



**Dr. Richard Edward Toensing**  
1940-2014

**TOENSING'S "MASS FOR 2 VOICES, VIOLIN & ORGAN"  
TO RECEIVE PREMIER PERFORMANCE AT SAINT AUGUSTINE'S**

**O**N AUGUST 15, 2014, at 7:00pm Richard Edward Toensing's "MASS" for violin, two voices, and organ and will have its world premier performance as part of the Liturgical celebration of the Feast of the Dormition (Assumption) of the Blessed Virgin Mary at St. Augustine's Orthodox Church, 55 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue at Acoma St, Denver, CO 80223.

This premier performance is dedicated to the memory of Richard Edward Toensing who died on July 2 of this year.

Toensing, a world-renowned composer of music in all genres, was also a conductor and educator. Dr. Toensing taught at the University of Colorado, Boulder from 1973-2005. From 1984-2001 he held the chair of the department.

At the College of Music, CU, he served at various times as director of the New Music Ensemble, head of the Electronic Music Studio and convener of the CU Festival of New Music. He trained dozens of undergraduate and graduate students who went on to successful careers as composers and musicians. He was well known at the College for his high academic and musical standards and his professional integrity, and he became a mentor to younger colleagues. He was named *professor emeritus* upon retirement. Toensing's compositions span a variety of styles, from the gestural, free atonal work of the 1960s and 1970s to a renewed interest in various forms of diatonic music in more recent years. He has written numerous works for chorus, chamber music in various genres, and works for large ensembles. His later compositions, particularly from the late 1990s onward, are informed by his careful study of the Orthodox Christian sacred musical tradition and suffused with his deep religious faith.

The "MASS" is Dr. Toensing's first musical setting of the Latin Ordinary of the Mass and is dedicated to Rt. Rev. Father John Mangels, *pastor*, and the congregation of St. Augustine's Orthodox Church, Denver.

Some of his former students and colleagues will be involved in the premier performance; Sarah Barber, mezzo-soprano; Adam Sattley, tenor; Dr. Alexandra Eddy, violin; Frank Slechta, organ; and Richard Robertson, conductor.

All are welcome and a free-will offering will be received.

Parking is available at the *Mi Casa* lot (4<sup>th</sup> and Acoma) and the **Eastern Star** lot at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Acoma.