

## The day of the Christmas Concert: Information for performers.

Hi, everyone:

Well, the time has come to do our first show in about 2 years. I am eager to have this show go well, as I'm sure you are as well. Organization plays a large part of this, so I've put together a few things to make it go great. You will see attached a seating diagram and (for newcomers) an image of the front of the church from the last show we did there, to give you a better perspective for the seating diagram.

When the crew sets up for the concert in the afternoon, we will do our best to adhere to this diagram, but some tweaking might be needed. Be prepared.

**Before the show: Monday night:** We'll load the cars and vans after the dress rehearsal. Loading crew and trucks meet at the side entrance of Halifax West. I'll show you on Monday night. The next day is a little awkward, but here is the proposal: We'll meet at St. Agnes Church at 5:30 for set up. That means you'll need to have an early supper and you'll need to bring your instrument, music, stand and concert attire with you. It'll take about 45 minutes to set up. Follow my handy dandy diagram. Very sorry, but this was the best solution to our logistical woes.

**Before the Show, evening:** Performers should arrive by 6:30. Enter the church through the main front doors and proceed to the hall. To get there, turn left when you get inside the church, then right, along the west wall, all the way down to the front and veer left into the hallway that leads to the church hall.

I advise you to hang up your coats, then set up your music stands (you need to bring your own, except for percussion and players in the front row) and take them into your seating area and place them there. After that's done, return to the hall and dig out your instruments. Percussionists can rearrange your instruments and just stay on stage, seated in those side pews.

Bass Guitar (Joseph): you'll need to power up your amp, so remember to bring an extension cord with your amp.

**Warmup:** You'll warm up in the church hall. Do it sensibly, though. Not too loud and no High C contests and such. Just before 6:50, you should check your tuning using an electronic tuner or a cell phone app. I use *Tuner Lite*. You can download it to your phone from the App Store or Google Play. At 6:50, thereabouts, I'll come into the hall to talk to you for a minute or two, then, we'll enter the staging area. I suggest that row 5 should go first, then 4 and so on. That minimizes traffic problems. Use your staging map to determine your row. You'll need to be as quiet as possible while doing this, because the Boys Honour Choir will be performing some pre-show selections. Faith- you may want to place your trombone somewhere handy so you can get into the band with no delay.

**The Show:** We'll do a chorale first. That will be number 3 from More Assorted Chorales. After that, we'll tune the woodwinds as a group, then we'll fine tune the bari sax, bass clarinet and bassoon. Next, the brass, then everyone. Remember that there will be no announcement or introduction between the fanfare and C'est Noël. After this, the rest of the show should flow easily. Just one thing: when it's time for the clarinet quintet to set up (They're on after the 1<sup>st</sup>. Carol sing), the first flutes will need to vacate their chairs and sit in the front pew. I suggest that the clarinet quintet players and drummer not in the HCB should sit up front in the first row.

**At the End:** Put your instrument away first, then please come back in and retrieve your chairs. They will need to be stacked in the hall. We will load the vans and cars after the show and meet next morning at Halifax West side door at 9:15. That should do it.