



A choir performs at Resurrection Parish in Randolph.

## The sounds of music make a return to Resurrection Parish at concert

By **HENRY M. HOLDEN**

**RANDOLPH** On June 7, as part of spring concert at Resurrection Parish here, the Children's Choir reprised selections of Rogers and Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*.

"My primary motivation for this concert was because of my first year here at Resurrection, in 2003," said Rick Edinger, music minister. "We had a tradition in February to do a big musical gala. We would invite a popular orchestra, we'd have a reception downstairs, and the children's choir would sing a prelude. That year we did selections from one of my favorites, *The Sound of Music*. I thought it was entirely appropriate this year to revisit *The Sound of Music* selections. Here it is 12 years later, and it's also the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the film."

Edinger's background is filled with musical theater from a young age. "I had my Actor's Equity card from the time I was in college," he said. "I got my first Broadway show while I was here working at Resurrection Parish. It was 2004, and I was in the Broadway revival of Steven Sondheim's *Pacific Overtures*."

Edinger was an understudy for one of the performers and, when the performer was injured, Edinger went on to perform and then became a regular cast member in the show.

"I wanted the children to see that there is more to me than just sacred music," said Edinger. "There is a whole range of music

beyond sacred music and a place for it. There are some wonderful repertoire that can really touch people, especially *The Sound of Music*, which has an overall religious undertone," he said.

"In 2009 we did Vivaldi's *Gloria* and I invited Kathryn Krasovec, who has sung at the Metropolitan Opera and other venues," Edinger said. "We invited Paul Fersch to play the organ because he is one of the best organists in the Diocese. We picked *Gloria in D* to feature again because it is primarily a piece for a Chamber choir, 24 voices or fewer, and our choir is about 24-30 voices. It's a perfect piece for a small group and a great way to celebrate Corpus Christi Sunday. The text for the *Gloria* is essentially what we say at Mass, 'Glory to God in the highest...' so this is Vivaldi's homage to that prayer, and it's another opportunity to showcase our adult and youth choirs and what they are capable of," the music minister said.

The parish hasn't done a concert like this since 2009, but Edinger is looking to turn it into a monthly event. "My intention is to have a recital series in the fall, and into next year so that each month, September, October and November, we're going to invite a talented artist and hold a musical event. December we have our annual Christmas Concert, and then into next year we'll stage new concerts. We see these concerts as a way to evangelize, to bring people into the Church, and give them a positive experience."