



## Peter Anthony Morin

October 9, 1978 - July 8, 2022

Peter Anthony Morin, born October 9, 1978 in Ware, Mass. passed away July 8, 2022 in St. Augustine, FL. He is survived by his wife, Helen Katalin Morin, daughter Luciana Katalin Morin, 14, and son Emanuel Thomas Morin, 9, of St. Augustine, parents Dolores Ann and Paul Louis Morin, sister Angela (Carlos) Gomes, brother Paul Morin (Lindsey), and brother Marc Morin (Jenna), all of Massachusetts., surrogate mom Maida Boudreau and spouse George Michael Opalenik, and predeceased by Marcel Boudreau, who was very important to Peter growing up. He is also survived by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Peter was a member of St. Anastasia Catholic Church, where he served as Director of Music and Liturgy since 2010. He previously was Director of Music at St. Anne/St. Patrick Church and Shrine in Fiskdale, Massachusetts. At St. Anastasia he directed several choirs which included adults and children. Peter was a 4th Degree Knight of The Knights of Columbus. He was also a weekly volunteer at R.B. Hunt Elementary School where he received the Volunteer of the Year award. He ran several half marathons, including one in Ireland.

Peter's early education was in Warren, Mass. where he graduated from Quaboag Regional High School. He then earned a Bachelor of Music, Pipe Organ Performance from Syracuse University. He went on to graduate with a Master of Sacred Music from Emory University. His principal organ teachers included Timothy Albrecht, Peter Wright, Katharine Pardee and Barclay Wood. His primary conducting studies were with Adrian Lucas. Peter was awarded

the Arthur Poister Prize, Emory University Research Grant, and a Mark and Pearle Clements Internship Award allowing his first four-month summer of observation and performance based at Worcester Cathedral in England. While in England he assisted in BBC recordings, performed within the Three Choirs Festival and participated in a choir tour of Ireland and many other recitals at cathedrals and festivals. Peter has performed with the Jacksonville Symphony, EMMA Concert Series, Memorial Presbyterian Organ Series, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Augustine, Saint Anastasia Catholic Church, Emory University and led an EMMA concert-lecture with his wife Helen. During the Covid lockdown, Peter and Helen streamed weekly concerts for the community, with repertoire ranging from Bach to the Beatles, featuring their talents along with guest artists.

“Let There Be Music” was his mantra. This encompassed his work at St. Anastasia developing a first-class music program and his creation of a very successful concert series which brought world class musicians from afar to share their talents. He accomplished a major goal this past December and January by presenting The Twelve Days of Christmas, celebrating the true meaning of Christmas with daily concerts and liturgical services. His lifelong dream was fulfilled in June, to take the choir on a pilgrimage choir concert tour, which included singing Mass and presenting concerts in some of the finest Cathedrals and Basilicas of France including the Basilica of St. Therese in Lisieux, St. Peter’s Church at Mont-Saint-Michel, Church of La Madeleine and Chartres Cathedral in Paris. The trip culminated in a memorable visit to Lourdes with Mass at the Grotto.

Peter was appointed to the Diocese of St. Augustine Liturgy Commission in 2014 and was Music Director of the Eucharistic Congress Mass in 2016. He was an active member of the American Guild of Organists, Royal School of Church Musicians and the National Association of Pastoral Musicians.

Peter loved the St. Anastasia community. He aimed for every parish family to be involved in music-making, allowing the participatory energy to be the catalyst in following God’s call in our lives and in our worship together. He

loved spending time at the ocean, composing, dancing with Helen, and taking his children to the beach.

A public viewing and wake service will be held from 5 to 8 pm Thursday, July 14 at St. Anastasia Catholic Church (5205 A1A South St Augustine Florida) with a prayer service at 6pm. The funeral Mass will be at 11 am Friday, July 15th at the church with burial following at San Lorenzo Cemetery. Donations in Peter's memory may be made to the St. Anastasia Music Ministry or Home Again St. Johns Inc, 285 S Holmes Blvd, St. Augustine, FL 32084. For those unable to attend, you may watch a live stream at <https://saccfl.org/about/im-new/mass-schedule/> or <https://www.facebook.com/stanastasiacc/>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 14. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

St Anastasia Catholic Church  
5205 A1A S, St.  
Augustine, FL 32080  
(904) 471-5364

## Prayer Vigil

JUL 14. 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

St Anastasia Catholic Church  
5205 A1A S  
St. Augustine, FL 32080-8006  
(904) 471-5364

## Funeral Mass

JUL 15. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St Anastasia Catholic Church  
5205 A1A S, St.  
Augustine, FL 32080  
(904) 471-5364

## Graveside

JUL 15. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

San Lorenzo Cemetery  
1635 US 1  
Saint Augustine, FL 32084



# Tribute Wall



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Peter Anthony Morin*



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**St. Johns Family Funeral Home** - July 13, 2022 at 10:22 AM

PE

“ *I m miss you all your freind anthony pereira i m your cause anthony*

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**Peter** - October 15, 2022 at 08:03 PM

MD

“ *While I had the privilege of knowing Peter for only the past 2 1/2 years, he had a huge impact on my life. From first meeting "trying out" for the choir, he exuded a warmth and caring that made me feel at home and like I had known him all my life. Tuesday choir practice and 8 am Mass were highlights of my week expanding into weekly piano lessons with some voice coaching for cantoring. He made these hours a joyful time with his sharp wit and optimism. He fought his cancer with that optimistic outlook girded with a deep spirituality and courage that was awe-inspiring. Our group pilgrimage to Lourdes was unforgettable and I'm eternally grateful to have been invited. Peter, please keep guiding us from your angelic choir as we endeavor to carry on your legacy at Saint Anastasia Catholic Church.*

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**Marianne Davies** - July 16, 2022 at 12:46 PM



“ Carolyn Shoals lit a candle in memory of Peter Anthony Morin



Carolyn Shoals - July 15, 2022 at 12:00 PM

FA

“ Peter was a gift for my daughter, Bianca. He taught her piano and introduced her to a world of music. He and Helen inspired her to begin violin. Peter had a way with Bianca. He understood her and instructed in such a way that she cared for him as a friend. She grew so much through her music and developed a confidence in life overall. Bianca looked up to Peter and always tried to work to impress him at every lesson. She whizzed through her instructional books and asked for more. Peter took the time to find her seasonal music and continued to enrich my child. She was a shy introvert and music brought out a huge personality. During the last year, we prayed and remained faithful that Peter would get better. I had some symptoms and was afraid for my health for a few months. Because of Peter and his struggle, I went to be tested. To my disbelief, doctors found precancerous growths. If our paths would have not crossed, I would have never thought to be tested for at least 5 years. We were all blessed to have known “Mr. Morin” and Bianca is determined that one day she will help find a cure for cancer. She wants to continue teaching herself, as currently she wants no other teacher. She told me she will teach piano to kids and they will love it just like Mr. Morin did for her! Thanks to Peter, there will always be music in our hearts. Bless Helen, Lucy, Manny, Peter! Heaven has gained an Angel in our eyes.

Francine Kirby Allie - July 14, 2022 at 04:50 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Peter Anthony Morin.*



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July 13, 2022 at 08:04 PM



“ *I was Peter's bus driver in Warren, Ma for many years. He was a very pleasant and well behaved and friendly young man. He was a joy on my bus. I'm impressed at his success in life though not surprised. I'm sure he will be missed by many. Rest in peace Peter. My deepest sympathies to his family. Sue Deslongchamps*

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**Susan Deslongchamps** - July 13, 2022 at 07:23 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Peter Anthony Morin.*



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July 12, 2022 at 05:30 PM



“ *Palmer Paving Corporation purchased the Heavenly Light for the family of Peter Anthony Morin.*



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**Palmer Paving Corporation** - July 12, 2022 at 02:51 PM

PA

“ Peter was a special cousin - someone we were very proud to know. He served as our altar boy when we married, and we were honored to attend his wedding many years later in England. His musical talents were truly a blessing. The Morin Family, "And Let there be Music!" cd with Helen, Lucy, and Manny is endearing beyond words. Rest in peace - you are so missed!  
Patrick and Patti (Morin) Beauregard

Patti - July 12, 2022 at 11:24 AM



“ 60 files added to the album Life Tributes



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - July 12, 2022 at 10:34 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Peter Anthony Morin.



July 11, 2022 at 09:58 PM

JB

“ I had known Peter for just over a year, but I knew immediately that his talent and energy seemed boundless. He was welcoming and had developed the most amazing music program for the parish community. It was a genuine blessing. At this time, I can only share my love with his wonderful family and the St. Anastasia music ministry and entire parish community that meant so much to him. —  
Joe Brockert

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**Joe Brockert** - July 11, 2022 at 05:13 PM