



Claire MacKenzie
Director of Music
Our Lady of Fatima
Russian Byzantine Catholic Church of San Francisco

Director of Music, Claire MacKenzie, is an internationally recognized mezzo-soprano and voice teacher. Ms. MacKenzie specializes as a Soloist in Oratorio, Opera, Concert, Sacred, and World music genres. She performs in and around the San Francisco Bay Area, the greater United States, and internationally with renowned conductors, orchestral groups, and music companies. Notable performances include her collaboration with the late Grammy Award Winner, Al Jarreau in a performance voted “exquisite, exceptional and innovative” by the Los Angeles Examiner, and her Carnegie Hall solo debut of the Rahbani Brothers’ *Andalousiyyat* Orchestral Suite. December 2018 marked her 4th year as the Alto Soloist for “The Annual Sing- A-Long Messiah” with conductor Dr. Tim Smith and the Contra Costa Chamber Orchestra, and June 2019 marked her 2nd year as featured performing artist with the Barcelona Festival of Song in Spain.

A native of San Francisco, Ms. MacKenzie attributes her knowledge and passion for sacred music to the musical upbringing and education she received through St. Brendan’s Catholic School Parish and the San Francisco Girls Chorus. Ms. MacKenzie began her studies in voice and music theory from the age of 7 years old with the San Francisco Girls Chorus School, holding positions of Graduate, Laureate, Alumni, Touring & Recording Artist, and Spokesperson. She also studied piano, oboe, and English horn from an early age and has played with symphony and chamber orchestras throughout her college career.

Ms. MacKenzie received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music and German Language & Literature from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo; Arabic Language Immersion from Middlebury College, a Masters in Music and Music Education from Boston University, and a Post-Baccalaureate in Speech, Language, Hearing Sciences from State University of New York at New Paltz. Ms. MacKenzie is currently on sabbatical as a graduate fellow with the Department of Speech, Language, Hearing Sciences at Chapman University.

As Director of Music for Our Lady of Fatima, it is Claire’s objective to further build upon the sense of community and the sacred that is invoked through the Divine Liturgy, as well as to help preserve the sacred music practices of the Byzantine Catholic Rite.