

MUSIC @ST.PAUL'S



On a Musical Mission

By Karel Paukert, Organist and Choirmaster

On Sunday, April 19, at 5 p.m., I and several of my friends - Sandra Simon, soprano; Helena Safarova, contralto; and Robert Walters, English horn - will present an organ recital to benefit the completion of the organ in the church of St. Edmund Campion (English martyr 1540-1581) in Brno, Czech Republic.

The organ was destroyed during the WWII bombardment on November 20, 1944.

One hundred fifty Boeing "Flying Fortresses" of the United States Air Force dropped 1,500 bombs on the area, intending to target an ammunition factory.

(*Top right: the Church after the air raid. Bottom right: Church following the restoration.*)

The new organ (*above*) by the Swiss Company Mathis still needs several stops (registers) to complete it. The construction of this instrument has, so far, been made possible by the funds of the European Union, Czech companies and several individuals. Although the Czech born Madeleine Albright (Marie Jana Korbelova) at one time US Secretary of State sent her best wishes, as did President Vaclav Havel, the list of donors does not include a single person from this side of the Atlantic.

Please join us for this recital with music by A.V. Michna from Otradovice, J.S. Bach, A. Stradella, V. Bellini, L. Vierne and others. The proceeds will provide only a token amount, but I invite additional monetary gifts. Please make your check out to St. Paul's Episcopal Church and write PROJECT BRNO on the memo line. The proceeds will be sent to Foundation Campianus in Brno, Czech Republic. For more information, please contact me, either personally, or by email, kpaukert@stpauls-church.org. Thank you!



St. Paul's Choristers had a great time at TrebleFest 2015. Held at Trinity Cathedral in March, it was led by James O'Donnell, organist and master of choristers at Westminster Abbey, London. The choir sang Evensong, officiated by Bishop Hollingsworth, at the end of this day-long workshop. Photo: Andrea C. Turner



Mr. O'Donnell presented an organ recital at St. Paul's on the Friday evening before TrebleFest. He played both the Hradetsky (in the balcony) and the Holtkamp (shown here with Dr. Rick Nelson, Director of Music for Children and Youth). Photo: Karel Paukert