



Fall 2026



PERFORMANCE

Saturday, December 12th, 3:00 pm

St. James Episcopal Church

405 East Main Street, Batavia

Program for December 12

Messiah (Part I)

G.F. Handel

We will be using the Novello edition of Messiah, edited by Watkins Shaw. Music will be provided to all Chorale members, so you do not need to purchase a score in order to participate.

However, if you would prefer to have your own personal copy to mark and keep, you may purchase the edition we are using here: <https://www.jwpepper.com/messiah-1378520/p>

If you already own a different edition of Messiah, you are certainly welcome to use it. Just be aware that page numbers, rehearsal markings, and occasionally other details may differ from the Novello/Watkins Shaw edition we will be referencing in rehearsal. For the easiest rehearsal experience, we recommend using the Chorale-provided score or the Novello edition linked above

Important Dates:

September 14 – first rehearsal

November 23 – Vocal soloists join us for rehearsal

November 30 – Instrumentalists join us for rehearsal

December 7 – dress rehearsal

December 12 – Performance @ St. James Episcopal, 3 pm. Call time is 2 pm.

Website:

www.GeneseeChorale.com

- recordings
- rehearsal aides
- announcements
- box office
- schedule
- fundraising & sponsor information
- An archive has been created on the website. It currently has all programs going back to 2008.

CDs & Flash Drives

If you would prefer to have a CD or flash drive to listen and rehearse with, please sign-up and Ric will make a copy for you. Cds are \$2 each and flash drives are \$5 each. You can also provide Ric with a flash drive and he will add the files for no charge.

Attendance:

An attendance form will be provided for each rehearsal. It is your responsibility to check off your name each week.

Please do everything you can to be at all the rehearsals. We perform some challenging music and always accomplish a great deal in one rehearsal. If you miss multiple rehearsals, you will find that you are falling well behind the rest of the group. We ask that you make every effort to be at

rehearsal and that you be as committed as possible to the Chorale. If you know you will miss a rehearsal, please contact me or your section leader. We will take attendance every week. With three missed rehearsals, you will be contacted by your sectional leader. With any additional missed rehearsals, your participation in performances will be at Ric's discretion.

Tickets:

Tickets can be purchased via credit card or PayPal at our box office at www.GeneseeChorale.com. These tickets will be available as "will call" at each performance. We will ALSO be using a traditional paper ticket. Tickets will be sold as PRESALE & AT THE DOOR. Tickets will be a flat rate of \$12.

Refreshments & Social Time:

We will have refreshments approximately once a month. Each day will be assigned to a section. The schedule is as follows:

September 14 – Genesee Chorale Board

October 12 – Sopranos

November 2 – Altos

November 23 – Tenors/Basses

Voice Testing, Placement & Seating:

In an attempt to develop the best possible blend and balance, every member of the Chorale will have their voice tested and will be placed in the appropriate section. **Every new member will be required to have their voice tested.** Seating arrangements will be adjusted over the first few weeks of the season.

Facebook

The Genesee Chorale has a Facebook page. If you are on Facebook, please like the page and like and share any posts.

<https://www.facebook.com/GeneseeChoraleInc>

Rehearsals:

Rehearsals occur every Monday and will begin at 7:00 PM and end at 9:00 PM.

- Please bring a pencil to **every** rehearsal. It is beneficial to keep it in your folder at all times. Please use pencils, not pens or highlighters. The music will be used again and the emphasis and directions may change. Please, no pen marks.
- During rehearsal time, please stay focused on what we are doing.
- Please save business matters until **after** the rehearsal is completed.
- Please do not rehearse (sing or hum) your part when I am working with another section. It is distracting to the other members.
- Please be disciplined in proper posture. Posture greatly affects tone quality, projection, and intonation.
- **Please be aware that many people are sensitive or allergic to strong scents.** The deep breathing that accompanies singing worsens when exposed to strong perfumes and other personal products.

Band App:

We will continue to incorporate the Band app to send out reminders and to share messages, files, etc. It is very important that every member joins this list as this will be our main tool for communication. If you joined last semester, you DO NOT have to join again.

You can join by accessing this link: <https://band.us/n/a4a8bak4h3Ybl>

Or, even easier, scan this QR code:



Proper Dress:

The Genesee Chorale maintains a professional image. Part of that is uniformity in attire. Please plan accordingly **now**. Every member is expected to wear the following:

Women - all black; Blouse, pants or long skirt, or dress. Sleeves should be below the elbow.
Jewelry should be understated and subtle.

Men – Black slacks, black coat, white dress shirt, black tie

Announcements:

Announcements will be sent out via the band app and posted on our website,

GeneseeChorale.com. Please get in the habit of checking the website regularly to be sure that you are up to date.

Music

- Music will be provided to you by the Genesee Chorale
- Semester dues are \$30 and can be paid on the member page of our website or by writing a check to Genesee Chorale.
- Everyone should have a **black binder or music folder**.
 - If you need to purchase a quality choral folder, we recommend MusicFolder.com. Many of our members use their DELUXE BLACK FOLDER with the removeable 3-ring adapter.

Section Leaders:

Soprano :

Merry Lou Holley	585-322-3725 (C)	robert.holley.4502@gmail.com
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Alto:

Kathy Meloon	585-475-1939 (C)	kmeloon@icloud.com
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Tenor & Bass:

Alan Barcomb	585-356-3319 (C)	dralbarc@outlook.com
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Sunshine Committee:

The Sunshine Committee will help spread sunshine in times of need, difficulty, or sorrow to Genesee Chorale members. If you know of a member who is in need of some cheer due to personal or immediate family situations, please email or call Julie Graham to add him or her to this list.

Email: teachstone@hotmail.com phone: 585.356.9832

Fundraisers:

Fundraising is vital to our existence and to being able to continue our fine tradition of choral performance.

Bottle Drive

Return them to Easttown Beverages and Redemption Center in Batavia. Let them know it is for the Genesee Chorale. Easttown Beverages and Redemption Center is located at 563 E Main St, Batavia, NY 14020

Preparing for a Performance:

Plan ahead and start upping your water intake at least one day before the concert.

Singers use up more water if they are sweating during performances or simply working in a hot, dry venue. It's easy to become dehydrated without even knowing it. Speech Therapist Ruth Epstein urges singers not to wait for the interval and then rush and drink all that they can: "Water should not be 'glugged' as a punishment but sipped throughout the day and throughout the performance.

Your H2O Checklist.

- Drink six to eight cups a day (but this is not a "magic number")
- Adjust the amount of water you consume to take into account sweating and caffeine
- Have enough so that you 'pee pale.'
- Room temperature is better than hot or cold
- Sip rather than glug
- Don't wait until you are thirsty to drink

If you find yourself struggling with dry mouth during the performance, try lightly biting down on the sides of your tongue and inside of your cheek. This will activate your salivary glands and get you through to the intermission.

Dress for the temperature - please choose smart clothing and footwear that will keep you cool and safe on the risers.

Avoid the dizzy spell - hydration, smart clothing and footwear, and remembering to eat will all help. Keeping your knees slightly bent and wiggling your toes in your shoes also helps to keep the blood flowing. If you ever feel dizzy on the risers, it is best to simply sit down right where you are.

Concert Etiquette:

- Arrive at the designated call time for that performance.
- Take care of personal business prior to lining up with the choir.
- Listen carefully to all pre-performance instructions.

- Always be in the appropriate designated place at the appointed time prior to performance.
- Prior to a concert, turn off any cell phones, pagers, or wristwatches that make noises.
- Please be aware that many people are sensitive or allergic to strong scents. The deep breathing that accompanies singing worsens when exposed to strong perfumes and other personal products.
- When entering the performance area, please enter in a quiet and respectful manner. There is a job to be done, and concentration is required.
- When entering and exiting, folders should be held in the left hand.
- Each row will walk onto the risers as a group. Walk softly and quickly. Always pay attention when you are in line so there are no gaps in the line. Do not talk.
- Movement during a performance should be kept to a minimum
- Posture - Weight should be evenly distributed on both feet. Hands should be down at your sides. Eyes should always be on the director. Remain still except for facial expression, good breathing technique, and singing.
- Never sing directly behind a singer in front of you. Everyone should be visible to the audience.
- There should be absolutely no conversation or discussion during the performance, including between pieces.
- Water bottles are not allowed during a performance. You will have ample time to get a drink before the performance and during the intermission.
- Please do not open wrappers once you are on stage. If you are concerned you may need a cough drop, please have one at the ready.
- Keep in mind that the performance is not over until the last person is off the risers.

Contact:

Please feel free to contact Ric or Caryn anytime with questions or problems. They are available by phone, text, or email.

Ric Jones, Music Director

(716) 523-0846

ric@imaginemusicpublishing.com

Janine Fagnan, Associate Conductor

(585) 250-5483

janine4him@gmail.com

Caryn Wood, Board President

(585) 356-5514

clburk27@gmail.com

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