A Workshop for All Liturgical Cantors

“Cantor: Proclaimer of God’s Word and Animator of the Assembly”

Sustaining the Journey, a workshop series endorsed by both the National Association of Pastoral Musicians and the American Guild of Organists, is an opportunity for all Liturgical Ministers to experience renewal and refreshment. With a combined 70+ years of liturgical ministry in the Diocese of Cleveland, presenters Bob Soeder and Mary Hrich bring with them a wealth of experience, knowledge, and music. Each workshop begins with a light meal, time for fellowship and prayer, and includes stories, singing, and a little learning along the way! Designed for all who serve as Cantors, this Sustaining the Journey event will leave you with food for thought and a renewed enthusiasm for liturgical ministry. Come for the food – stay for the nourishment!

Cantors face a liturgical conundrum – called to be a visible leader to the assembly, yet transparent to Jesus. In other words, “God, help me lead...but get ME out of the way!” This workshop addresses some of the skills specific to the ministry of cantor, including:

- Ministry versus performance
- Gestures
- Helping the assembly take ownership of their parts
- Caring for your voice
- When “enough” is too much (discerning boundaries)
- Avoiding “Radio Voice” (over-exaggeration)
- Preparation
- Prayer

Content can be customized to meet your organization’s specific needs.

Why Sustaining the Journey?

No matter the faith tradition, Church Ministers - both volunteer and paid professionals - are the lifeblood of the church. They give countless hours of time serving others...but who takes care of their needs? We all need to nurture our spirits, and Sustaining the Journey nourishes body and soul!

Sustaining the Journey workshops provide an opportunity for Church Musicians and Ministers to enjoy an evening of renewal and refreshment. Join with others who are passionate about caring for others and sharing their faith. Recharge your batteries, let someone else do the planning for a change, and enjoy an evening of food, fellowship, music, and inspiration. Sustaining the Journey will leave you with food for thought and a renewed enthusiasm for your ministry.

For more information, contact Bob or Mary:

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“It is not sufficient, however, simply to have a ‘warm body’ filling a given role. Those engaged in liturgical roles need to be well prepared for those roles and to know how to carry them out with reverence, dignity, and understanding.”

2010, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops