

## Archebarchial Choir program gloriously resounds

Resounding the proclamation "Christ Is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen!" the Pittsburgh Byzantine Catholic Archebarchial Choir (PBCAC) welcomed over 200 guests to the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Munhall, Pa. on April 30, 2006 as they presented a recital of Paschal music. Entitled "Indeed He Is Risen!" the presentation included the title piece, various seasonal hymns and readings, and a special tribute to the late Metropolitan Judson M. Procyk, who founded the PBCAC in 1998.

Metropolitan Basil warmly greeted and welcomed all in attendance.

Under the direction of Darlene Fejka, who has directed the Choir since its inception, the PBCAC enthralled the audience with the beginning sequence: the familiar yet stirring opening measures of the "Hallelujah" chorus from Handel's "Messiah," followed by the Paschal proclamation in English and Slavonic.

Guest reader and vocalist Lisa Cifruk delivered evocative interpretations of readings from Resurrection Matins, which prefaced the choir's vocal selections throughout the program. Lisa, who also offered a devout vocal interpretation of "The Angel Exclaimed / Shine In Splendor," is a parishioner at Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks, Pa. and a May 2006 Music Education graduate of Slippery Rock University.

Along with ten different versions of "Christ Is Risen/Christos Voskrese" sung by the PBCAC, the program's theme melody was interlaced among several readings and numerous choral renditions, including "All You Who Have Been Baptized," Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's "Oče Naš," and Dimitry Bortniansky's beautiful "I Will Praise the Name of My God," from his Sacred Concerto no. 29, rendered by a chamber group of 12 voices from the PBCAC's current 65-member roster.

Selected readings from the

late Metropolitan Judson's Resurrection pastoral letters, along with a brief biography given by Director Fejka was a fitting tribute to the choir's founder, whose fifth anniversary of repose in the Lord was observed on April 24, 2006.

Following the program, the

event moved to the Cathedral's lower level for a social reception, where cake and refreshments were enjoyed by all in attendance. PBCAC members greeted many smiling patrons who offered sincere accolades and thanks for the choir's presentation.

Pittsburgh  
Byzantine  
Catholic  
Archebarchial  
Choir

*The Pittsburgh Byzantine Catholic Archebarchial Choir recently presented "Indeed He Is Risen!" - a recital of Paschal music at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Munhall, Pa. Choir members hail from parishes throughout the Pittsburgh area, from Avella to Patton, Pa.*

