Press Release: Knox Music Series

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A French and British Christmas:
Charpentier's Midnight Mass and Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on Christmas Carols

CINCINNATI, OH – The Knox Music Series presents a festive afternoon of choral masterworks celebrating the rich tradition of Christmas carols on Sunday, December 13, at 4:00 p.m. at Knox Presbyterian Church in Hyde Park (3400 Michigan Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45208).

The performance will be led by Knox's Interim Director of Music, Alberto de la Paz. Conductor and tenor de la Paz directs the Cabaret Singers and is pursuing his DMA in Choral Conducting at UC's College-Conservatory of Music. A former Artistic Co-Director of the acclaimed vocal ensemble Cantus, he has performed at The Kennedy Center and Tanglewood.

The centerpiece of the evening is Marc-Antoine Charpentier's *Messe de Minuit pour Noël*, a warmly charming work rooted in traditional French Christmas carols. Written in the late 17th century, Charpentier's beloved Mass weaves familiar carol melodies into an intricate and joyful liturgical framework. It will be paired with Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*, a lush and deeply felt work that draws on the folk carol tradition of the British Isles.

"I believe audiences will be charmed by Charpentier's work, which combines a delightful sense of character with the depth and tradition of the choral Mass setting. Vaughan Williams's work, meanwhile, will evoke the warmth and anticipation of Christmas, inviting audiences to embrace the spirit of the season and the joy of Christmas caroling." - Alberto de la Paz

As with all installments of the Knox Music Series, admission is free and open to the public.

Event Summary:

- **What:** Knox Music Series: "An Evening of Christmas Carols"
- **Where:** Knox Presbyterian Church, 3400 Michigan Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45208
- **When:** Sunday, December 13, 2026, at 4:00 PM
- **Cost:** Free

About the Knox Music Series: Recognized by *Cincinnati Magazine* as providing the "Best Church Music" in the city, the Knox Music Series is an outreach program of Knox Presbyterian Church. It features the 45-voice Knox Choir and professional instrumentalists in performances of sacred masterworks for the Greater Cincinnati community.

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Program Credits
Featured Guests: Knox Choir, Dr. Christina Haan, organist, and Dr. Michael Unger, organist
Composers: Marc-Antoine Charpentier, Ralph Vaughan Williams