

Job Description



Director of Choral Music & Organist

Job Profile: We are looking for an accomplished Director of Choral Music and Organist who can lead and develop choral music and is an experienced organist to support the worship of traditional congregations at Heswall Parish.

Responsible to: The Rector – Revd. Martin Cannam

Place of Work: The Parish of Heswall (principally but not limited to St. Peter’s Church and Centre, and as required at The Lighthouse Church)

Hours: initially Sunday 9am service and choir rehearsal weekly; one service of Choral Evensong per month.

Salary: initial monthly honorarium of £320 per month rising to £420 as opportunities are developed.

Holiday: 5 weeks holiday year, plus bank holidays (to include 6 Sundays and days in lieu for bank holidays worked)

Pension: The PCC operates an auto enrolment pension scheme

Other Terms:

- An enhanced DBS Disclosure will be required for the successful candidate.
- Offer of the post includes a 3 month probationary period.

Enquiries

Please contact Revd. Martin Cannam (0151 342 3471 or martin@heswallparish.co.uk) to discuss this opportunity or to obtain an Application Form. Informal visits to the Parish are also welcome.

Closing Date for Applications

Completed Application Forms should be submitted by Monday 26th February 2024

- by email to martin@heswallparish.co.uk
- or post to Revd. Martin Cannam, The Parish Office, St. Peter’s Centre, Village Road, Heswall, CH60 0DZ

Interviews and Auditions

Interviews and auditions will take place on week on a date to be confirmed.



Director of Choral Music & Organist

A rewarding role with great opportunities for an accomplished church organist to lead inspiring choral worship; train, direct and grow a choir; foster musical gifts in others; develop creative initiatives that place the church at the heart of choral music in Heswall.

£3,840 - £5,040

find out more 0151 342 3471
www.heswallparish.co.uk

Applications close 26th February

an enhanced DBS will be required



We are looking for an accomplished Director of Choral Music and Organist to join our Parish Leadership principally for worship of traditional congregations and occasional offices at St. Peter's.

The person should be an organist who plays to a high standard; one who loves music and is committed to excellence in the Anglican choral tradition; someone able to lead inspiring choral worship; train, direct, develop and grow a church choir; foster musical gifts in others; actively extend our connections with St. Peter's Church School and local community.

Role Description

Leading Worship

- To lead St. Peter's Church choir and play the organ for the Parish's traditional choral Sunday worship and principal Festivals*, choosing and rehearsing the hymnody, anthems and settings for 9am Parish Communion (2nd Sunday of the month is Matins) and for Choral Evensong (1st Sunday of the month at 4pm).
- To resource the liturgical and seasonal nature of this worship with inspiring music and an appropriate repertoire of old and new hymnody. To work co-operatively with Clergy and Lay leaders in the development of this traditional, choral service in order to welcome new people including younger families and those less familiar with church.
- To develop the musical gifts of others in church encouraging musicians, singers, and organists to participate in leading worship, providing opportunities to do so.
- To contribute music to other Parish congregations on occasions this may be required.

Funerals and Weddings

To be the principal organist for funerals and weddings in the Parish of Heswall (paid separately through service fees). Reliable and sensitive to these occasions, mindful of the missional opportunities they provide the church. A co-operative and accommodating point of contact to provide appropriate music for these occasional offices.

Developing Mission and Community Connections

- To utilise principal Festivals* in the Church calendar to extend our choral repertoire and musical creativity, to provide opportunities for mission and community connections with schools and other groups.
- To pro-actively work with the choir to recruit new and younger members, developing a clear strategy and steps to achieve this.
- To make new connections with St. Peter's Church School (and possibly other local schools) working with the school choir and orchestra in creative partnership.
- To extend expressions of our Parish's unity by offering occasional choral and musical opportunities for Parish wide co-operation (eg a larger Christmas Choir, a Summer concert, a Harvest Festival, a Children's Event....) To utilise these as opportunities to encourage wider participation in choral music, to foster new talent, to promote welcome, fellowship and choral singing.

Team Work

- To meet on occasions with Clergy to plan series of services and with Clergy/Lay leaders as required to plan particular acts of worship or special events.
- To participate in any wider leadership and congregational meetings offered as forums for the consideration of our traditional, choral worship.

*Principal Festivals

Advent Sunday, Christmas Carols, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day
Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday
Pentecost, St. Peter's Sunday
Harvest Thanksgiving, Remembrance Sunday

Person Specification

Essential

- An accomplished and experienced organist with a love of music
- Experience of training and directing a choir
- Experience of working with and teaching music to people of all ages and musical abilities
- A team player, gracious, co-operative and non-competitive, able to work well with others and bring out the best in others
- Passionate and committed to the choral tradition of worship with a basic understanding of Anglican liturgy and the Church Calendar
- Caring, pastoral, supportive and encouraging
- Able to manage people with diverse views and strong opinions; able to handle conflict well.
- Supportive of the Christian faith and the church's commitment to excellence in worship and the imperative for mission
- Good organisational skills and communication

Desirable

- A committed Christian
- Other professional music qualifications (FRCO, LRAM or ARCO, 1st diploma, licentiate, RCM)
- Able to source grant funding for music training or events
- A measured and considered understanding of old and new hymnody, worship music and song, their theology and
- A personal interest in a particular area of music that will contribute something unique to our Parish ministry

Notes:

- We are committed to livestreaming our services and offering DVD recordings to housebound church members and local care homes
- We anticipate requests for some Funerals and Weddings to be live streamed. Recording Rights (and fees) to be discussed
- The nature of Funerals and Weddings requires some flexibility about availability for which there is mutual benefit in having other organists available if needed. For this reason we are not looking for "exclusivity" to feature in our contract for services.