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| |  | | --- | | **~Sarasota Choral Society Members and Friends~  2022! Greetings to All Singers!**  The Sarasota Choral Society’s Board of Directors has found it necessary to withdraw from our anticipated Spring performance of the Easter portion of *Messiah.*The continuing breakthrough positive COVID-19 test results and the very high rate of Covid infection in Sarasota and Manatee Counties, has prompted us to make this very difficult decision. The leadership of SCS believes it will be in the best interest of the public, musicians, singers, and staff’s health and safety to cancel the performance—rather than trying to work around affected individuals.   Since our rehearsals would have to begin next week, when the Omicron strain is in full bloom, we felt we could not commit to the concert. There are other considerations that needed to be weighed, such as the hiring of musicians and the idea of having no control over the audience’s—or for that matter, the SCS Members’--participation in Covid protocols, etc.   The Church of the Palms Chancel Choir will perform a major work during the 9:00 and 11:00 service at the beginning of April. Genevieve Beauchamp, Artistic Director of both the SCS and the Chancel Choir has again invited all SCS members to supplement her Chancel Choir in this performance. SCS encourages all of our members to participate in this as an alternative to *Messiah*. More information will follow about this performance and rehearsals.   Your Board truly regrets any inconvenience and disappointment this decision may have caused. We continue to meet monthly and are looking into novel possibilities to safely expand our Choral Society during these Covid times. Our desire is to still continue as a vibrant musical organization throughout the years to come. We thank you for your patience and understanding in this challenging time, and for your ongoing support of SCS.   We look forward to seeing each and every one of you as soon as possible!   ♫Alana Hufford♫, *President* Sarasota Choral Society | |