

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ORGANIST-CHOIRMASTER

BIOGRAPHY

DOUGLAS A. BECK serves as Organist-Choirmaster at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Alexandria, Virginia where he directs an active, growing music program consisting of the St. Cecilia Choir, affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music; the St. Paul's Choir, planning a singing tour of England in June 2009 and St. Paul's community choir *Ars Choralis* as well as two English handbell choirs, one for all ages and one for adults. Under Douglas' leadership, choir members and ringers are eligible for piano or organ scholarships for private study. The church's Crescendo Concert Series of seasonal, noonday recitals and occasional evening concerts bring the St. Paul's parish and Washington DC metro area together.

Douglas manages the Royal School of Church Music Summer Course for Advanced Trebles in residence at St. Albans School on the close of the Washington National Cathedral for one week each summer. Also, he serves as chapel organist at Virginia Theological Seminary, Alexandria and as a church music consultant to congregations and associations.

Additionally, he has served as Executive Committee member, Program Committee Chair and Sub Dean of the District of Columbia and South Bend American Guild of Organists Chapters. He is a past coordinator and faculty member of the Potomac Organ Institute, providing one-year organ study scholarships to auditioned Washington DC pianists. He currently serves on the Northern Virginia American Guild of Organists Executive Committee.

About a performance with the Capitol Hill Chorale, Washington DC performance of Alfred Desenclos' *Requiem*, The Washington Post's Cecelia Porter wrote: "The work's mellow joyfulness was heightened by organist, Douglas A. Beck's inventive registration and the chorale's buoyant overtones..." Douglas has appeared as accompanist, conductor, chamber musician and recitalist throughout the Midwest, East Coast, Canada and Germany including St. Thomas Church, New York; Trinity Church, Boston and Bruton Parish, Williamsburg, VA.

Music degrees are from the Peabody Conservatory of Music of the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.