

**Information on Auditions, Casting, & Registration
for the First Parish Spring musical, *Ruddigore* (Gilbert & Sullivan)**

We invite EVERYBODY to take part in the church's production of *Ruddigore*. **If you wish to be part of the chorus only (children or adults), without any solo singing, no need to audition, you simply need to sign up to participate by filling out and returning the registration form.** Chorus members should expect to take part in two rehearsals a week, starting on Tuesday, March 9, until production week (May 16-23). The **registration form** (sign-up table during coffee hour or on the church website) gives you an opportunity to lay out your schedule conflicts for us in advance, and you'll be given another opportunity to update that prior to the start of rehearsals.

Chorus members will be the general crowd in the village and the castle, singing in large numbers, doing some dancing, and providing lots of comic responses to the action taking place. This will be loads of fun, but will also involve some work (memorizing songs, learning staging) -- it's a great way to be involved.

Below is a list of all roles for which people need to audition. These include large solo roles as well as smaller ensemble roles. You'll also find simple guidelines for what to prepare for the auditions, and what to expect (relax, relax).

Auditions are scheduled for Thursday, February 18 (5:00-7:30), Sunday, February 21 (12:00-3:00), and Thursday, February 25 (4:30-7:30). IF YOU'RE GOING AWAY FOR SCHOOL VACATION (or are otherwise unable to make the scheduled auditions) we can have you audition on Thursday, February 11 (4:30-7:30), or possibly on Sunday, February 14 in the afternoon.

To sign up for an audition, please fill out the form found **on the church website** and submit it by February 14 to Vivian Montgomery (vmontgomery@verizon.net). **If you are requesting an early audition (2/11 or 2/14), you need to be in touch with Vivian directly by February 7.**

Sign-up for auditions, along with further information on the musical, is also available **in person** at a table in Parish Hall following service on Sunday, February 7 and Sunday, February 14. Forms can also be printed from the website and turned in anytime before February 14 to the Music Director mailbox in the copy room at First Parish.

On the registration form, you'll be asked to give three choices of audition slots, ranked in order of preference. **By Monday, February 15, you'll be notified of your audition time.**

REGISTRATION FORMS CAN ALSO BE USED TO SIGN ON TO HELP IN THE PRODUCTION – SETS, COSTUMES, PROPS STAGE MANAGEMENT, ETC.

RUDDIGORE CHARACTERS

Robin Oakapple, a young farmer who, it turns out, is actually Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd, disguised and attempting to escape his fate. Robin is in love with Rose Maybud, but too shy to propose. Baritone.

Rose Maybud, the fairest maid in town, but unfortunately she has commitment issues. Soprano.

Dame Hannah, Rose's aunt, tragically unmarried. Alto.

Richard Dauntless, Robin's foster-brother, a visiting sailor. Must be able to dance (or "dance") the hornpipe. Tenor.

Old Adam Goodheart, Robin's faithful servant. Bass.

Sir Despard Murgatroyd, a/k/a Ruddigore. A wicked baronet who desperately wants to be a nice guy.

Mad Margaret, madly in love with Despard, also just plain old mad. Mezzo.

Zorah and **Ruth**: Professional bridesmaids. Sopranos or mezzos.

Sir Roderic Murgatroyd, the Twenty-First Baronet of Ruddigore, currently deceased. Bass/baritone. Appears only in Act II.

Chorus of bridesmaids and townspeople, some with solo lines

Chorus of Deceased Baronets, some with solo lines

AUDITION INFORMATION: If you would like one of the character roles, please prepare a song for auditions. You'll only need to sing one verse or chorus, about 16-32 measures. It can be something from the show or from some other show, or it can be as simple as a hymn or "This Land Is Your Land." You don't have to memorize it, but please bring an extra copy so you can hold one and Vivian can have one to play along. We may ask you to also sing some scales along with the piano.

You will not have to do any dancing at the auditions. We will ask you to read some lines along with other auditioners.