

# MUSICA SACRA

CHORUS & ORCHESTRA

## Artistic Director Timothy McDonald presents the 2011-2012 Concert Season

All performances begin at 7 p.m.  
“Live Program Notes” at 6:15 p.m.

Concerts will be performed at  
St. Francis Xavier Church  
52nd & Troost Avenue

General Admission: \$18 single ticket, \$55 season tickets  
Students/Senior Citizens: \$12 single ticket, \$35 season tickets

For tickets, call The Central Ticket Office, (816) 235-6222,  
order online at [www.rockhurst.edu/mstickets](http://www.rockhurst.edu/mstickets)  
or fill out and mail the attached card.

For more information, call Rockhurst University’s  
Center for Arts and Letters, (816) 501-4607,  
or visit [www.rockhurst.edu/musicasacra](http://www.rockhurst.edu/musicasacra)

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## Sunday, Oct. 9

Musica Sacra opens its 21st season with a program of baroque choral music, featuring the regional premiere of Francesco Durante’s *Litaniae Lauretanae* (*Litany of Loreto*). Durante was a major 18th-century Neapolitan composer and teacher. The ensemble will also perform Johann Sebastian Bach’s beautiful and symbol-laden Easter cantata *Christ lag in Todesbanden* and choruses from one of George Frideric Handel’s Chandos Anthems, *O Praise the Lord with One Consent*.

## Friday, Dec. 2

Musica Sacra presents its popular annual Christmas concert by performing Antonio Vivaldi’s brilliant and popular *Magnificat*, RV 611, remarkable for its vibrant instrumental and vocal colors. The work utilizes techniques appropriate to both sacred and operatic styles prevalent in northern Italy in the early 18th century. In addition, the ensemble will perform *Behold, I Bring You Good Tidings* by 17th-century English composer Henry Purcell and *Kommst du, Licht der Heiden* (*Come, You Light of the Gentiles*) by north German composer Dietrich Buxtehude. The concert concludes with traditional Christmas carols.

## Saturday, Feb. 18

Celebrate the 300th birthday anniversary of the founder of the Puccini dynasty—Giacomo Puccini the Elder (1712-1781), the great-grandfather of the famed romantic opera composer of the same name. Highly popular and productive at the Cathedral of St. Martin in the northern Italian town of Lucca, Puccini’s music represents some of the best of Italian sacred choral music in the mid-18th century. Musica Sacra performs *Seven Psalms* and *Magnificat in G* (published in 1777).

## Sunday, April 22

Four of Kansas City’s best-known professional vocalists join Musica Sacra as it concludes its 21st season with Franz Joseph Haydn’s stellar *Lord Nelson Mass*. The work was composed in 53 days in 1798, during which time Nelson soundly defeated Napoleon’s fleet in the Battle of the Nile. In 1800, Nelson asked Haydn for the pen with which he wrote the composition, and in turn gave the composer his gold watch. In addition, the ensemble will perform the rarely heard *Regina Coeli*, KV 108 by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, one of the composer’s three settings of the well-known Marian text.