna or Dr. Hayden at least one week in advance for any absence. For a last-minute unexpected absence, please email or text as soon as possible.

Choristers who wish to make quick progress are welcome to attend Thursday's alternate rehearsal time in addition to the regular Tuesday rehearsal.

Drop-off/Pick-up and Safety

To ensure the safety of each chorister, please drop off and pick up your chorister promptly at rehearsal. Punctual pick up is especially important as other rehearsals follow. In accordance with church policy, a second adult is present at all rehearsals. If your child arrives more than 10 minutes before the start of rehearsal, an adult from their family must supervise them.

While there is no childcare on Tuesdays, parents and guardians are welcome to supervise children at the church. Room L20 is available during rehearsals as a "quiet room" for homework and other activities. The play pit in the Atrium and First Steps playground are also available for children under the supervision of a parent or guardian.

Dress Code

For all services, Choristers should wear black, flat shoes. Long hair should be tied back.

RSCM Voice for Life Ribbon Training

SJD Choristers are strongly encouraged to participate in our RSCM *Voice for Life* ribbon training program. It includes training not only in singing and musical knowledge, but also history, liturgy, Christianity, leadership, responsibility, social skills, and critical thinking. Upon completion of each *Voice for Life* book, a chorister will receive a medal and ribbon that corresponds with the completed book.

Choristers who wish to advance quickly in ribbon training are welcome to come for additional time at the Thursday alternate ribbon training time. We will occasionally offer *Voice for Life* Workshops on Sundays after church. Dates and additional details will be communicated via email.

Weekly Schedule

Tuesday Rehearsals:

The Cherub Choir: age 3- Kindergarten

Choir A

3:15 - 3:45 PM

Choir B

4:00 - 4:30 PM

The Preparatory Choir: 1st- 3rd Grade

4:45 - 5:30 PM

Wednesday Rehearsals:

SJD Choristers: 4th- 12th Grade

5:30 - 6:30 PM

Thursday

Alternate Rehearsal and Voice for Life Training
*by RSVP

4:00-6:00 PM*

Important Dates - Fall & Christmas 2025

Saturday, August 23	Open House & Chorister Retreat 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Open House & Breakfast
Sunday, August 24	Rally Day & Commissioning in the Church 10:00 AM Service Sit with your family in the reserved Prep Choir seating <i>Wear your SJD Choristers T-Shirt!</i>
Tuesday, September 2	Back to Choir! Rehearsals begin! 4:45 - 5:30PM
Sunday, October 19	The Preparatory Choir sings in the Church 9:00 AM service In church <u>8:15 AM Call</u>
Week of November 24	No Rehearsal for Thanksgiving Break
Sunday, December 7	The Choir of St. John the Divine & Preparatory Choir sings 5:00 PM Advent Lessons and Carols Service <u>4:00 PM Call</u>
Monday, December 22	10:00 AM - Christmas Breakfast and Book Drive <u>10:45 AM-12:30 PM - Christmas Eve Rehearsal</u>
Saturday, December 24	Christmas Eve 3:00 PM service <u>2:00 PM call</u>

River Oaks Chamber Orchestra (ROCO) Concerts

ROCO is proud to offer ROCOrooters during and after performances at SJD! This program offers engaging music lessons and activities with our teachers, a trip into the concert hall to hear one piece live, and pizza and movies with 5 hours of childcare under the supervision of certified and bonded childcare professionals. We encourage you to take advantage of this incredible musical resource in our community!

Cost is \$65 per child, and you can register at www.rococo.org/rocorooters.

Saturday, September 27	Concert: "Feels Like Home" 4:30 - 5:00 Child Drop-off @ SJD Reception Desk 5:00 Concert @ SJD 10:00 Child Pick-up @ SJD Parlor
Saturday, November 1	Concert: "Fragrant Memories" 4:30 - 5:00 Child Drop-off @ SJD Reception Desk 5:00 Concert @ SJD 10:00 Child Pick-up @ SJD Parlor

Important Dates - Winter & Spring 2026

Tuesday, January 13	Rehearsals Resume, Tuesday at 4:45 PM
Sunday, February 15	The Preparatory Choir sings in AWESOME 9:15 AM service <u>8:30 AM call</u> <i>Wear your SJD Choristers T-Shirt!</i>
Saturday, February 28	Richard Webster Choral Workshop @ SJD 10:00 - 11:00 AM rehearsal
Week of March 9	<i>No Rehearsal for Spring Break!</i>
Sunday, March 29	Palm Sunday Services 9:00 AM and 11:15 AM <u>8:15 AM call, Breakfast provided</u>
Tuesday, March 31	<i>Holy Week - No Preparatory Rehearsal</i>
Wednesday, April 22	End of Year Service and Choir Dinner 6:00 PM service <u>4:30 PM call</u>
Sunday, April 26	SJD Choristers and Preparatory Choir sing Eucharist 11:15 AM service <u>10:15 AM call</u>

River Oaks Chamber Orchestra (ROCO) Concerts

Saturday, February 7	Concert: "Do You Hear What I Hear?" 4:30 - 5:00 Child Drop-off @ SJD Reception Desk 5:00 Concert @ SJD 10:00 Child Pick-up @ SJD Parlor
Saturday, April 18	Concert: "Seeing is Believing" 4:30 - 5:00 Child Drop-off @ SJD Reception Desk 5:00 Concert @ SJD 10:00 Child Pick-up @ SJD Parlor

Choristers' Prayer

Bless, O Lord, us Thy servants
who minister in Thy temple.
Grant that what we sing with our lips
we may believe in our hearts,
and what we believe in our hearts
we may show forth in our lives.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

