



invites you to

*Come and Sing*

***Rossini!***



*G. Rossini*

**choruses**

**from**

## **Petite Messe Solennelle and Stabat Mater**

directed by Howard Kane

accompanist Andrew Millinchip

**SATURDAY, 2 NOVEMBER, 2024**

**10.30 am - 4.30 pm**

**Frodsham Methodist Church, Frodsham WA6 6BA**

***fee: £18 or £20 (inclusive of music hire)***

To book, please go to our website - [www.fdc.org.uk](http://www.fdc.org.uk) or

email

[maggie.rogerson@googlemail.com](mailto:maggie.rogerson@googlemail.com)

or

ring or text:

**Saara Midwood - 07974 698 433**

## Timetable for the day

**10.30 am** registration, collection of music and tea & coffee

**11.00 am to 12.30 pm** session 1

**12.30 pm to 1.30 pm** lunch break

**1.30 pm to 3.00 pm** session 2

**3.00 pm to 3.30 pm** cake break

**3.30 pm to 4.30 pm** **informal performance** (open to the public, free of charge - please invite your family and friends to join us)

**Venue** **Frodsham Methodist Church**, Kingsley Rd, Frodsham, WA6 6BA - we have a car park with extra carparking on the surrounding streets

*I think that we can all agree with **Rossini** when he claims,*

*“... every kind of music is good, **except** the boring kind ”*

*I hope that you will not find any of his music falling into that category today!*

*Rossini was a larger-than-life character in so many ways, including his appetite for food and life.*

*Although he lived until he was 76 years old, he retired from large-scale composition while still in his 30s, having completed 39 operas, some songs and chamber music. The reason for this was probably a mixture of poor health and great wealth.*

*Rossini, who was brought up in the Catholic faith, was not renowned for his religious beliefs but, as we shall see today, he had an unerring ability to create vivid and highly dramatic music for religious texts. Neither the operatic stage nor the comic capers of opera buffa are far from his musical style. The critic, Clive James, described Rossini as “Mozart without the brains”*

*This may be a little harsh but  
elegance, charm and high spirits are the province of both composers.*

*The two key works we will be exploring are extracts from his 'Stabat Mater' (1841),  
- a solemn and heartfelt exploration of the crucifixion from Mary's standpoint -  
and his 'Petite Messe Solennelle' (1863), originally written for 12 singers, two pianos  
and a harmonium - which is neither little nor solemn.*

*There will also be a couple of short settings of 'Ave Maria' and 'O salutaris hostia'.*

*I'm happy to leave almost the last words to Rossini in encouraging you to come and sing his  
music -*

*“...eating, loving, singing and digesting are, in truth, the four acts of the comic opera  
known as **LIFE***

*and they pass like the bubbles of a bottle of champagne ...*

*whoever lets them break without having enjoyed them is a complete fool ... ”*

***WE WON'T HAVE CHAMPAGNE ON OFFER, BUT THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF SINGING , SMILING AND EATING  
OF CAKE!***

***DO JOIN US!***

*Howard*

**Comments from previous FDCS Come and Sing events ...**

***“... a fabulous day and the singing was amazing! ... all those happy, smiling faces ...  
everything was just right, well done everyone! ... it's helped so much for my performance in my  
own choir ... marvellous venue ... excellent accompanist and  
knowledgeable conductor ... high level of musicianship and good fellowship ... I've learned so  
much ... everybody was so friendly... great cakes!”***

Tea and coffee, included in the fee, will be available throughout the day. You will need to bring your own lunch - which can be eaten on the premises - and there will be a tempting selection of home-made cakes!

## BOOKING FORM - Come and Sing Rossini!

Name: .....

Voice (SATB): ..... Choir (if applicable): .....

Address: .....

Email address: .....

Contact no: .....

Group bookings: please include details of extra singers below \*

Number of singers @ £18 .....

Hire copies required @ £1 / copy Stabat mater ..... Petite Messe .....

Total fee enclosed: .....

(please make your cheque payable to *Frodsham & District Choral Society* and send it to:

**Margaret Rogerson, 7 Beech Grove, Weaverham, Northwich, Cheshire CW8 3JA**

or email your details and pay by bank transfer:

**Frodsham and District Choral Society, 20-20-46, 03786579,**

**using reference Come and Sing**

*signed:* .....

How did you hear about this event? .....

Please tick the box if you would like to be informed about future events

*\* If your booking is for more than one singer, please list their details below*

Name	Voice	Hire copies required

We will contact you by email or text to acknowledge receive of your booking. If you would prefer to be contacted by post, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your payment.