



The Parish of Bishops Hatfield, St Etheldreda with St Luke

Director of Music

The Rector of St Etheldreda with St Luke, Bishops Hatfield invites applications for the post of Director of Music to begin in September 2021.

The role of the Director of Music is to provide musical leadership that enhances our mission as a church and enriches our worship.

Background

St Etheldreda's is an inclusive church in the Modern Catholic tradition of the Church of England with a lively and welcoming congregation.

It has a strong musical tradition of long-standing.

The Adult Choir, which is mixed, has some 15 members at full strength and sings at the principal service of the week, the Parish Eucharist, each Sunday morning.

Once a month (usually the third Sunday), there is an all-age Eucharist with more youth-orientated repertoire at which the Adult Choir is joined by the Junior Choir.

The Junior Choir (Y.E.S! - young Eth's singers) normally rehearses on Wednesdays during term time. Y.E.S!, while swelling the ranks of the Adult Choir for some services, also functions as an entity in its own right with its own repertoire and a separate strand of activities and performances.

In 2017, after a generous response from the congregation and local community, a Choral Scholarship Fund was established which supports up to four young choristers each year. The fund supports individually selected choristers with an award of £200 per annum, to be put towards a musical enterprise of his or her choosing. It also provides for further training and workshops for all the young people in the Junior Choir so that we can raise standards and support choral development and teamwork.

In addition to regular Sunday services, the choir(s) play a key role in supporting the liturgy during the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter and major Church festivals. Occasionally Choral Evensong is sung by our choirs, such as at the Burghley Sermon.

There is currently one full choir rehearsal per week, one rehearsal for the Junior Choir per week, and a rehearsal before each service. The choir sings other occasional services as required.

Vision

The Rector and PCC envisage that the Director of Music will further develop our musical life. The successful applicant will contribute to the mission of the parish by maintaining high standards of liturgical worship through excellent musicianship. He/she will play the church organ, direct and build up our choirs and seek ways of using music to extend the mission and growth of the church.

To that end, funding is available for the development and implementation of a programme of outreach to the local community. This is a key element of the appointment. Ideas may include strengthening ties with local schools, creating opportunities for community music-making (e.g. community choirs, workplace choirs, concerts in church, etc) or seeking out people new to music-making, particularly the young. These are just some examples, the shape of the programme will be at the discretion of the successful applicant, in consultation with the Rector.

The Organ

The current organ is a 3-manual digital instrument installed in 1989 by Makin Organs, and is now nearing the end of its life. A replacement is under investigation.

Remuneration

The Director of Music will receive £7000 pa paid monthly in arrears. An additional £3000 is payable either to the Director of Music or his/her nominee in respect of the outreach element of the appointment.

There are approximately 10-20 weddings and 10-15 funerals in a typical year which attract additional fees. Fees for 2021 are £140 for weddings and £80 for funerals.

Key duties and responsibilities

- To direct the music at services and play the organ as required.
- To lead the recruitment, training, (including RSCM preparation) and direction of the choir.
- To lead weekly choir rehearsals.
- In consultation with the Rector, to plan and prepare suitable hymns and anthems for Sunday and other services.
- To work with the Rector in the planning of worship.
- To advise the PCC on the condition of the organ and piano. To arrange the regular maintenance of the organ and piano and to advise the PCC when works to the organ or piano are necessary.
- To be responsible for the music library and to take responsibility for the purchase of new music, within the financial constraints set by the PCC.
- To take part in safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, in accordance with Diocesan guidelines, to comply with all safeguarding procedures and to undertake safeguarding training as per Diocesan recommendations.
- To oversee and contribute to organising any concerts, liaising with external musicians/music groups where appropriate.

The successful applicant:

- will be an organist of ARCO or equivalent standard
- will be an enthusiastic choir trainer keen to inspire a mixed ability choir
- will be liturgically aware
- will be in sympathy with the teachings of The Church of England
- will be used to working with children, and be keen to help in recruitment
- will be able to work collaboratively
- will be well organised
- will ensure that all choir events comply with the PCC's safeguarding policies.

The employment contract will be in accordance with current UK legislation and canons of the Church of England and is subject to a probationary period of one year.

The appointment is subject to enhanced DBS disclosure.

All personal information will be held in accordance with current GDPR regulations.

Further information can be found on our website:

<https://stetheldreda.org/new-director-of-music-vacancy/>

Application and selection procedure

Closing date for applications is 30th May, 2021.

Applications by letter or email, including a full C.V.

Please include your full contact details and a description of why you are interested in the post of Director of Music.

Please give details of musical training, qualifications, and experience, **together with the names and contact details of two referees**, who will be asked to comment on your musical ability, your work with a choir, and your experience as a collaborative colleague. One of the referees should be a member of the clergy.

Initial interviews will be conducted online via Zoom in mid-June.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to a further interview and audition in mid-July at:

St. Etheldreda's Church,
Fore Street,
Hatfield,
HERTS.
AL9 5AN

Candidates will be asked to perform on the organ, accompany the choir singing a hymn, and to continue improvising on that hymn for a short time, and to conduct a short choir rehearsal on a piece of music advised beforehand.

Applications should be sent by post or email to:

Director of Music Application
9, Fore Street
Hatfield
HERTS
AL9 5AN

or

stethscomms@icloud.com

Useful links:

St Etheldreda with St Luke website Music Page <https://www.stetheldreda.org/news/music/>

St Etheldreda with St Luke Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/StEthsHat/>