

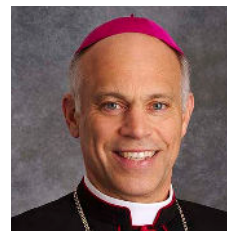


Jubilate

# Catholic Faith, Music and Art

October 3-9, 2025 in Mexico City

## Frank La Rocca's Mass of the Americas



MOST REVEREND  
SALVATORE J.  
CORDILEONE  
Archbishop of  
San Francisco



DR. FRANK LA ROCCA  
Composer



DR. RICHARD CARRILLO  
Conductor



ARCHDIOCESE OF  
**SAN FRANCISCO**

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

October 22, 2024

*Memorial of St. John Paul II, Pope*

Dear Friend,

It is my great pleasure to invite you and your choir to join me in celebrating the “Mass of the Americas” at the Basilica of Santa María de Guadalupe in Mexico City on October 7, 2025. The Mass will be broadcast by EWTN.

I invite you to join the large and magnificent Festival choir from throughout the United States as part of a pilgrimage organized by Jubilate, under the direction of Dr. Richard Carrillo (a Mestizo-American from Miami).

On December 12, 2022, Pope Francis called on all of the Americas to celebrate a nine-year novena in order to prepare for the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe at Tepeyac. This historic celebration of Frank La Rocca’s “Mass of the Americas”, a unity Mass composed as a twin tribute to Our Lady of Guadalupe and Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, is an intensely fitting response to this call.

I hope you can join me, Frank La Rocca, Richard Carillo, and your fellow Catholic sacred music lovers for this extraordinary journey!

Sincerely Yours in our Lord

Most Reverend Salvatore J. Cordileone  
Archbishop of San Francisco

# Faculty



**Dr. Richard Carrillo**

**Conductor**

Conductor, Dr. Richard Anthony Carrillo is Assistant Professor and Director of Choral Activities at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Dr. Carrillo is an accomplished conductor, singer, educator, and researcher with many years of experience. Originally from Texas, Carrillo was a former member of the GRAMMY® award winning Houston Chamber Choir and served as the Associate Conducting Fellow with GRAMMY® nominated professional choir, Seraphic Fire during his doctoral studies at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music.

Dr. Carrillo is also a recipient of the Tinker Field Research Grant, where he traveled to Mexico City to aid in his mounting of Frank La Rocca's *Mass of the Americas*, which was performed with a festival choir of over 100 singers and over 800 people in attendance. This work included the first known Ave Maria in the Nahuatl language of the Aztecs.

Most recently, Carrillo conducted the world premiere of Frank La Rocca's *Requiem Mass for the Forgotten*. This event garnered much media attention and was covered in both national press (with leading stories published by the Catholic News Agency and National Catholic Register) as well as international media, including countries such as Croatia and Australia. This was also broadcasted on EWTN, which is not only the largest Catholic television network in America, but reportedly "the world's largest religious media network", reaching 425 million people in 160 countries, with 11 networks.

Carrillo is also an avid church musician having sung professional at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Houston, TX, the National Shrine and Cathedral of the Apostle Paul in St. Paul, MN, the Basilica of Saint Mary in Minneapolis, MN, the Church of the Epiphany in Miami, FL, and most recently served as the Director of Choirs at Miami's St. John Neumann Catholic Church.



**Dr. Frank La Rocca**

**Composer**

Frank La Rocca is Composer-in-Residence at the Benedict XVI Institute for Sacred Music and Divine Liturgy. His latest work, MASS of the AMERICAS, has been hailed as "Perhaps the most significant Catholic composition of our lifetimes." (Michael Olbash), and "a cornerstone of modern liturgical composition." (Mark Nowakowski). He is also the recent winner of the ORTUS international choral composition competition, and was awarded a 2018 American Prize for his "A Rose In Winter – the life of St. Rita of Cascia," a major work for chorus, orchestra and soloists.

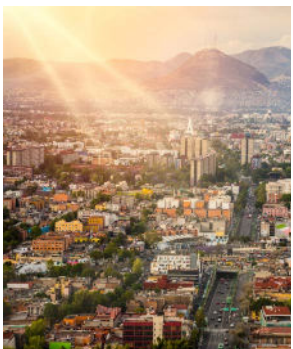
La Rocca has received grants, commissions and awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, California Arts Council, the Foundation for Sacred Arts, Young Women's Chorus of San Francisco, Diocese of Oakland, California State University, ASCAP Foundation, USC Thornton Chamber Singers, Vanguard Voices, London Festival of Contemporary Church Music, Cois Cladaigh, the Madrigals and many others. His work, *Diffusa Est Gratia* was toured by the renowned London Oratory School Schola Cantorum in Fall 2017 in Boston, New York and Washington, D.C.

His CD *In This Place* (Enharmonic Records) reached the top ten in classical CD sales on Amazon and was a 2013 "Critic's Choice" at American Record Guide.

Trained as an academic modernist during his degree studies at Yale and University of California, Berkeley, La Rocca came to see this approach as a barrier to authentic musical expression, and spent many years in search of a personal creative language. His catalog includes works in all genres, with an emphasis on a cappella sacred choral works. At a recent University of Notre Dame conference, "James MacMillan: The Musical Modes of Mary and the Cross",

La Rocca presented a talk entitled, "The Apologetics of Beauty: a Musical Theology of the Incarnation," based upon his choral work *O Magnum Mysterium*. He is published by Boosey and Hawkes, Walton Music, Santa Barbara Music and Lumen Verum Music





October 3-9, 2025

# Frank La Rocca's Mass of the Americas

## Tour Itinerary

### Day 1 – Friday, October 3, 2025 - ARRIVAL DAY & OPENING REHEARSAL (D)

You will begin your journey to Mexico by boarding an international flight to Mexico City, the capital city (air tickets not included in the tour package price). Upon arrival in Mexico City, transfer to your hotel for your first large choir rehearsal starting at approximately 4pm. Group welcome dinner and overnight in Mexico City.

### Day 2 – Saturday, October 4, 2025 - EXPERIENCE THE BACKGROUND TO THE MASS OF THE AMERICAS (B,D)

After breakfast this morning you'll take a tour of the Aztec Pyramids and the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Mass included). You'll visit Teotihuacan, a vast archaeological complex that was once a flourishing pre-Columbian city, as well as Tlatelolco where Juan Diego was baptized in 1525. Tlatelolco was also where Juan Diego was walking when Our Lady of Guadalupe first appeared to him, on Dec. 9, 1531. She would appear to him three more times. You'll enjoy the Guadalupe Shrine experience and tequila tasting. Lunch will be on your own. Dinner at Guadalajara de Noche in Garibaldi Plaza. Overnight in Mexico City.

### Day 3 – Sunday, October 5, 2025 - MASS & REHEARSAL DAY (B)

Enjoy breakfast and attend Morning Mass. After Mass you'll have your second large choir rehearsal. Lunch will be on your own. After lunch there will be a third large choir rehearsal followed by a separate rehearsal of just the core chamber choir. Dinner is on your own. Overnight in Mexico City.

### Day 4 – Monday, October 6, 2025 - WALKING TOUR & DRESS REHEARSAL DAY (B,D)

After breakfast this morning attend daily Mass. After Mass you'll take a walking tour of historic downtown Mexico City, also known as Centro Histórico. The main focus area there is the Zócalo, the largest plaza in Latin America, holding up to nearly 100,000 people. Centro Histórico has been designated as a World Heritage site. As the center of the ancient Aztec Empire and the seat of power for the Spanish colony of New Spain, the Centro Histórico contains most of the city's historic sites from both eras as well as a large number of museums. Lunch will be on your own. After your walking tour you'll have a fourth large choir rehearsal followed by separate rehearsal of just the core chamber choir. Dinner is included this evening. There will be a combined dress rehearsal tonight. Overnight in Mexico City.

### Day 5 – Tuesday, October 7, 2025 - MASS OF THE AMERICAS AT THE BASILICA (B,L)

Enjoy breakfast before singing the **Mass of the Americas at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe**. Enjoy a celebratory lunch with the rest of the day free to explore Mexico City on your own. Dinner will be on your own. Overnight in Mexico City.

### Day 6 – Wednesday, October 8, 2025 - ANTHROPOLOGY MUSEUM & CONCERT (B,D)

After breakfast this morning attend daily Mass. Following Mass you'll visit the Anthropology Museum, home to the world's largest collection of ancient Mexican art. The afternoon will be free at leisure. **In the evening you'll perform the Mass of the Americas in concert at the Shrine of Blessed Miguel Pro.** Farewell dinner and overnight in Mexico City.

### Day 7 – Thursday, October 9, 2025 - DEPARTURE (B)

After breakfast go to the Mexico City airport to begin your journey back to the USA (air tickets not included in this package).

To download the full Tour Brochure please [CLICK HERE](#).

Choir directors planning to participate with their choir group please contact Dr. Richard Carrillo at [racarrillo83@gmail.com](mailto:racarrillo83@gmail.com).