



MUNDELEIN SEMINARY  
SOUNDS OF THE SEASON  
2024

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## DEAR FRIENDS,

It is with great joy that I welcome you today for our annual Christmas Concert, featuring the beautiful music of The Mundelein Seminary Choir under the direction of Mundelein's Music Director, Linda Cerabona. This year's concert is especially noteworthy as we celebrate the centenary of our magnificent Chapel of the Immaculate Conception.



This afternoon we are blessed to share with you the impressive vocal and instrumental talents of so many of our seminarians and faculty. Our community liturgies are greatly enhanced by their gifts. As you enjoy the concert, remember that these seminarians are the future parish priests of the Archdiocese of Chicago and 24 other dioceses from around the country and the world. Just as the Advent Season allows us to prepare our hearts for the birth of the Savior, Mundelein is preparing these men to willingly embrace lives of service to the Church and the people the Lord has called them to shepherd.

Cardinal George Mundelein believed that the arts, especially music, present an opportunity to every seminarian for a true encounter with God's transforming grace. As we together enjoy this sacred music, we recommit ourselves to our founder's conviction that participating in the arts is crucial to forming the whole person.

This Advent Season is intended to foster in our hearts a spirit of anticipation for a renewed savoring of the miracle of our Lord's Incarnation. May the music we enjoy this afternoon only increase that anticipation and may the fellowship we nurture be a heartfelt witness to the love of God, who so desired to be with us that he took on our very flesh and blood. We are truly blessed that you are here today to celebrate the season and to support the future of our Church.

May God Bless You,

*Fr. John Kartje*



# CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2024

## PROGRAM OUTLINE

### PRELUDES

Noëls *Dandrieu*  
Linda Cerabona, Organist

*Wachet auf ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645* J.S. Bach  
Deacon Joseph Tapia-Beeman, Organist

### WELCOME

Linda Cerabona, Director of Music, Mundelein Seminary

### OPENING PRAYER

Reverend John Guthrie, Director of Worship, Mundelein Seminary

### WAITING

**O Come, O Come Emmanuel** arr. Timothy Johnson (2003)  
*Juanpablo Macias, trumpet; Linda Cerabona, piano*

**O Come, O Come Emmanuel** Latin 9th Century  
*The O Antiphons have traditionally been sung in the week leading up to Christmas Day. Poetic in thought and replete with scriptural allusions, each antiphon salutes the coming Messiah under one of his many scriptural titles and closes with a proper petition. —from Cantate et Jubilate Deo, pg. 84 (MTF)*

**Adam Lay Ybounden (Schola)** Boris Ord  
*This piece, composed in the 20th century, uses text from a 15th century manuscript recalling how God used the fall of Adam to bring about the Virgin Mary becoming our heavenly queen.*

**Pieśń Tęsknoty (Schola)** Lyrics: M. Piłśniak, OP (2020)  
Music: J. Gałuszka

*Translation: May your day shine, may your mercy come. May your day finally rise and bring us salvation*

## ANNUNCIATION

### The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Basque Traditional Carol  
GABRIEL'S MESSAGE

*This piece is thought to be from the 18th century and attributed to Bordes (1895). The English version is by Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924).*

### Ave Maria (Schola)

Jacques Arcadelt,  
arr. H. Clough-Leigher

*This French motet was written centuries ago during the Renaissance period. The choir sings this piece today in honor of the patroness of the seminary, our Blessed Mother.*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Deacon Ian Ordoñez, Diocese of Rockford

## CHRISTMAS

### The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

from the *Roman Martyrology*

Jackson Miller, soloist

*This announcement draws upon Sacred Scripture to declare in a formal way the birth of Christ. It begins with creation and relates the birth of the Lord to the major events and personages of sacred and secular history. The particular events contained in the announcement help pastorally to situate the birth of Jesus in the context of salvation history. It is often chanted before the beginning of Christmas mass during the night. —from the Roman Missal, pg. 1450 (LTP)*

### Puer Natus in Bethlehem (Christmas Chant Schola)

Anonymous (14th century)

*This chant explores our joy in beholding the Christ Child, who entered the world in the humblest of circumstances. We rejoice not only in the Infant King's majesty but his humility, having chosen to appear first to humble shepherds. —from Cantate et Jubilate Deo, pg. 102 (MTF)*

### Joy to the World

arr. James Curnow (2003)

*Enjoy this modern version of one of the most beloved Christmas carols played as duet.*

### Joy to the World [Gather #437]

Lowell Mason (1792-1872)  
words by Isaac Watts  
(1674-1748) arr. John Rutter

*Much controversy exists among musicians as to whether G. F. Handel wrote the melody for this carol. The name of the tune for this hymn is ANTIOCH.*

## **CHRISTMAS** *(continued)*

**Lux Aurumque (Schola)** (Light and Gold) Eric Whitacre

*Written in 2004 by one of the premier American classical composers, this piece makes use of note clusters to evoke a sense of mystery and awe.*

*Translation: Light, warm and heavy as pure gold and angels sing softly to the new-born babe.*

## **REFLECTION**

Deacon Joseph Mick, Diocese of Wichita

**Veinticinco de Diciembre (Spanish Choir)** Spanish traditional

(25th Day of December)

*In the English-speaking countries this is perhaps the most popular of all Spanish folk carols. It sounds like a dance-song and the recurring “Fum, fum, fum!” may imitate the sound of a drum. —p. 327 The Shorter New Oxford Book of Carols*

**Campana sobre Campana (Spanish Choir)** harm. Pueri Cantores

(Bells over Bethlehem)

*A traditional Andalusian carol popular in the Hispanic parishes of Chicago, this song speaks about the little shepherds going on a journey to see the newborn Christ, bringing their humble gifts along with them. We too are invited to journey towards the Christ, not bringing him sophisticated gifts, but rather a humble and simple heart, just like that of the shepherds.*

**Hallelujah Chorus** G. F. Handel

*One of the most recognizable parts of Handel’s Messiah, this piece borrows verses from the Book of Revelation for its lyrics.*

## **FINAL BLESSING AND CONCLUSION**

Very Reverend John Kartje, Rector of Mundelein Seminary

**O Come, All Ye Faithful** [Gather #439] Words & melody by J.F. Wade  
(c.1711-1786) Arr. David Willcocks

*The complex origins of both the words and tune of this universally loved hymn for Christmas Day lie in English Catholic circles of the 1740’s. It survives in different versions in several manuscripts copied by John Francis Wade. The tenor descant is arranged by David Willcocks. —p. 113 The Shorter New Oxford Book of Carols*

# CHRISTMAS CONCERT CHOIR AND MUSICIANS 2024

## DIRECTOR

†Linda M. Cerabona

## DISCIPLESHIP 1

+Cody Beeber  
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+\*Matthew Duff  
*Archdiocese of Chicago*

+Kevin Ellis  
*Archdiocese of Chicago*

\*^Br. Nathaniel Pierce  
*Canons Regular of St. John Cantius*

+Patrick Santino  
*Archdiocese of Chicago*

## DISCIPLESHIP 2

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*Archdiocese of Chicago*

~Caleb Pagel  
*Diocese of El Paso*

\*~Daniel Simon  
*Diocese of Cheyenne*

^Br. Mateusz Szymanski  
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~Gregory Wilk  
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+Jeffrey Davlin  
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^#Juanpablo Macias  
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\*~Anthony Richter  
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\*Blake Riffel  
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\*~^Conrad Sissell  
*Diocese of Wichita*

^\*Patrick Truskowski  
*Diocese of Grand Rapids*

## CONFIGURATION 3

*Special thanks to these individuals, who, though currently on pilgrimage, helped make this Christmas Concert possible:*

\*Peter Binder  
*Archdiocese of Dubuque*

\*Hunter Ostapowicz  
*Diocese of Grand Rapids*

## CONFIGURATION 4

\*Deacon Grant Huslig  
*Diocese of Wichita*

\*Deacon Benjamin Schoonmaker  
*Diocese of Peoria*

Deacon Dennis Marcos  
*Diocese of Lubbock*

~Deacon Joseph Mick  
*Diocese of Wichita*

\*Deacon Ryan Noorae  
*Diocese of Rockford*

\*^†Deacon Joseph Tapia-Beeman  
*Archdiocese of Seattle*

# CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2024 TESTIMONIALS



Greetings everyone, and welcome!

As Linda Cerabona's Music Assistant, I have the honor and privilege of working with many people here at Mundelein Seminary, most especially with my brother seminarians in preparing for this Christmas Concert.

Music has always been life-giving to me. When I entered seminary as a trained musician, I recognized that I was leaving the prospect of being a music director behind. Yet thanks to the music department here at Mundelein Seminary, I can be an active musician in the community through various means: singing in choirs and in the liturgy, vocal coaching, instrumental accompaniment, and even conducting! I am extremely grateful for this opportunity, and I am very proud to be a part of this group of gifted singers.

I sincerely hope you enjoy the Advent and Christmas music we will share with you today, drawn both from the Church's ancient tradition and from around the world. We invite you not just to listen as we share our talents with you, but to join us in prayerful meditation as we use the musical gifts God has given us to return praise to Him.

May God bless you all,

*Deacon Joseph Tapia-Beeman*  
*Archdiocese of Seattle, WA*



# CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2024 TESTIMONIALS



I have never been good at music, but this did not keep me out of Spanish choir. Rather, my own difficulties have forced me to engage with the business of singing even more intentionally. Spanish choir has provided me the place to grow in my vocal abilities, to deepen my appreciation of the spiritual significance of music in the liturgy, and to develop a stronger cultural tie to Spanish speaking Catholics by singing the songs that they know and love. —*Caleb Pagel, Diocese of El Paso, TX*



I have always had a great love of music. Despite no formal training and singing, I have always enjoyed it. Having been complimented a number of times and desiring to develop whatever skill God has given me, I have always hoped to take lessons or to be in a choir. Before seminary, I worked in the corporate world doing accounting in house for law firms for nine years. Coming to seminary was the acceptance of an invitation from God to live a new and beautiful life with him and for him. The irony is that in living life for God, I have received so much already. I am now in 2 choirs, both class choir and Schola and I am having a ball! In addition to learning the basics of being in class choir, I am simultaneously increasing my natural singing ability and challenging myself in Schola. The best part is that it enriches the liturgy for me personally. Singing to God in Mass really does feel like praying twice. —*Matthew Duff, Archdiocese of Chicago, IL*

# CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2024 TESTIMONIALS



Schola has helped me to appreciate the beauty of the church's musical tradition. It's amazing to know that so many of the chants, hymns, and motets we sing have formed so many Christians, even going back several hundred years. It is so good to be caught in something bigger than myself.

—*Conrad Sissell, Diocese of Wichita, KS*



Sacred Music raises the heart and mind to God. The beauty of a hymn or chant has the power to transform a day and draw me out of myself. When we sing in the seminary, we sing together. Our voices strengthen one another and blend into a single chorus of praise. This is what happens when we sing. This is what we are called to do in priestly life.

—*Deacon Ben Schoonmaker, Diocese of Peoria, IL*



Music here at Mundelein has helped me in my priestly formation by opening my mind to the vast array of beautiful ways we praise the Lord with our voices. Being a part of schola here has opened my eyes and ears to the multiple inspiring music pieces we can utilize for liturgical worship. I look forward to my years as a priest where I can share these pieces and pass along this music to my future parishes.

—*Shane Kliethermes, Diocese of Jefferson City, MO*



Since entering seminary, music – and especially vocal performance – has been one of the most formative elements of my priestly formation. Vocal lessons have helped me develop both as a singer and in preparation for my installation as a lector. Singing in schola offers me an opportunity for leisurely fraternity, and it is a blessing to be exposed to such a breadth of musical tradition. —*Blake Riffel, Diocese of Davenport, IA*

# CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2024 TESTIMONIALS



Music at Mundelein Seminary has allowed me to be artistic amid seminary formation and to experience the artistry of others. Participating in Mundelein's many choirs has enriched my daily life with the joy of singing beautiful music. The Scripture and poetry which we sing is deeply influencing prayer for me.

—*Jackson Miller*



Mundelein has made me realize how much a seminarian can develop as a singer with enough effort. Given that music is such an important art form in the Church, especially liturgically, the confidence we gain through training will make us better priests at the altar and in nurturing a music program at a parish. Liturgically, this is one of the great gifts we can bring for the edification of those we will one day serve.

—*Br. Nathaniel Pierce, Canons Regular of St. John Cantius*



Since joining seminary, music has enhanced my experience of prayer, especially when praying the psalms. Learning to chant the psalms has introduced me to a new way to practice the virtues of simplicity, sobriety, and restraint. This practice demands the deep attention of my heart, learning to conform my mind and voice to the message in the prayers, as well as the voices of my brothers.

—*Jarod Raber, Diocese of Peoria, IL*



Music is a transcendent mode of communication. Experience of music has transformed my prayer life and relationship with God. I am blessed to be a part of the Mundelein choir.

—*Daniel Simon, Diocese of Cheyenne, WY*

# MUNDELEIN SEMINARY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

## LINDA M. CERABONA, DIRECTOR

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Dear ladies and gentlemen, friends and family,

Welcome to our beautiful Chapel of the Immaculate Conception. I am Linda Cerabona, Director of Music. It brings me great joy to welcome you to our annual Christmas Concert. In a special way, we would like to also commemorate two very special days in the life of our seminary. First, the 10th anniversary of the blessing and installation of our E. M. Skinner pipe organ. Second, the 80th birthday of our beloved friends and former faculty colleagues, Fr. Tom Franzman, and Fr. Larry Hennessey, both retired priests for the Archdiocese of Chicago. Ad Multos Annos!

As I am serving in my 20th year, I am reminded of the joy and honor it is to continue to serve the seminary community and assist in forming our future priests including our yearly Christmas Concert! This year, our seminary Christmas Choir is a combined choir and includes 37 talented seminarians and deacons studying for the priesthood. They represent over 16 dioceses from around the country. Our seminary music program focuses on the spiritual aspect of music. Our concert will take you on a spiritual and musical journey through time beginning in the 9th century and leading up to the 21st century! -a span of 13 centuries!

A special word of gratitude goes to our seminarian music planning team: Deacon Joseph Tapia-Beeman, Peter Binder, Jackson Miller, and Deacon Grant Huslig. They have assisted me in creating and developing today's concert, which includes musical gems that form a constantly expanding treasure-trove of Advent and Christmas music.

Please know you that and your loved ones will be remembered in our prayers both spoken, sung, and in the silence of our hearts especially during the Advent and Christmas season.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda M. Cerabona".

Linda M. Cerabona  
*Director of Music/Organist*

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32<sup>ND</sup> CELEBRATION *of*  
**MUNDELEIN**  

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**An Evening of Tribute**

**Thursday, April 24, 2025**  
**Four Seasons Chicago**





# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS



**FEBRUARY 25, 2025**

**Paluch Lecture Series**

University of St. Mary of the Lake  
7:00PM - 9:00PM

**MARCH 6, 2025**

**Cardinal Meyer Lecture Series**

University of St. Mary of the Lake  
7:00PM - 9:00PM

**MARCH 7, 2025**

**Cardinal Meyer Lecture Series**

University of St. Mary of the Lake  
9:00AM - 11:30AM

**APRIL 14, 2025**

**Lenten Reflection**

University of St. Mary of the Lake  
7:00PM - 8:30PM

**APRIL 24, 2025**

**Celebration of Mundelein**

Four Seasons Chicago  
6:00PM - 9:00PM

**MAY 4, 2025**

**May Crowning**

University of St. Mary of the Lake  
9:30AM - 12:00PM

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2025**

**Rector's Classic**

Pine Meadow/University of  
St. Mary of the Lake  
9:30AM - 9:00PM

**DECEMBER 7, 2025**

**Sounds of the Season**

**Christmas Concert**

University of St. Mary of the Lake  
2:00PM - 3:00PM

**To sponsor any of these events, visit [USML.edu/events](https://www.usml.edu/events)**

# THE HOPEFUL FUTURE OF THE CHURCH STARTS HERE

At this moment in the Catholic Church, the mission of Mundelein Seminary is more important than ever.

We are responsible for the education and formation 127 seminarians from 25 dioceses. Their humble, devoted leadership at parishes across the country and around the world will be critical to healing the Church. Through their formation at Mundelein, our seminarians develop the heart of a shepherd and prepare to serve as holy, joyful parish priests.

Mundelein Seminary charges a diocese just more than half of the total cost of room, board, tuition, and fees for each seminarian it sends here. Your generosity and that of many others helps to make up the difference.

As you plan your year-end giving, please consider a tax-deductible donation to Mundelein Seminary in whatever amount you can contribute. We are most grateful for your support.

**GIVE TODAY!**



TOGETHER WITH YOU IN CHRIST,  
WE ARE MUNDELEIN.  
WE FORM PARISH PRIESTS.



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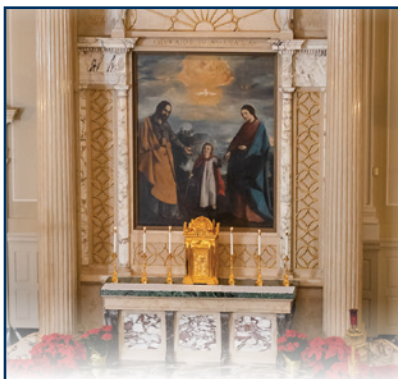
# MERRY CHRISTMAS

*From*  
**DEBBIE & MARK  
SARAN**

May the Lord fill you  
with the peace and joy of  
the Christmas Season  
and may the Holy Spirit  
come upon you and  
your families.

Merry Christmas  
and a Happy, Healthy  
New Year.

**Fr. Neil Fackler**



Christmas Blessings  
to all our Seminarians.

Thank you  
for your service!

**The Ferreira Family**



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THANK YOU FOR  
JOINING US TODAY

WE WISH YOU MUCH JOY DURING THIS  
HOLY SEASON OF CHRISTMAS.





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