



SUE SPARKS

Our Journey to Bethlehem

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Watchmen, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are

Traveler, o'er yon mountains height, see that glory-beaming star.

Watchman, doth its beauteous ray *aught of joy or hope foretell?*

Traveler, yes'; it brings the day, promised day of Israel.

above excerpt is the first verse of the Advent carol Watchman, Tell Us of The Night, written by Sir John Bowring in 1832. Bowring was an economist, writer, traveller and member of the British Parliament for two terms. He served as British Consul to Canton and was appointed as Governor of Hong Kong. He was knighted in 1854. He wrote and published many hymns, with perhaps the best known of them In the Cross of Christ I Glory published in most hymn book of today.

In that Bowring was a world traveller, it is thought that his Advent hymn is somewhat autobiographical. The concept of embarking on a journey and arriving at the peaceful end of one's journey is one with which we all can identify.

With the season of Advent now upon us, we have begun a journey – a journey to Bethlehem. We will follow the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem and the birth of their Son, our Saviour. We will follow the journey of the shepherds, who, upon hearing the news of Jesus' birth, ran to Bethlehem to see the Christ Child for themselves. We will follow the Wise Men who followed the Star to Bethlehem. Each Advent Sunday will bring us one step closer to the culmination of our journey – a stable in Bethlehem where we find the Prince of Peace, the Saviour of the world.

During the Christmas season, there are times when we will feel somewhat exhausted with the added musical responsibilities the Christmas season brings. But we are also reminded that the Christmas season affords us the opportunity to be inspired by the beautiful music of the season that we might take time to ponder and reflect on our own journey to Bethlehem.

May this season bring to you and your families "the blessing of peace, the comfort of faith, the gift of love, and hearts filled with joy."

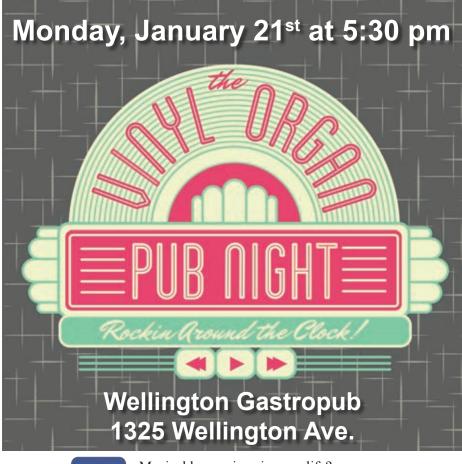
> Watchman, tell us of the night, For the morning seems to dawn.

Traveler, darkness takes its flight, Doubt and terror are withdrawn.

Watchman, let thy wanderings cease; Hasten to thy quiet home.

Traveler, lo! the Prince of Peace, Lo! the Son of God is come!

Centre Events



oin us on Monday January 21st at the Wellington Gastropub in Hintonberg for a listening party of significant organ performances on vinyl.

This event is being co-presented by Tetra Speakers (a locally based but internationally respected speaker company) who provide audiophile-quality equipment for

your listening enjoyment.

The \$20 fee covers appetizers and a beverage, with the remaining proceeds going to the Parkdale Food Bank and the Kiwanis music scholarships. You may order dinner from their menu. If you have vinyl recordings, bring a few favourites. See vou there!



Musical happenings in your life? Send your events to: publicity@rcco-ottawa.ca and we'll share them on Facebook!



May the true spirit of Christmas bring joy to your heart.

Merry Christmas

Joyeux Noël



You're Invited...

SONDRA GOLDSMITH PROCTOR

You're invited to an **Epiphany Party** sponsored by the American Guild of Organists, St. Lawrence River Chapter, to be held at the home of David Van Epps and Sondra Goldsmith Proctor on Sunday, January 6, 2019, in Canton, New York beginning about 3:00 pm. Both the Ottawa Centre and the St. Lawrence Chapter will provide some entertainment. (You may volunteer!) There will be ample opportunity to meet new friends and share in the festivities. Car pooling

is encouraged. Please be certain that you have your passport. To RSVP, please email sondragoldsmithproctor@gmail.com. On the day of the event, please keep Sondra's phone number handy: 202.841.8712. You will not go home hungry!

Saturday, May 4th, 2019, is Great Bach Marathon 3! Each person is invited to play. Please select your favorite J.S. Bach composition and send a note to Sondra to reserve your composition and playing time.

If you regularly play with an instrumentalist and would like to invite them to perform with you, let's talk about it. Now is the time to make the decision that you will enjoy performing with your colleagues. Yes, there will be children performing. It will be a special time filled with abundant energy. For additional information, email sondragoldsmithproctor@gmail.com or phone 202.841.8712.



Orgelkids is Coming to Town!



Let kids explore the science and technology of a real pipe organ designed for them.



They discover how a pipe organ works by building one themselves from a kit of parts in less than 45 minutes.

Reinforces the STEM curriculum taught in schools

Rented as a kit of parts in a box with assembly instructions and a teacher's guide.

For more information contact us at:

www.orgelkidscan.ca



kick off the new year in style, the Ottawa Centre is offering a special treat: a hands-on experience designed especially for kids. At 10:00 a.m. on January 12th, Kanata United Church will host an OrgelkidsCAN event that gives kids the opportunity not only see and learn how a pipe organ works but to do so by building one themselves and then playing it. They'll even be able to explain it to their parents and friends.

The RCCO's OrgelkidsCAN Educational Organ Project is a national outreach program designed to offer children in grades 3-4 an up-close, hands-on encounter with a real working pipe organ scaled to their size. Guided by an educational syllabus and instructions, they learn about mechanics, the movement of air, sound and vibration and even the sequence of key presses that produces music. Kids are really sharp and are able to transform a pile of parts into a fully functional organ that they can play, all in about 45 minutes. In the process, they learn and have fun.

There's appeal for "kids" of all ages to discover and rediscover the wonder of this wonderful instrument and the beauty of its music in a fun and interesting way. Be warned: it brings out the kid in everyone.

If you'd like to attend this free event, please register by contacting Josh Zentner-Barrett at josh@kuc.ca. We want to ensure that the day's schedule runs smoothly and that everyone has a hands-on opportunity to participate. There'll be plenty of opportunity for adults to watch and to play once the kids are done.

Our heartfelt thanks to all the good folks at Kanata United for organizing this amazing event and for their hospitality. We look forward to seeing you there!



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your new chaplain, it is my privilege to offer an Advent and Christmas message in Pipelines, the newsletter that keeps us all in touch. Even as I deeply respect and celebrate all the world faiths, as a retired Anglican parish priest, my particular care is the Christian message. I acknowledge that organists offer music not only within churches but also in the synagogue, the hockey arena, the town hall and the Festival auditorium. I am also aware that our plan here in Ottawa is to offer to youth from multiple backgrounds the chance to engage with 'orgel kits.' Yes, all these kids will get a chance to build an organ! Indeed within and through the College, there is a diversity among us reflecting the greater society around us.

Having said and acknowledged this wider picture, may I offer, from my small corner, that the word Advent visually conjures up for me candles set within a circular wreath and laced with evergreens: blue candles that are lit to awake within us a summons to hope, to seek peace and ever to love. And a pink one reminding us to discover joy.

And yet as I muse and anticipate, I reflect how easy it is to be sidetracked from what may seem like a naïve summons as we are aware of all that is going on around us. I am mindful of wildfires in California, a brutal and seemingly intentional murder of a journalist in Saudi Arabia, multiple and continuing mass shootings among innocent citizens trying to go about their lives, concerns about the very health of our planet. And you, the reader, would no doubt wish to fill out my list with other realities.

I play the violin in a small string collective which has been going through changes within the violin sections. Last week, as a senior lady and a lad of 11 were the only first violins, there were 4 cellists, all playing strongly and steadily, '*Oom pah pah, oom pah pah...*' You get the picture. The conductor decided that there was not time before the concert to get the cellos to lighten up and, as well, to listen. This reminds me of the story of a choir lustily singing Handel's lyrics, '*Unto us a child is*



born'. The choir director stops them and says 'People, we're singing about a baby here.' And of course the baby in question was born in a stable because there was no room in the inn.

As we may seek in this Advent season an answer to all the stuff that is going on in the world around us, God confronts us with the reverse of what we might expect: that it is through engaging with the vulnerable that we may find answers. Who are the vulnerable within your world, within mine? How may we engage with them this season and discover that the summons of Advent is not naïve?

The good news for the *Pipelines* readership is that organists and choirs can help us engage. Through the offering of carols, we confront again and again the image of the vulnerable Christ, the 'tender babe' found within the 'lodge of broken bark.' And yes, 'no ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, the dear

Christ enters in.' As we may sit with open hearts and spirits, the anthems which you have so painstakingly nudged into being through the offering of faithful choristers speak deeply into our hearts of how 'God's power is made perfect in weakness.' The sweeping notes of the postlude completes the gift, speaking to us of the deepest truth that yes, 'Unto us a child is born, a Son is given.' Indeed, 'the Prince of Peace!'

I humbly offer that. Even as all the pain around can threaten to engulf us, the Good News is that the evergreen wreath holds a central white candle that we light on Christmas Eve speaking to the birth among us of the Christ, the source and inspiration for hope, peace love ad joy. But what kind of a Christ, we may wonder, can authentically inspire us to such faithful aspiration. My response for today is the kind of Christ life was a metaphor for being.

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Philip Crozier Concert Review

St. Anne's Church in Lowertown was the site of Philip Crozier's organ recital on Friday, October 26th. The church has been home to the Parish of St. Clement since 2012. Their priest, Fr. Eric Deprey, was happy to have us use the building but some parishioners were dead against their worship space being used for a secular concert and showed their displeasure by protesting out on the sidewalk prior to and during the beginning part of the recital!

Originally from England, Crozier has lived in Montreal since 1984 where he was the organist at St. James United Church on St.. Catherine Street from 1986-2016. In a nutshell,

The programme was carefully chosen by Mr. Crozier to suit the organ, audience and anniversary year. He began with the Dutch composer Piet Post's Partite diverse sopra "De Lofzang Van Maria". The partita began with a statement of the chorale (6 phrases to the chorale) followed by a ricercare. The second variation was a lovely aria: the chorale melody heard in the soprano voice in a highly-ornamented style. The Scherzando featured the began with imitative entries and only the 3rd and 6th phrases of the chorale were heard in the pedal part. The 4th variation was for pedals alone, ending with the last phrase of the chorale (under manual chords for the final cadence). The second last variation, Koraal in Canon, used different techniques for the canon, including augmentation. The work concluded with a fugue, with the cantus firmus in the pedals, and episodic material between each phrase of the chorale.

François Morel, a Quebec composer who died earlier this year, composed his *Prière* in 1954, and it is dedicated to Bernard Legacé. The luscious Swell strings of the St. Anne's organ in dialogue with the flutes was very effective.

Bach's 5th Trio Sonata, in C major; was handled with complete ease by Mr. Crozier. Lively tempos for the outer movements contrasted nicely with the delicate Largo second movement. Clean and crisp articulation throughout added

to the brilliance of the performance. His choice of pedal stops was similar to what I was taught: 8' principal in the first movement, 16' Bourdon and 8' flutes for the 2nd movement and 16' Bourdon and 8' Principal for the last movement.

Buxtehude's multi-sectional *Prelude* in *D Minor* (BuxWV 140) began with a full plenum registration (plus the pedal Bombarde), which moved to the first fugal section that was played using only the Great trumpet!

ROBERT JONES

followed by *Epigrmas* — nine short pieces by Zoltán Kodály. We don't normally associate Kodály with the organ, but these nine short pieces were well crafted.

With 2018 being the centennial of Hubert Parry's death, the inclusion of his impressive *Fantasia and Fugue in G Minor* was greatly appreciated.

The serene *Hommage* was composed by Denis Bédard in 2014 in memory of Sylvie Poirier, Philip's wife. She was



Next were two pieces from Louis Vierne's 24 Pièces de fantasie which were ideally suited to this organ. The lyrical phrasing by Mr. Crozier in the Andantino (Op. 51, No. 2) was very effective. The flutes of the Récit in dialogue with the Positif clarinet in the Impromptu (Op. 54 No. 2) was very colourful.

The first half of the concert concluded with *Impetuposo* by the Czech composer and organist Bedřich Wiedermann. In binary form, the quieter middle section included the use of the Vox Humaine.

The second half of the concert began with *Variations on 'Victimae Paschali Laudes'* by another Czech composer, Jiři Ropek (who was a student of Bedřich Wiedermann). The work, based on a sequence for Easter Day, is comprised of the theme and 8 variations. It was

also a very accomplished organist and together they formed an organ duo (and even performed at my church in Sault Ste. Marie in 1996!). Philip said *Hommage* "just showed up in my mailbox!", a gift from the composer.

The recital concluded with Jésus Guridi's *Final para Organo*. A Spanish composer, Guridi's Final was composed in 1960, a composition of great character in the style of Vierne.

There were about 80 in attendance at this recital, and everybody was delighted with the evening. A fine balance between known repertoire and music that deserves to be heard again was played with sensitivity, accuracy and conviction. Thank you, Karen Holmes, for arranging to have Philip Crozier perform in our series. It was a great evening of music.

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Around Town

Wednesdays, December 5, 12, 19, 2018 12.15 p.m. *Advent Noonday Organ Recitals* at Church of Christ, Scientist (Metcalfe and Gilmour).

Dec. 5 - Thomas Annand (organist of St. Andrew's Presbyterian)

Dec. 12 - Kirkland Adsett (organist of St. Matthew's Anglican)

Dec. 19 - Mervyn Games (organist of Christ, Scientist)

Freewill offering appreciated.

Wednesdays, December 5, 12, 19, 2018 12.15 p.m. *Come and Celebrate Advent* with our renewed Rodgers hybrid organ at Parkdale United Church (Parkdale and Gladstone).

Dec. 5 - Leora Nauta

Advent Pilgrimmage

Dec. 12 - Alison Kranias French Noels and Baroque Christmas Treasures

Sunday, December 9, 2018, 3 p.m.

On Sunday, December 9, 2018, 3:00 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 1758 Alta Vista Drive, come enjoy the music of the season! Again this year, this event will feature local excellent musical groups: the Ottawa Catholic School Board Chamber Choir, the Kanata Choral Society, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Choir, accompanied by the Ottawa Wind Ensemble, a 35-member orchestral group. They will be joined by soprano soloist Jacinthe Parisé, for special tributes to the musical season. Interspersed with this will be carol singing for all to join in.

This 27th Immaculate Heart of Mary Concert is held in support of the Canadian Red Cross Tornado Appeal and the Heron Emergency Food Centre (HEFC). Admission to the Concert is FREE and there is ample and easily accessible parking. There will be collection baskets for voluntary monetary donations (cheques or cash) to the Canadian Red Cross or the HEFC. Tax receipts will be issued by the Canadian Red Cross or HEFC for donations over \$25. Those interested in an advance donation or in purchasing advertising in the concert program or who have any further questions, please

contact the concert organizing committee at 613-791-9115. Online donations to the Canadian Red Cross Christmas Concert Tornado Appeal may do so at www.redcross.ca/OGTornado/IMHconcert.

Come and enjoy this wonderful prelude to the Christmas season; it's a joyous way to help those in need in our community.

Dimanche, 9 december 2018, 15h

Venez apprécier la musique de Noël le dimanche 9 décembre 2018 à 15 h à l'Église Immaculate Heart of Mary, 1758, promenade Alta Vista! Trois chorales, le Ottawa Catholic School Board Chamber Choir, le Kanata Choral Society, et l'Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Choir, seront accompagnées par le populaire Ensemble à vents d'Ottawa, formation composée de 35 musiciens. Avec à leurs côtés la soliste soprano Jacinthe Parisé, ils rendront hommage à la saison musicale. Le tout sera parsemé de chants de Noël qui uniront les voix des chorales et celles du public.

Ce 27^e Concert de Noël Immaculate Heart of Mary est offert en appui à la Croix-Rouge canadienne Fonds de secours : Tornades et au Heron Emergency Food Centre (HEFC). L'entrée est GRATUITE et le stationnement est vaste et facile d'accès. Des paniers de collecte seront disponibles à la sortie pour ceux qui voudront faire un don (chèques ou comptant) au HEFC ou à la Croix-Rouge. Des reçus pour fins d'impôt seront émis par la Croix-Rouge canadienne ou HEFC pour tout don de plus de 25 \$. Si vous désirez faire un don à l'avance du concert, acheter de la publicité dans le programme du concert, ou pour toute question, veuillez joindre le Comité d'organisation du concert au 613-791-9115. Des contributions en ligne à la Croix-Rouge Fonds de secours: Tornades – Concert bénéfice de Noël peuvent également être effectuées: www.redcross.ca/OGTornado/ IMHconcert.

Venez profiter de ce magnifique prélude à la période des Fêtes de Noël. Quelle occasion joyeuse d'aider les moins fortunés de notre communauté! Sunday, December 9, 2018, 7:30 p.m. Coro Capriccio (chamber choir). St. Luke's Church: 760 Somerset Street West. Admission by donation. Info: www. stlukesottawa.ca, music@stlukesottawa.ca.

Sunday, December 16th at 7 p.m.
St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 971
Woodroffe Ave., presents "The Story of Christmas in Word and Song" featuring
St. Paul's Senior Choir joined by the
Manotick Brass Ensemble and percussion.

Admission is free. Donations for the Food Bank are welcome. Free parking available at the rear of the church. For information: 613-729-3384.

Sunday, December 30, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

Victor Toma (piano). In this special recital come and hear this 13-year-old pianist described by adjudicators as "very gifted pianist, mature beyond your years", "Bravissimo, it's outstanding". St. Luke's Church: 760 Somerset Street West (3 blocks west of Bronson Ave). Admission by donation. Info: www.stlukesottawa. ca, music@stlukesottawa.ca, Tel (613) 235-3416.

Sunday, January 6, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

Christian Vachon (violin) with Roland Graham (keyboard). Bach's sonatas for violin and keyboard are revolutionary in that they are the first true duo sonatas for these two instruments on an equal footing without the use of a continuo part. Come and hear three of these sonatas (#4-6) at St. Luke's Church: 760 Somerset Street West (3 blocks west of Bronson Ave). Admission by donation. Info: www. stlukesottawa.ca, music@stlukesottawa.ca, Tel (613) 235-3416.



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NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING: SATURDAY, JANUARY 5th, 10:00 AM, KANATA UNITED CHURCH



Supply List

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Nadia Behmann	613-723-8601	nadia@behmann.ca Weddings and Funerals.	
James Brough	613-733-2972	2 Piano & organ, all styles of music. Any denomination. Sundays, weddings, funerals.	
Elizabeth Brown	613-608-1210	lizbrown2007@hotmail.com Sundays, weddings, funerals, any denomination	
Janice Gray	613-276-3172	janicenlpegypt@hotmail.com	
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Frances Macdonnell	613-726-7984	fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca	
Daniel Morel	613-228-8331	moreldan15@gmail.com Sundays, weddings, funerals.	
Leora Anne Nauta	613-816-8629	Choral conducting and organ. Any denomination, any service, Saturdays and Sundays,	
		weddings, funerals.	
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Donald Russell	613-738-9223	russell.kimberwick@me.com	
Wesley R. Warren	613 726-6341	Weddings and Funerals	



Organ Teachers List

D. Mervyn Games, B.Mus., FRCO, ARCM. Students in piano, organ, and theory at all levels. Info: mervyn.games@gmail.com or 613-729-2515.

Robert P. Jones, M.Mus., ARCCO (ChM). All levels of students (teenager or adult). Lessons at St. Luke's Church (760 Somerset Street W.) Info:pentland1212@eastlink.ca

Heather Rice, ARCT, BMus, ARCCO (ChM). Welcomes students in piano, organ, voice and theory, Beginner - Intermediate, Children - Adult. Call 613-563-1409

Wesley R. Warren, M.Mus., FRCO, (ChM), ARCT. Beginning to advanced organ students, piano and theory. St. Barnabas Anglican Church, (Kent St. at James), Ottawa. Info: 613-726-6341

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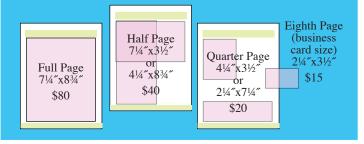
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Advertising Policy

- 1. Any Ottawa Centre member may announce his/her event on the Around Town section of the newsletter free of charge if **he/she is** the coordinator, conductor, **soloist**, or organist/accompanist of the event.
- 2. If a member wishes to place a free announcement in Around Town for an event of another organization he/she is a member of (not covered by Policy 1), the member must make a written request to the RCCO Centre Executive for approval of that one specific event. Approval may be granted on the basis that this **extraordinary** event would be of specific interest to our members: e.g., church/choral, and/or organ/bells, **and/or the** encouragement of young organists and pianists.
- 3. If a non-member wishes to announce an event of his/her organization in Around Town **free of charge**, he/she must make a written request to the RCCO Centre Executive for approval of that one specific event. Approval may be granted per Policy 2; in most circumstances, however, we would expect the Organization to pay as per the rates set out by the Centre for advertising.

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