**NEWBURYPORT CHORAL SOCIETY**

PRESS RELEASE

 Contact: Mary Ann Lachat

April 20, 2012 (h) 603-580-1756

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (c) 603-475--0802

 malachat@comcast.net

**NEWBURYPORT CHORAL SOCIETY CELEBRATES CONDUCTOR’S 25 YEARS WITH A PERFORMANCE OF THE BRAHMS REQUIEM**

NEWBURYPORT, MA – The Newburyport Choral Society (NCS) is celebrating its 25th year under the baton of Dr. Gerald Weale in an Anniversary Concert performance of the Brahms Requiem with professional orchestra and soloists on Saturday evening, May 5th and Sunday afternoon, May 6th at the Belleville Congregational Church in Newburyport. The grandeur of this choral masterpiece is a fitting tribute to Dr. Weale who has brought such a rich array of music to local audiences for the past 25 years. His vision for NCS has far surpassed what community choruses are usually able to accomplish, and under his leadership NCS has performed the greatest of the choral masterpieces, commissioned new choral works, and went on three European tours. When Dr. Weale walks down the aisle of Belleville Church, audience members know they are in for a resounding musical experience that can span a multitude of musical styles from sweeping oratorios to rollicking oratorios to American spirituals. NCS singers have come to know “Jerry” as a gifted storyteller who brings composers, their works, and their histories to life, and who radiates an enthusiasm for musical excellence that is captivating. Dr. Weale is particularly enthusiastic about the opportunity to conduct the *Brahms Requiem* in the Anniversary Concert performance. *It’s long been a favorite of mine. It’s magnificent music that carries an inspiring message.* The Anniversary Concert program will also include Brahms’ radiant “Song of Destiny (Schicksalslied, Opus 54).

CONCERT INFORMATION

Saturday, May 15 at 8:00 p.m. & Sunday, May 6 at 2:30 p.m.

Belleville Congregational Church, 300 High St., Newburyport, MA

Adult tickets $20, Students & Seniors $18 & Parties of 12 or more $15

***For more information go to the NCS Web site*** [***www.newburyportchoralsociety.org***](http://www.newburyportchoralsociety.com) ***phone 978-462-0650***

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Newburyport Choral Society is an educational, non-profit organization that has brought outstanding choral music to North Shore audiences for nearly 80 years. In two concert series each year, NCS presents choral music programs accompanied by professional soloists and orchestras.