Schola/Escolanía sing the *Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord* Jan. 8, 2023

BOYLE HEIGHTS, California \_ A dozen choristers formed the cantoral group celebrating the *Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord* at Assumption Parish in Boyle Heights, Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023. This completed the Schola Cantorum of the Pacific’s and Escolanía Pacífica’s Christmas cycle and opened the new year for the combined choir, which will sing 11 a.m. Mass at Assumption once monthly.

The next Mass for the combined choir will be the **first Sunday of Lent, Feb. 26.**

Before the Jan. 8 solemnity, cantrice Marilu Reyes invited the children of Assumption Parish School of Religion, who sit as a group at 11 a.m. Mass, to sing with the congregation music prepared especially for them.

Gradually, the children of the bilingual (English/Spanish) Parish School of Religion will acquire their own repertoire of sacred song. They’re taught by the Servants of the Immaculate Child of Mary, guided by their director, Sister Marina Muniz, EIN. The Schola is pleased to assist the sisters in any way.

Jan. 8 also was the debut of *The Schola Prelude* printed newsletter, in which the Schola urged supporters to donate via AmazonSmile to our 501(c)(3) nonprofit choir. This can be done with no added cost to you. Amazon itself donates a small part of your purchase amount to a favorite charity of choice (please choose **The Foundation for the Schola Cantorum of the Pacific** when setting up your account) via the phone app or click <https://smile.amazon.com> or learn how to set up your account by clicking <https://www.aboutamazon.com/news/community/how-to-sign-up-for-amazonsmile>

Most of those singing Jan. 8 were adult Schola Cantorum of the Pacific members, and the rest from the children’s Escolanía Pacífica. Under the direction of choirmaster and cantor Vince Bastidas, adult choristers included: basses Mike Tabor and Francisco Garcia; sopranos Louinn Lota and Marilu Reyes; tenors Abraham Tadeo and Ricardo Peñaloza; with choir founder Fr. Ted Ley, SM, at the keyboard. Assumption Parish continues to be the main music residency of the combined choirs.

Miss Reyes invited parishioners, in English and Spanish, to rehearse and join the choir. She also described how the Schola’s 47-year music ministry benefitted everyone, especially parish children. Rehearsals are Tuesday in the Schola studio on the school grounds with children rehearsing 7-8 p.m. and teens and adults 7:30-9 p.m.

“Although our parish school closed, its excellent music program continues with two ensembles (instrumental and vocal) for ages 8-and up,” Miss Reyes said. “Both groups give concerts nearby and on tour and for the 11 a.m. Mass here at the parish.”

“We would like to invite you and your young people to this great, free program,” Miss Reyes continued. “Please tell others, including young adults about this wonderful Catholic social and spiritual opportunity at Assumption.”

On Jan. 8, combined choir members sang Pietro Yon’s *Jesum Christum Regem Regum* as the Invitatory, and the Anglican Epiphany hymn *As with Gladness Men of Old* (Hymn of the Three Kings) by William Chatterton Dix was sung as the Introit and Recessional. The *Kyrie* and *Gloria* of the Gregorian Mass of the Angels and Eucharistic Prayer service music from Marty Haugen’s *Creation Mass* were used, along with the *Gelineau Alleluia*, and the Paraguayan folkloric *Cordero de Dios* (Lamb of God).

During the Preparation of the Gifts, *Come, O Jesus, Come into My Heart*, was sung. It was composed by Fr. Ted especially for first communicants. The Mexican *posadas* song, *Humildes Peregrinos* (Humble Pilgrims), and Aurelius Prudentius Clemens’ *Of the Father’s Love Begotten*, were sung during Holy Communion.