



FESTIVAL DE MUSIQUE ST GAUDERIC AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2009

Come and Sing in SW France

Experienced Choral Singers Wanted

(all voices, SATB)

to join the
Festival Chorus
for the second
**St Gauderic Music
Festival**



The Chorus will meet and rehearse at the Eglise de St Gauderic
(off D119 between Mirepoix and Carcassonne)

Performances will take place at: Eglise de St Gauderic (29 Aug)
Mirepoix Cathedral (30 Aug)

Music to include:	Mozart	Requiem
	Faure	Madrigal
	Mendelsohn	Psalm 43

Festival Administrator: Helen Taylor, Faulkenhurst House, Chadderton, Oldham OL1 2PT

Tel: 0161 287 6207. Email: neilvt@ntlworld.com.

Website: www.stgauderic.net

Note that all details on this leaflet are provisional and subject to change

St Gauderic

St Gauderic was a 9th century farmer in the region between Mirepoix and Fanjeaux. He is credited with various miracles including the healing of the son of the Count of Mirepoix! He was honoured locally by the naming of the village and church of St Gauderic, by a special side chapel in the cathedral at Mirepoix, and in numerous other locations in the Languedoc-Roussillon region. There is even a statue of St Gauderic in the church at Latour de France, near Perpignan.

The village of St Gauderic is a small community 8 kilometres NE of Mirepoix. Historically, it was a farming village, but with mechanisation and the decline of agriculture, this is now a small part of village life. We are especially pleased that the village has agreed to host the opening concert of the Festival which will take place in the church.

Mirepoix is small “bastide” town of some 3000 inhabitants which has recently developed as a major tourist destination, following the development of the airport at Carcassonne. It is noted for the impressive cathedral of St Maurice, for the medieval arcaded market square and its major festivals.

Auberge de Balestié

The Auberge de Balestié is a hotel and restaurant in the countryside between Mirepoix and St Gauderic. It occupies a beautiful hill-top location with splendid views of the Pyrenees.

It is owned and run by an English family, and has been refurbished to provide accommodation for 24 in double and twin rooms; a dining room, function room and swimming pool.

Festival Details

The Festival will include two choral concerts in different venues. The plan is for the first concert on Saturday 29 August to be in the church at St Gauderic, and the 2nd concert on Sunday 30th in the Cathedral at Mirepoix.

The plan for the 2009 festival has been enhanced from 2007 in two ways:

- **We are negotiating to secure an orchestra for the Sunday performance.**
- **We are hoping to arrange a chamber music concert on the Thursday, and a recital for the four soloists (to be confirmed) on the Friday.**

We are pleased to announce that we have again secured the services of Nigel Speak as musical director for the Festival. He has many years experience as a choral director and is currently living in France and working world-wide as an examiner for the Associated Board.

John Walton will again be the accompanist, and, we hope, will be giving a recital on the famous organ at Mirepoix Cathedral.

Keep an eye on our Website, www.stgauderic.net, for further information about St Gauderic, the Festivals and related items of interest.

Arrangements for the Choir

Chorus Members will be accommodated mainly at the Auberge de Balestié, although it will not be possible to accommodate the entire choir there. Suitable additional accommodation has been secured. The Festival Administrator will allocate the accommodation during the spring.

Block booking of flights to this part of France has proved not to be cost effective; cheaper deals are normally available to individuals. Flights are available to either Carcassonne or Toulouse from Stansted, Heathrow, Gatwick, Manchester, Liverpool or East Midlands airports. Please make your own arrangements and let the Festival Administrator know when you will be arriving. Transport will be provided from these airports to the accommodation, and back again after the festival. Chorus members choosing to travel by car or train are welcome. Please arrange to arrive at the Auberge before lunch on Thursday morning; there is plenty of parking.

The standard fee is inclusive of accommodation, meals at the Auberge, picnics at lunchtimes, transport to and from airports and between venues. The price quoted is for shared accommodation; a supplement will be charged for single rooms.

If you wish to arrive before or stay on after the Festival at the Auberge, please let the Festival Administrator know, as rooms have been reserved for this purpose.

Chorus members who choose to make their own accommodation arrangements are also welcome and will be charged a reduced fee. A variety of hotels, gites, campsites and other facilities are available within reasonable distance. Meals at the Auberge and lunchtime picnics should be booked in advance; the Festival Administrator will advise you of prices.

The Festival Banquet will be at the Auberge on Monday 31 August 2009, and it is hoped that all members of the chorus, and those associated with the Festival will be able to attend. This is included in the Standard Fee, but will be charged extra to those making their own arrangements.

Places are available for non-singing members of the party, eg partners of chorus members. The full standard fee will be payable for these individuals on the same basis as chorus members.

An early deposit in January 2009 is needed in order to secure the Auberge and other accommodation.

Charges	
Standard Fee (no more than)	£360
Own Arrangements (re accommodation)	£60
Single Supplement (no more than)	to be confirmed
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Deposit payable for all bookings	£60

PROVISIONAL CHOIR REPERTOIRE

Mendelssohn	Psalm 43
Bennett	Weep O Mine Eyes
Sullivan	Brightly dawns our Wedding day (Mikado)
Faure	Madrigal
Flanders & Swann	The Slow Train (arr. Max Taylor)
Bertalot	Allouette
Don Besig	Flying Free
Mozart	Requiem

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Thursday 27 August	am	arrival
	1.00	lunch at Balestié
	2.30	rehearsal
	7.30	dinner at Balestié
	9.00	Chamber Music at Manses
Friday 28 August	10.30	rehearsal at St Gauderic
	12.30	picnic lunch
	2.30	rehearsal at St Gauderic
	7.30	dinner at Balestié
	9.00	Soloists Recital, St Gauderic
Saturday 29 August	10.30	rehearsal at St Gauderic
	12.30	picnic lunch
	2.30	rehearsal at St Gauderic
	6.30	dinner at Balestié
	9.00	Concert at St Gauderic
Sunday 30 August	am	free
	12.30	picnic lunch
	2.30	rehearsal at Mirepoix
	6.30	dinner at Balestié
	9.00	concert at Mirepoix
Monday 31 August	am/pm	free – excursions to be arranged
	12.00	Organ Recital, Mirepoix
	7.30	Festival Banquet
Tuesday 1 September	am	depart

**FESTIVAL DE MUSIQUE de ST GAUDERIC
27 AUGUST – 1 SEPTEMBER 2009**

BOOKING FORM

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

POSTCODE..... TELEPHONE.....

Emergency Contact

Disability/ Dietary Requirements.....

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Please provide any relevant information which may affect your travel or accommodation needs. Attach another sheet if necessary

Choral Experience.....

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Please provide any relevant evidence of your choral singing experience, including the names of any choirs of which you are a member.

Please accept my booking for the St Gauderic Music Festival August 2007 as follows:

Facilities required:	Fee	Deposit	Tick as required
Standard Fee	£360	£60	
Own Arrangements	£60	£60	
Single Supplement	To be confirmed		

I confirm that I will share accommodation with..... (name)
(Please delete if paying the single supplement)

I confirm that I will arrange travel insurance cover for the period of the Festival.

I enclose my deposit cheque for payable to St Gauderic Music Festival. I will pay the balance on receipt of an invoice by 1 June 2009.

Signature Date.....

Please return one booking form per person to the Festival Administrator by 31 January 2009

VOICE:
Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass
Non-singing
Tick as appropriate

Note to NW Singers.

Ryanair are now accepting internet bookings from Liverpool to Carcassonne for August/September 2009, and from our experience over many years, this is likely to be the cheapest route available.

You may get a reasonable deal from Manchester to Toulouse on BMI. Another option for the more adventurous is on Easyjet, Manchester or Liverpool to Barcelona, which is about 4 hours by car on the autoroute, or a beautiful day's drive over the mountains, or a stunning train journey through the Pyrenean valleys to Pamiers.

There may also be cheap flights with BMIBaby, Manchester to Perpignan on the appropriate days but you will need to make your own arrangements for the transfer to and from St Gauderic. Car hire may be good value for a group.

Beware of the potential excess baggage charges, especially with Ryanair. For advice, contact the Festival Administrator.