

Welcome letter

Dear Singer,

Welcome to Sankt Petri Kantorei!

Sankt Petri Kantorei has its home in Skt. Petri Church. Skt Petri Church is the oldest church in inner Copenhagen and has for more than 400 years been the home of the German Lutheran congregation in Copenhagen.

Sankt Petri Kantorei is a choir with singers ranging in age from approximately 20 to 60. The singers have well-functioning voices, and with quite varying choir experience. We sing approximately 2-3 large works each year, as well as taking part in Kulturnat (Culture Night), Christmas concerts, and a handful of special church services during the year. In addition, we create smaller ad-hoc project choirs, which take part in church services around Christmas and Easter. We perform both orchestra and a-cappella concerts.

Our repertoire is broad. We sing works from many different musical eras, but mainly classical.

Sankt Petri Kantorei is an association with a board elected from the members of the choir. We hold our Annual General Meeting yearly, generally as part of the final rehearsal before the summer break. Here we decide on membership fees. The actual membership fee is 500 DKK per year.

“Traffic Rules”

In order to ensure the smooth running of the choir, we have some “traffic rules” that you should acquaint yourself with.

Choir rehearsals:

We hold rehearsals every Tuesday during the season in Christian 5th Hall in Sankt Petri Church. The rehearsals start at 7 pm and finish at 9:30 pm. It is expected that you attend all rehearsals, and that you arrive in a timely fashion, preferably at least 5 minutes beforehand, so that we are all ready to start on time.

The season typically extends from the middle of August until the following June. The choir holds the same holidays as the schools.

Apart from the Tuesday rehearsals, the choir holds 3-4 rehearsal weekends per year, mainly in connection with concerts. In addition, rehearsals for the individual voice groups are occasionally held, and as a rule these are generally held at 6:00 pm.

Absence from a rehearsal must be communicated to the choir leader, Jonathan Sievers (kirchenmusiker@sankt-petri.dk) 52787050. This is also the case for longer absences.

Before each rehearsal, the Cantor will communicate (by email) which pieces will be rehearsed at the next rehearsal. If you are unable to attend that rehearsal, then you are kindly requested to work on those pieces at home, prior to the next rehearsal. This is particularly the case for singers who are absent for longer periods of time.

There are about five special rehearsals per season on Thursdays to deepen the choir's repertoire. Participation is voluntary.

Roughly 3 times per season there will be an informal social event (“Hocketse”) after the rehearsal. This is an occasion where we all bring snacks or something to drink, and we chat together.

Use of perfume

We encourage everyone to be considerate of each other and minimize the use of perfume at rehearsals and concerts, as strong scents can affect both the vocal cords and the respiratory tract in general in some people.

Practice at home:

It is always a good idea to further develop your voice outside of choir practice – both through singing lessons and independent practice. Often, simply memorizing the lyrics of a piece or listening to a recording can be helpful. If you feel you need vocal support, feel free to speak with the choir leader or a fellow singer.

Due to the limited rehearsal time for performances with the project choir, independent practice is especially important.

Concerts:

It is expected that you will take part in as many rehearsals as possible. This is especially the case in the last few rehearsals prior to a concert, where it is required that you will take part in the last “ordinary” rehearsal, as well as the general rehearsal. As a rule, all members of the choir take part in the concerts. If for some reason you are unable to attend, then this should be communicated to the choir leader as soon as you find out that this is the case.

When performing concerts the dress code is as follows: ladies in black, gentlemen in white shirt and black suite. We have the sheet music in a black choir folder or in black paper.

Longer Absence:

A stable choir group is important to us. Therefore, it is generally not possible to take an extended break from the choir. Of course, there are exceptions for stays abroad, the birth of children, or similar reasons. After a longer absence, you will be asked to audition again.

Auditions:

Before being accepted into the choir, all interested singers must pass an audition, during which the choir leader assesses whether their voice is a good fit for the choir and determines their voice part. New members are generally accepted at the beginning of a new project.

The choir leader invites all singers to an audition once a year to evaluate whether their voices continue to be a good match for the choir and to offer any suggestions for improvement.

In some cases, this may also lead to a singer leaving the choir. The details should be discussed in a personal meeting.

Sheet music:

Sheet music will be distributed at choir rehearsals and collected after a project. For some pieces, the music is paid for by the individual singer. This is most common for concerts with orchestra.

Kontakt:

Jonathan Sievers

Organist Chorleiter/korleder/choir leader

Die deutsch sprachige Gemeinde in der Dänischen Volkskirke

Den tysksprogede menighed i den Danske Folkekirke

The German-speaking congregation of the Danish People's Church

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