



The Choir of St Saviour's, Pimlico: Choral Scholarship Scheme Information Pack

The Choir of St Saviour's, Pimlico is recruiting for an ALTO Choral Scholar for the remainder of the academic year (March 2024 - July 2024).

About The Choir of St Saviour's, Pimlico

Music is a vital part of the worship and culture of St Saviour's, Pimlico. From the Sunday 10.30am Sung Mass, to our services of Choral Evensong and Benediction, to the weekly Pimlico Lunchtime Concerts, both sacred and secular music enriches the spiritual and cultural lives of our congregation and visitors. The Choir of St Saviour's, Pimlico consists of four paid choral scholars (SATB) and a number of highly valued volunteers. Choral Scholarships are renewed annually and are typically held by talented undergraduate or graduate students at London conservatoires or universities, or young professionals looking to gain early career experience of music in a liturgical setting. Recent post holders study at University College London (UCL), and are recent graduates of Trinity Laban Conservatoire, and graduates of prestigious educational programmes including Genesis Sixteen.



This educational position teaches many of the important skills required to launch a career in music, and provides high-quality performance opportunities through which Scholars can develop their skill and confidence. Choral Scholars are introduced to a wide range of choral repertoire, from Renaissance polyphony, to 21st Century compositions,

whilst improving their liturgical awareness. Choral Scholars are also encouraged to take an active role in the support and nurture of the volunteers singing alongside them. Choral Scholars will have the opportunity to perform in our thriving Pimlico Lunchtime Concerts series, and it is hoped that they will engage actively with additional commitments such as fundraising concerts and Come & Sing days.

We are seeking someone to begin on, as close to, 2nd March as possible, but this can be discussed. Do get in touch if you would require a later start date.

Sunday Sung Mass 10.30am, rehearsal 9.30am

March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

April 6th, 13th, 20th

May 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

June 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th

July 6th, 13th

Sunday Evensong & Benediction 5pm, rehearsal 3.45pm

20th April (Easter), 1st June, 13th July (Dedication Festival)

Additional Services

5th March (Wednesday) - Ash Wednesday - 6 for 7pm

Cantor Services

The following services will be sung by a Cantor (these will be divided among the scholars dependent on availability). Rehearsal time tbc, but no more than one hour before the service.

13th April (Sunday) - Wholeness & Healing - 4pm for 5pm

17th April (Thursday) - Maundy Thursday - 6pm for 7pm

27th April (Sunday) - Sung Mass - 9.30am for 10.30am

23rd April (Wednesday) - St George's Day Mass - 6pm for 7pm

30th May (Thursday) Corpus Christi 6 for 7pm

There may be occasional extra services such as memorials or weddings that require singers. Choral scholars will be given first refusal for these opportunities, for which additional remuneration will be offered.

Expectations & Dress Code

You are expected to arrive punctually to rehearsals, well prepared for the day's music. If an unfamiliar piece is coming up, you are welcome to take a copy of it home the previous week for perusal. Choral scholars are expected to set an example to volunteers, not just musically but also in matters of punctuality, behaviour and dress code. The use of mobile phones in rehearsals and services is strictly forbidden.

We wear gowns, so your clothes will be visible. Dark (preferably black), smart shoes are essential (no trainers!). We expect Choral Scholars to dress smartly, setting an example to volunteers (e.g. shirt and tie, smart dress, skirt, or trousers).

Safeguarding

You will be required to sign a separate 'Code of Conduct' form as recommended by the Diocese of London. You are required to notify me immediately if you are the subject of a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service, charged or convicted of any criminal offence, or in receipt of a police caution, reprimand or warning; or if you are subject to a formal child protection investigation. You will comply with all relevant statutory and local provisions and procedures in force relating to safeguarding. A copy of the safeguarding policy will be given to you.

Honorarium

The fee per service is £60. Choral Scholars are expected to invoice for the services they have attended after the last Sunday of each month. The regular pattern of 10.30am Sung Mass, Evensong & Benediction, and Additional Services amounts to £1,380. Other services such as Cantor Services, weddings or funerals will offer additional remuneration.

You will be paid by BACS transfer upon receipt of an invoice, but you are responsible for your own NI and tax payments. Throughout the scholarship period, you will be a Choral Scholar at St Saviour's and not an employee. Nothing in this document is intended to create a relationship of employer and employee between you and St Saviour's.

Attendance

The strength of the choir benefits significantly from the consistency of singing together and forming a cohesive musical and social group. A full list of services at which Choral Scholars are expected to be in attendance can be found in this document. However, it is recognised that there will be occasions where you may need to request absence for other professional or personal engagements. It is not expected that Choral Scholars will take more than 4 services off during their tenure, unless approved by the Director of Music in exceptional circumstances. Deputies will be organised by the Director of Music.

It is important that sufficient notice of absence is given. Absence should be agreed a minimum of two weeks in advance as a sense may influence the choice of music for a given service, and this allows time for an appropriate deputy to be arranged. In cases of illness, prompt communication is expected in order to mitigate disruption.

Eligibility

Candidates for Choral Scholarships should have a confident singing voice and good standard of sight-singing ability. Enthusiasm for singing as a member of a team, together with a willingness to learn and develop their musical talent, will be determining factors in the appointment of Choral Scholars. The scholarships are open to those in full or part-time undergraduate or postgraduate study, recent graduates, or those at the beginning of their singing careers. Our Choral Scholarships are particularly aimed at bridging the gap between university- and professional-level choral experience.

To Apply

Please contact music@stsp.org.uk to register your interest in this role. You will then be supplied with a short application form to be completed by the closing date. The closing date for applications is **9am Friday 14th February 2025**.

Shortlisted applicants will be asked to perform a solo piece of up to 5 minutes in length and undertake sight-reading, aural tests and a short interview. Auditions for shortlisted applicants will take place by arrangement in the week beginning Monday 17th February. We will make every effort to find a convenient time.