



'Celtic Mass for the Sea' in honor of World Oceans Day

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A reunion of singers is taking place on Saturday, June 1 at 11 a.m. to enjoy and reprise a short portion of "The Celtic Mass for the Sea" in honor of [World Oceans Day](#). The complete piece of music was performed twice in the past by the Orcas Choral Society under the direction of Catherine Pederson. Some of the singers were also part of groups that travelled to Carnegie Hall and Europe to perform the piece.

This will be the second "Celtic Mass for the Sea" reunion, as the group also gathered last year. The impetus for the celebration last year was inspired by Scott Macmillan and Jennyfer Brickenden, composer and librettist of the Mass, who organized a "Flash Mob" event at the Maritime Museum in their home city of Halifax, Canada. They encouraged singers to join them there, or to join in spirit and song in their home communities. The singers on Orcas enjoyed the event so much that it was decided to reprise the reprisal again this year.

Plans for the June 1 observance of "The Celtic Mass for the Sea" propose that singers who have previously sung the work in its entirety with the Choral Society meet for two rehearsals, and then gather on June 1 to sing excerpts from the Mass.

The celebration includes Louellen McCoy, pianist and Rachel Bishop, fiddler.

Although this is not considered a performance, listeners for this brief 15 minutes of music written in homage to the sea and its creatures are most welcome to share in the reunion event at Emmanuel Episcopal Parish Hall at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 1. A reception will follow.

For further information, contact Catherine Pederson at catherine@rockisland.com.

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