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***O EMMANUEL* DEBUTS AT #1 ON BILLBOARD CHART**

DYNAMIC CATHOLIC'S FIRST-EVER CHRISTMAS ALBUM
BECOMES A HOLIDAY FAVORITE

CINCINNATI (November 15, 2016) — Topping this week's Billboard Classical Album chart is Dynamic Catholic's new Advent and Christmas CD, *O Emmanuel*, which sold 2,600 copies in its first week.

"We made the decision to try something new: world-class music. It's incredible to see people respond to this project with such excitement," says Matthew Kelly, Dynamic Catholic founder and CEO.

Dynamic Catholic partnered with GRAMMY Award-winning pianist, conductor, and composer, J.J. Wright to bring *O Emmanuel* to life. Wright says the Billboard recognition is an incredible honor.

"I can't remember the last time a newly composed piece of sacred music made it to the top of the Billboard charts," says Wright.

The 10-track album by Wright features the Chicago-based Fifth House Ensemble and the Notre Dame Children's Choir. *O Emmanuel* takes listeners to the heart of the holiday season through the harmonious blend of angelic children's voices, a jazz piano trio, adult vocal soloists and talented instrumentalists.

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Using ancient traditions paired with a modern twist, the CD moves listeners directly into the drama of salvation history and the birth of Jesus by fusing the ancient texts of the “O Antiphons” with chant (“Hodie Christus natus est”), hymnody (“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming,” “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”), and jazz improvisation.

Recorded at the University of Notre Dame’s DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, *O Emmanuel* was produced and edited by GRAMMY Award-winning producer Thomas Moore and engineered by GRAMMY Award-winning engineer Robert Friedrich of Five/Four Productions, Ltd.

For more information about *O Emmanuel* or to purchase a copy of the CD, please visit OEmmanuel.com.

For media inquiries, to request a review copy of *O Emmanuel*, or to schedule an interview, contact Dynamic Catholic’s Public Relations Office at 859-980-7389 or proffice@DynamicCatholic.com.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

J.J. Wright

J.J. Wright is a GRAMMY Award-winning pianist, conductor, and composer. Originally trained as a jazz improviser, Wright has released two of his own CDs and won a GRAMMY for his work with internationally acclaimed jazz vibraphonist Dave Samuels. As a member of the United States Naval Academy Band, Wright played for foreign dignitaries and high-ranking officials, including the president. Wright holds a Masters of Sacred Music from the University of Notre Dame and is currently working on his doctorate. For the 2016–2017 academic year, Wright is studying at the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music in Rome while writing his dissertation and interning with the Sistine Chapel Choir. Visit jjwrightmusic.com to learn more about Wright and his work.

Notre Dame Children’s Choir

The Notre Dame Children’s Choir (NDCC) is an ensemble for Christian sacred music vocalists from birth through age seventeen. The NDCC cultivates child choristers to be leaders of

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churches and communities through music education, spiritual exploration, and community engagement. Initiated in 2013 with forty-five students, the NDCC has expanded to more than 200 singers across eight choirs. The ensemble commissions new music, publishes through the NDCC Choral Series, and records regularly. The NDCC tours nationally and captivated audiences in a TEDx Conference talk titled “What If Children Were More Than Cute?” Dr. Mark Doerries is the artistic director of the Notre Dame Children’s Choir. He teaches conducting at the University of Notre Dame and performs and speaks throughout the United States and Europe. Visit sma.nd.edu to learn more.

ABOUT DYNAMIC CATHOLIC

Dynamic Catholic is dedicated to re-energizing the Catholic Church in America by developing world-class resources that inspire people to rediscover the genius of Catholicism. The nonprofit is passionate about helping Catholics and their parishes become the best version of themselves.

From inspiring events to life-changing books to world-class programs, Dynamic Catholic is reaching millions of Catholics and their parishes, helping them grow spiritually and transform their corner of the world. Learn more at DynamicCatholic.com.