

Sacred Music Institute  
**Winter 2025:**  
**The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord:**  
**The Culmination of the Nativity Season**

**Keynote: Bp. ANTHONY (Michaels)**

St. Michael Orthodox Church  
Van Nuys, California

**Thursday, January 30, 2025**

- 6:00 pm **Registration**
- 7:00 pm **Opening Prayer & Welcome** (*Fr. Timothy Baclig, Mareena Boosamra Ball*)
- 7:30 pm **Let's Get Ready to Sing** (*Mareena Boosamra Ball*)
- 8:00 pm **Introduction: Nativity, Theophany and the Journey to the Presentation** (*Chris Farba and Kris Howard*)
- 8:15 pm **General Session I: Traditions from the Nativity to the Presentation** (*Sacred Music Committee*)
- 9:15 pm **Reception**
- 9:45 pm **Byzantine Concert Rehearsal** (*Fr. John El Massih*)

**Friday, January 31, 2025**

- 9:45 am **Morning Prayer** (*Fr. John El Massih*)
- 10:00 am **Communicating Text through Sacred Hymns** (*Mareena Boosamra Ball*)
- 10:30 am **Breakout Sessions (2 hours)**
- Various Hymns of the Triodion (*Byzantine Committee*)
  - Selected Hymns in the Sticharic Style for the Entrance of Christ to the Temple in Byzantine Notation (*Byzantine Committee*)
  - Selected Hymns in the Papadic Style for the Entrance of Christ to the Temple in Byzantine Notation – Master Class (*Byzantine Committee*)
  - Entrance of Christ in the Temple in Western Notation (*Charlie Marge, Dn. Gregory Abdalah*)
  - This... Is... Music Theory Jeopardy! (*Kb. Nancy Hanna Long*)
  - Experienced Choral Conducting (*Dr. Zhanna Lehmann*)
- 12:30 pm **Keynote: Bp. Anthony**
- 1:30 pm **Lunch**
- 2:15 pm **Breakout Sessions (2 hours)**
- Selected Hymns in the Sticharic Style for the Entrance of Christ to the Temple in Byzantine Notation (*Byzantine Committee*)

- Selected Hymns in the Heirmologic Style for the Entrance of Christ to the Temple in Byzantine Notation (*Byzantine Committee*)
  - Entrance of Christ in the Temple in Western Notation (*Charlie Marge, Dn. Gregory Abdalab*)
  - Fundamentals of Choral Conducting (*Fr. John Finley, Teri Stevens Marge*)
  - Analyzing a Score: Advanced Conducting (*Dr. Zhanna Lebmann*)
  - Transcribing Music in MuseScore (*Christopher Holwey*)
- 4:00 pm **Your Voice: Making the most of God's gift** (*Mareena Boosamra Ball, Regina Roum*)
- 4:45 pm **Rehearsal for Byzantine Service** (*Byzantine Committee*)
- 5:15 pm **Break**
- 5:30 pm **Great Vespers** (*Fr. John Finley, Byzantine Committee, Chris Farba*)
- 6:30 pm **Dinner**
- 7:30 pm **Vocal Technique** (*Kris Howard*)
- 7:45 pm **General Session II: The Whys of What We Do** (*Jessica Suchy-Pilalis*)
- 8:45 pm **Snack**
- 9:15 pm **Choral Concert Rehearsal** (*Mareena Boosamra Ball*)

## Saturday, February 1, 2025

- 9:30 am **Morning Prayers** (*Fr. John Finley*)
- 9:45 am **Vocal Warm Up** (*Christopher Holwey*)
- 10:00 am **Breakout Sessions (90 minute)**
- Selected Hymns in the Heirmologic Style for the Entrance of Christ to the Temple in Byzantine Notation (*Byzantine Committee*)
  - Selected Hymns in the Papadic Style for the Entrance of Christ to the Temple in Byzantine Notation – Master Class (*Byzantine Committee*)
  - Entrance of Christ in the Temple in Western Notation (*Charlie Marge, Dn. Gregory Abdalab*)
  - Fundamentals of Choral Conducting (*Fr. John Finley, Teri Stevens Marge*)
  - Choral Conducting Master Class (*Dr. Zhanna Lebmann*)
- 11:30 am **Keynote: Bp. Anthony**
- 12:30 pm **Lunch**
- 1:00 pm **Rehearsal for Divine Liturgy**
- 2:00 pm **Byzantine Concert Rehearsal** (*Fr. John El Massih*)
- 3:00 pm **Snack**
- 3:15 pm **Choral Concert Rehearsal** (*Mareena Boosamra Ball*)
- 4:15 pm **Rehearsal: Byzantine Services** (*Byzantine Committee*)
- 5:00 pm **Great Vespers** (*Fr. Timothy, Byzantine Committee, Regina Roum*)
- 6:00 pm **Archdiocese National Choir Concert**

7:30 pm **Dinner**

**Sunday, February 2, 2025**

8:15 am **Orthros Warm-up** (*Teri Stevens Marge*)

8:30 am **Orthros** (*Fr. Timothy Baclig, Byzantine Committee*)

10:00 am **Divine Liturgy** (*Fr. Timothy Baclig, Choral Committee*)

12:00 pm **Coffee hour and Farewell**

1:30 pm **Session with St. Michael Choir** (*Mareena Boosamra Ball*)

*Private voice, conducting, and music theory lessons are available by appointment throughout the schedule. Sign-ups will be first-come, first-serve at registration.*