



FESTIVAL CORALE INTERNAZIONALE DI

ROMA

JUNE 21-26, 2026

Z. RANDALL STROOPE, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR





The Rome International Choral Festival is one of Rome's premier annual summer music events. The seventeenth-annual festival will feature Mass participation in one of Rome's four major Basilicas on June 24th, 2026 and a formal finale concert at Rome's Basilica di Santa Maria degli Angeli e dei Martiri on June 25th, 2026. The festival chorus will include mixed-voice singers and choirs from across North America that will come together to rehearse and perform en masse under the baton of maestro Z. Randall Stroope. Tour and festival production is produced by Music Celebrations International.

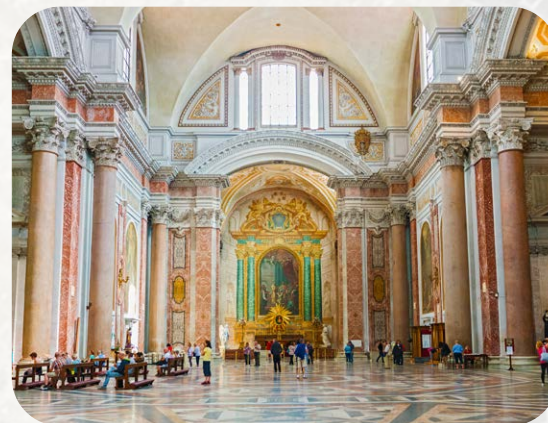
THE BASILICAS OF ROME

The four major basilicas in Rome—St. Peter's, St. John Lateran, St. Paul Outside the Walls, and St. Mary Major—are the highest-ranking churches in Catholicism and symbolize the faith's global unity. Each has unique significance: St. Peter's honors the Apostle Peter; St. John Lateran is the Pope's cathedral; St. Paul Outside the Walls venerates St. Paul; and St. Mary Major celebrates the Virgin Mary. Together, they are vital pilgrimage sites and treasures of Christian heritage.



BASILICA DI SANTA MARIA DEGLI ANGELI E DEI MARTIRI

The Basilica di Santa Maria degli Angeli e dei Martiri was built within the remains of the Diocletian Baths, a massive public bathing complex constructed by Emperor Diocletian in the 3rd-century AD. In the 16th-century, Pope Pius IV commissioned the renowned architect Michelangelo to convert the baths into a Christian place of worship. Michelangelo's innovative design transformed the structure into a breathtaking basilica that blends ancient Roman architecture with Renaissance elements.



SAMPLE ITINERARY

DAY 1: SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2026

- Depart via scheduled air service to Rome, Italy

DAY 2: SUNDAY, JUNE 21

- Arrive in Rome
- Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who assists the group to the awaiting chartered motorcoach for an orientation tour of Rome, stopping at sites such as Spanish Steps, the Pantheon, Trevi Fountain and Piazza Navona
- Lunch, on own
- Late afternoon transfer to the hotel for Welcome Dinner and overnight

DAY 3: MONDAY, JUNE 22

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Half-day guided tour of *Imperial Rome*, including entrance to the Roman Forum and Colosseum. Also view the Baths of Caracalla and Palatine Hill
- Lunch, on own
- Afternoon at leisure
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- **Evening rehearsal**
- Return to hotel for overnight

DAY 4: TUESDAY, JUNE 23

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Half-day guided tour of *Religious Rome*. Visit Vatican City, the home of the Pope and the center of Roman Catholicism, as well as the Vatican Museums (using the whisper system), the Sistine Chapel (featuring Michelangelo's Ceiling Frescos and *The Last Judgment*) and St. Peter's Basilica
- Lunch, on own
- Afternoon at leisure
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- **Evening rehearsal**
- Return to hotel for overnight

DAY 5: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

- Breakfast at the hotel
- **Morning rehearsal**
- Lunch, on own
- Transfer to the Basilica for Mass
- **Combined choirs participate/sing in a late afternoon Mass in one of the four major Basilicas in Rome**
- Dinner included at a local restaurant
- Return to hotel for overnight

DAY 6: THURSDAY, JUNE 25

- Breakfast at the hotel
- **Morning Dress Rehearsal in the Basilica di Santa Maria degli Angeli e dei Martiri**

- Lunch, on own
- Afternoon time at leisure for personal shopping and other activities
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- Festival Finale Concert in the Basilica di Santa Maria degli Angeli e dei Martiri
- Late return to hotel for overnight

DAY 7: FRIDAY, JUNE 26

- Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out
- Transfer to the Rome International Airport for return flight



FESTIVAL TOUR EXTENSIONS

Through our years of experience, we at Music Celebrations know most choirs that participate in a European festival will want to spend additional time in Europe before or after a festival in order to explore and experience the rich musical and cultural heritage Europe has to offer. Through our exclusive association with various governmental and tourist offices, MCI is able to help choirs perform in stand-alone concerts as part of the American Celebration of Music in Italy concert series. The following are examples of possible pre or post-festival tour extensions to consider. Remember that MCI is more than happy to use these itineraries as a starting point to then create a completely customized tour for any choir.

TOUR 2: NAPLES / SORRENTO (ADD TWO NIGHTS)

Transfer from Rome to Naples/Sorrento area. Visit the ruins of Pompeii which was buried by an eruption by Mount Vesuvius in August, 79 AD. Evening concert in Naples. Full-day guided tour of the Amalfi Coast, visiting Sorrento Peninsula, Positano, Furore Valley and Salerno. Continue to Rome for the Festival.



TOUR 3: FLORENCE / PISA (ADD TWO NIGHTS)

Transfer from Rome to Florence. A half-day orientation tour of Florence includes the Piazza della Signoria, the Ponte Vecchio, and the Academy of Fine Arts to see Michaelangelo's original 'David' and other sculptures by the great master. Evening concert in Florence. Transfer to Rome via Pisa for sightseeing. See the Piazza del Duomo or Campo dei Miracoli, with the cathedral, the Leaning Tower, the Baptistery and Campo Santo. Continue to Rome for the Festival.



TOUR 4: FLORENCE / MONTECATINI / VENICE / VERONA (ADD THREE NIGHTS)

Transfer to Florence after the Festival. A half-day orientation tour of Florence includes the Piazza della Signoria, the Ponte Vecchio, and the Academy of Fine Arts to see Michaelangelo's original 'David'. Take a half-day orientation tour of Florence. Transfer to Venice. Tour the main island of San Marco via public boat to see St. Mark's Square with entrance to the Basilica of St. Mark and the Doge's Palace. Evening concert in Venice. Enjoy time at leisure in Venice.



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