**NEWBURYPORT CHORAL SOCIETY – PRESS RELEASE**

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**SPRINGTIME WITH MOZART AND HAYDN - NEWBURYPORT CHORAL SOCIETY SPRING CONCERT**

NEWBURYPORT, MA – The 100 voices of the Newburyport Choral society will be joined by an orchestra and professional soloists in performing a concert of choral music by Mozart and Haydn on Saturday evening, May 4th at 8pm and Sunday afternoon, May 5th at 2:30 pm at the Belleville Congregational Church in Newburyport. In performing this uplifting concert program, the Choral Society is paying special tribute to these two composers who were friends and whose music is the epitome of the appealing melodies, clarity, and harmonic balance of the Classical style.

Under the baton of NCS Music Director Dr. Gerald Weale, the first half of the concert is an all Mozart program containing music from his “Salzburg” period. The concert opens with the bright and high-energy *Sancta Maria, K273,* setting the stage for the energetic rhythms of the *Solemn Vespers (K339).* Consisting of five Psalm settings and the Magnificat, this piece offers audiences striking contrasts in mood from the exuberant “Dixit Dominus” and contrapuntal “Laudate Pueri” to the radiant soprano solo of "Laudate Dominum. The first half of the program closes with Mozart’s joyous *Regina Coeli.*

The second half of the program will feature Haydn’s *Lord Nelson Mass,* a piece that offers audiences a window into history. Dedicated to Admiral Nelson in honor of his defeat of Napoleon’s French navy in the battle of the Nile, it is considered one of Haydn’s greatest choral works, and it ranks as one of the favorites with choral societies and their audiences to this day. The Mass transports listeners from the despair of the opening “Kyrie” to the joy of the last movement - "Dona Nobis Pacem”--grant us peace.

CONCERT INFORMATION

Saturday, December 8 at 8:00 p.m. & Sunday, December 9 at 2:30 p.m.

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

Tickets are available online and at ticket outlets - Adult tickets $22, Students & Seniors $20 and Parties of 10 or more $15. Tickets purchased at the door are $25.

***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.