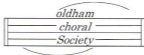




Rochdale Parish Church

Light Classical Choral Mix



Founded 1864

Saturday 22 June 2019 at 1.00 pm

Members of Oldham Choral Society

Conductor: Nigel P Wilkinson **Ticket: £5.50**

Welcome to St Chads and this afternoon's concert given by members of Oldham Choral Society

A concert in this venue is a new departure for us; we normally perform as a choir of a hundred plus singers in the Royal Northern College of Music, with professional orchestra and soloists but we are keen to attract new, local audiences. The pieces we shall sing today are chosen to suit this lovely building and we hope you will enjoy listening to them.

Thank you for your support.

Gerard Marsden (Chairman)

PROGRAMME

We are delighted to have the opportunity to sing in this beautiful historic church, and hope that you will enjoy our programme which includes a wide variety of music covering almost 500 years of choral music, and encompassing the Russian Orthodox tradition, in addition to music from Germany, France, the Low Countries, and of course our own country, both Anglican and Roman Catholic.

This is our final concert / recital of the season, and is being performed for you by around sixty of our members. Earlier in the season our full complement of singers performed *The Armed Man* by Karl Jenkins and *Sea Songs* by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford and Sir Henry Wood at the RNCM to mark the centenary commemorations of the 1918 Armistice, and just a few weeks ago we sang the mighty Verdi *Requiem* with a top line-up of international soloists.

Nigel P Wilkinson (Musical Director)

Zadok the Priest **Handel**
Composed for the coronation of King George II in 1727, one of Handel's best-known works, *Zadok the Priest* has been sung prior to the anointing of the sovereign at the coronation of every British monarch since its composition.

Cantique de Jean Racine **Fauré**
Written by the nineteen-year-old composer in 1864-5, *Cantique de Jean Racine* contains serene flowing melodies with rich harmonies. Today it will be sung in French

Ave Maria **Arcadelt/Dietsch**
The most well known work of Dietsch may be the *Ave Maria* he published in 1842 and attributed to Franco-Flemish Renaissance composer Jacques Arcadelt. Dietsch presented the work as a discovery of a four-voice *Ave Maria* by Arcadelt, when in fact it was Dietsch's own arrangement of Arcadelt's three-voice chanson *Nous voyons que les hommes*.

Bogorodytse Dyevo **Rachmaninov**
A tribute to Theotokos ('God Bearer' – the Orthodox name for Mary, mother of Jesus), making it similar in concept to the *Ave Maria* of the Roman Catholic tradition. It is sung in the Russian Orthodox choral style, full of drama and Rachmaninov's signature emotional and compositional inventiveness.

The Lord Bless You and Keep You **Rutter**
Composed in 1981 for the memorial service of Edward T Chapman, the director of music at Highgate School, London, with whom Rutter had studied, *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* is a slow, gentle and solemn meditation with lush, sonorous tonal harmonies.

The Ground **Gjeilo**
Gjeilo is a Norwegian composer who was born in 1978. *The Ground* is the last movement of his *Sunrise Mass*, the music is based on a beautiful melody, conveying a sense of having arrived at the end of a Mass: reaching a kind of peace and grounded strength.

ORGAN SOLO Toccata by Théodore Dubois

Wie Lieblich Sind Deine Wohnungen **Brahms**
Movement IV from *A German Requiem*, *How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place* was completed when Brahms was 33 in 1866-7. It is a peaceful and exceptionally beautiful piece of music and today will be sung in German.

Locus Iste **Bruckner**
A sacred motet composed in 1869, *Locus Iste* begins with Mozartian phrases but soon introduces characteristic Brucknerian progressions. At key structural points the bass part is deliberately isolated.

Benedictus and Agnus Dei **Jenkins**
Two movements from *The Armed Man - A Mass for Peace*, which was commissioned by the Royal Armouries to mark the transition from one millennium to another. After the traumas of war the *Agnus Dei* brings the hope of peace. It is a beautiful setting of part of the Latin Mass: 'Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world ...'

Ave Verum Corpus **Elgar**
Ave Verum Corpus is a setting of the Pie Jesu. It was written in 1887, while Elgar was organist at St George's Church in Worcester, in memory of William Allen, a Worcester attorney for whom Elgar worked as a fifteen-year old.

Ave Verum Corpus **Mozart**
Mozart set the Latin hymn *Ave Verum Corpus* to serenely beautiful music for his friend Anton Stoll, the church musician of St Stephan in Baden bei Wien, to celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi. The motet was written shortly before the composer's death in 1791.

Gaelic Blessing **Rutter**
A Gaelic Blessing was commissioned by the Chancel Choir of First United Methodist Church in Nebraska. It is characterized as slow-paced and of a gentle flowing nature.

Jerusalem **Parry**
Parry set William Blake's words to music, 'And did those feet in ancient time'. It was first sung on 28 March 1916 at a Fight for Right meeting. The movement was formed to reinforce British resolve during the first world war. It is now sung during the Last Night of the Proms and is the hymn of the Women's Institute.

Organist : Philip Lowe
Rehearsal accompanist : Angela Lloyd-Mostyn

We welcome new singers

If you would like to sing with the choir

please contact Gerard: ☎ 01706 558342 ✉ gerry.marsden@hotmail.co.uk

- ◊ Rehearsals are held every Monday evening at Chadderton Town Hall
- ◊ We aim to sing and promote quality choral music
- ◊ We sing with first-class soloists and professional orchestral accompaniment
- ◊ Low annual membership fee
- ◊ We are a very friendly and sociable organisation

SAVE THE DATES ...

Sunday 17 November 2019 at 7.00pm

at the Royal Northern College of Music



Carmina Burana - Orff
Polovtsian Dances - Borodin
An American in Paris - Gershwin
with
Yvette Bonner (Soprano),
James Cleverton (Baritone)
and the East Lancs Sinfonia

Friday 20 December 2019 at 7.30pm



at Oldham Parish Church
*A seasonal feast of
festive favourites
and carols for all*
with **Ashton Brass Band**

Sunday 10 May 2020 at 7.00pm



at Stoller Hall, Manchester
Petite Messe Solennelle
Rossini
Messa di Gloria (Kyrie and Gloria)
Puccini



For all the latest news and gossip about Oldham Choral Society please visit our FACEBOOK page: Oldham Choral Society

If you have enjoyed our concert, why not leave feedback? You can also make suggestions for future concerts.



Get all the latest news about Oldham Choral Society at www.oldhamchoral.org.uk