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Renowned Singer of Traditional Greek Orthodox Sacred Music Comes to All Saints

Bloomington, Indiana, 4 January 2010—Greek-American singer John Michael Boyer, *Protopsaltis* (First Cantor) of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco, and who is most well-known as one of the principal singers of the vocal ensemble Cappella Romana, will conduct a workshop in the traditional music of the Greek Orthodox Church at All Saints Orthodox Church during the weekend 22-24 January 2010. **(PHOTO INCLUDED)**

Boyer will deliver an introductory lecture on the historical and theoretical issues concerning Byzantine chant at All Saints on Friday, 22 January starting at 6pm, leading into a practicum dealing with learning and singing the music itself. The practicum will continue the next day, starting at 9am on Saturday, 23 January, and will culminate in the singing of the services for the weekend, including Great Vespers at 6pm on Saturday, Matins at 8:30am on Sunday, and the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom at 10am on Sunday. The lecture, practica, and services are all free and open to the public. This event is sponsored in part by the Indiana University Center for West European Studies, home to the university's Modern Greek language study program.

"We are very excited for John's visit," said Richard Barrett, choir director and cantor at All Saints. "He's one of the most accomplished and knowledgeable people with the Byzantine repertoire in the United States, and we're very lucky to be getting to work with him."

"We're also extremely grateful to West European Studies for their support, and hope that this will open up doors in the future to develop our relationship with Indiana University and the greater community of Bloomington."

Boyer has studied Byzantine chant performance, style, advanced theory and orthography extensively with Greek master cantors Lycourgos Angelopoulos and Ioannis Arvanitis. He lectures at workshops and seminars on Eastern Orthodox liturgical music across the United States, and has served as specialty coach for both Chanticleer and the Minnesota Symphony for world première performances and recordings of works by John Tavener. Chanticleer's recording of this music, *Lamentations and Praises*, won the 2002 Grammy for Best Small Ensemble Performance.

In addition to his work as *Protopsaltis* for the Metropolis of San Francisco, Boyer is the first cantor at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Sacramento, California. He is also the Associate Conductor of the ensemble Bay Area Classical Harmonies and the Artistic Director of the Josquin Singers.

Boyer last visited Bloomington in May 2004 when Cappella Romana performed as part of the Bloomington Early Music Festival.

For additional information on All Saints Orthodox Church (<http://www.allsaintsbloomington.org>), contact Fr. Peter, Dn. Lawrence Baldwin, or Jeff Weber. For additional information on John Michael Boyer, visit <http://www.koukouzelis.org>. For additional information on Cappella Romana, visit <http://www.cappellaromana.org>.

About All Saints Orthodox Church: *All Saints is a parish of the Self-Ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, the Most Reverend PHILIP Saliba, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America, primate. It is part of the Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest, the Very Reverend MARK Maymon, bishop. All Saints has an evangelistic outlook and welcomes all those of any heritage who are searching for the ancient faith of the holy apostles. It is a pan-Orthodox community, with worshipers including (but not exclusive to) people of American, Greek, Russian, Ukrainian, Lebanese, Serbian, Romanian, and Palestinian descent.*

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