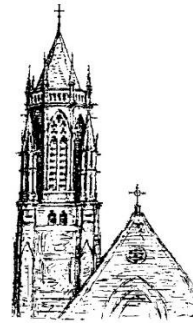


ST PAUL'S  
BRIGHTON



**Vacancy for  
Director of Music**

## **The Position**

We are looking to appoint as soon as possible a highly skilled choir trainer and organist to build on the established musical tradition.

## **About St Paul's**

St Paul's was built in 1848 as a mission church for Brighton's fishermen and their families. Not only a beautiful building in its own right, it is of considerable architectural and cultural importance far beyond the city of Brighton. St Paul's became a principal church of the Tractarian Movement. The standard of worship and music from the start attracted large congregations, and the gradual unfolding of the Catholic heritage of the Church of England here enriched the lives of countless people who made it their spiritual home. St Paul's continues to offer the Mass on some weekdays, and Sung Mass is celebrated every Sunday.

St Paul's is an inclusive Church and we gladly recognise that everyone irrespective of age, ethnicity, gender, marital status, sexual orientation or ability/disability is a Child of God, valued and loved by him and with gifts and talents to contribute and share. Being located at the heart of the city centre we welcome thousands of visitors from all over the world each year and many of these attend our weekday and Sunday worship. St Paul's seeks to service the wider community and in particular we give hospitality to the Safe Space and Street Pastors projects, each doing excellent work with the vulnerable and needy.

## **The Music**

St Paul's has a strong musical tradition and a small but competent and enthusiastic adult choir. We also have the benefit of a very experienced Assistant Organist, who is willing to continue to assist the Director of Music if he/she so wishes. We welcome new choir members with musical experience and the ability to read music, whether on a regular Sunday basis or for festivals, when we also have the services of instrumentalists on an occasional basis. There is a large and varied repertoire of Mass settings and motets, a list of which can be found on the music section of our website [www.saintpaulschurch.org.uk](http://www.saintpaulschurch.org.uk). The choir is also keen to learn new repertoire. Rehearsals are held each Sunday morning at 10.15 am, and we are seeking to reinstate a regular schedule of additional rehearsals on a monthly basis, possibly on Saturday afternoons.

St Paul's also hosts a number of concerts and recitals, being located in the city centre and having a fine acoustic, and is much used as a fringe venue for the Brighton Festival, and for the Brighton Early Music Festival. This wider use of the church for music events has in the past brought us new choir members.

The church possesses a fine three manual Hunter organ which was awarded a Grade 1 Historic Organ Certificate by the British Institute of Organ Studies in 2009. Unfortunately, in recent years it has deteriorated in condition and is now unplayable but we have purchased a three manual Viscount Envoy 350-FV organ to allow us the time to draw up a restoration and fund-raising plan. It is hoped that the successful candidate will take on the leadership of this. There is also a Kawai grand piano in the church and a small upright for rehearsals in the Fishermen's Vestry, as well as a one manual Viscount Vivace 10 chamber organ.

# Job Description

Job Title: Director of Music, St Paul's Church, Brighton  
Responsible To: The Vicar  
Based at: St Paul's Church, West Street, Brighton

## Main Duties:

- Playing the organ and directing the choir at the 11.00am Solemn Mass each Sunday.
- In addition, to play for services on Epiphany Carol Service, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Summer Festa, St Paul's Dedication Festival, All Souls' Day, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day; and other feast days and special services given reasonable notice.
- Rehearsing the choir at 10.15am each Sunday in addition to arranging and taking additional rehearsals on a monthly basis as required.
- Playing the organ for weddings and funerals. (These are few and far between)
- Management of the parish choir, including ongoing of singers and recruitment and auditioning of new choir members.
- Assisting the Parish Priest in using music to draw others into the life of the Church and to increase the number of people who engage with St Paul's.
- Select and arrange the music lists at least one month in advance in agreement with the Parish Priest.
- Arranging cover for Sundays and others services when unavailable.
- To be responsible for all aspects of organ maintenance, including arranging regular maintenance and tuning of the organ.

## Remuneration:

- The current rate of pay is £6,000 per annum. This will be reviewed annually.
- Fees are due for weddings and funerals in addition to the salary.
- The organist will have free use of the organ for practice, subject to the availability of the church.

## Necessary skills:

- A high level of ability in playing the organ and choral directing.
- Knowledge and understanding of sacred music, with the ability to select appropriate music (including introducing new repertoire) that can be performed effectively and is well adapted to the Church's worship.

- Good understanding of liturgy, preferably with experience of supporting liturgy in the Catholic tradition.
- Ability to work collaboratively and sensitively as part of a team, in particular with the Parish Priest and with other paid and volunteer members of the church.
- Good understanding of and commitment to best practice in safeguarding.
- Good communication skills, both written and oral.
- Flexible attitude to hours worked.

Appointment will be subject to satisfactory references and a DBS check at enhanced level.

### **Holiday:**

- A maximum of six Sundays may be taken as holiday per calendar year. The organist is responsible for arranging cover.

### **The application process**

Applications should be made in writing to Father Ben Eadon at The Clergy House, 9 Russell Place, Brighton BN1 2RG or by email to [stpauls@live.co.uk](mailto:stpauls@live.co.uk). Applicants should include an outline of their previous relevant work experience, their reasons for applying, and two references, together with their full contact details including an email address

The recruitment process will include an opportunity for shortlisted candidates to visit the church for an informal interview and to play the organ. Those placed on the final shortlist will be invited to rehearse and direct the choir on one Sunday morning, and will be able to choose an appropriate Mass setting from our repertoire, in consultation with John Burdett, the Assistant Organist & Parish Administrator.

For further information about the appointment, or an informal discussion please contact Father Ben on 01273 325 301.