

August 15, 2007

Dear Advanced Handbell Choir Members and Parents,

I hope everyone is having an enjoyable summer. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again soon.

First I want to congratulate those who auditioned for, and were accepted, into Advanced Bells this year. I think you'll find the repertoire enjoyable and challenging. As the only choir at Our Lady of Lourdes selected by audition, Advanced Bells is an elite ensemble.

We will have our first rehearsal at 6:30, Wednesday, September 12. Here is the Mass schedule up to Ash Wednesday, February 6. Arrival time is one half hour before Mass.

Friday, October 5, 7:00 pm **Confirmation** Mass  
Monday, October 8, 7:30 pm NPM Mass for Musicians\*  
Sunday, October 28, 8:00 Mass  
Sunday, November 18, 8:00 Mass  
Sunday, December 2, 8:00 Mass  
Monday, December 24 (Christmas Eve), 10:30 pm Mass (Preludes begin at 10:00; arrival 9:30 pm.)  
Sunday, January 6, 8:00 Mass  
Sunday, January 20, 8:00 Mass  
Sunday, February 3, 8:00 Mass

\*The Diocese of Metuchen chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians holds an annual Mass for Musicians. This year, Our Lady of Lourdes has been asked to host this special event. It speaks to the high quality of music ministry into which you put so much of yourselves. The chapter director specifically mentioned our "vibrant choirs" among the reasons we were chosen.

**Special Rehearsal:**

Thursday, December 20, 7:30-9:30, combined Adult Choir/Youth Choir/Advanced Bells rehearsal in the church.

No rehearsal: October 31, November 21, December 26, February 6

The Music Ministry Concert will be Sunday, January 27, 2008 at 3:30 (snow date: Sunday, February 3, 3:30).

Dress is still white tops, black bottoms and shoes, dark tie for boys.

Cancellations due to weather: This year, if there is the possibility of cancellation due to weather, you need to call my number (534-2319 x19) and listen for an outgoing message about such cancellation. If my voicemail does not state that there is a cancellation, then there is no cancellation. Also, I would like you to provide me with a parental email address where I can send changes to the schedule, other notifications, etc. should the need arise. Please send me this at [OLLMusic@earthlink.net](mailto:OLLMusic@earthlink.net). Thank you.

You are all excellent musicians, and together can lead the assembly to meditative prayer through your anthems. With your combined talent and commitment, I hope to make this year the best yet for Advanced Bells.

Sincerely,

Mr. Cole