



POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST

St Mary's Barnes PCC, in the Barnes Team Ministry, is offering an exciting opportunity for a talented and energetic musician to continue the development of choral and organ music in this large active church, rooted in the liberal catholic tradition of the Church of England.



Summary

The Director of Music and Organist (DMO) is responsible for leading the musical life of the parish, through organ-playing, training, and leading the choir, working with the Rector to select appropriate music for services and inspiring the congregation. This will include developing the musical life of children and young people in the parish.

The place of music and musicians in St Mary's is one of celebration and friendliness, and the music department is well integrated in the structures and aims of the broader church.

Background

St Mary's has long valued its music rooted in the mainstream of Anglican tradition.

The Senior Choir, with around 15 regular singers, is a group of enthusiastic volunteer adults who relish singing a variety of anthems on Sunday mornings.

We offer a choral scholarship for each voice part to VIth formers from local schools. This has been a very successful scheme for over 10 years now. In the past few years, a number of these scholars have gone on to gain choral awards at prestigious universities. The purpose of these scholarships is to introduce talented singers to sacred music, to prepare them for potential music awards at university whilst supporting and enhancing our regular choir.

We also offer an organ scholarship each year. The current Organ Scholar is Barnaby Silverstone, a student at the Royal College of Music.

Choral Evensong is sung approximately once a term. There are also occasional evening choir-based events, for example Ash Wednesday, Tenebrae, All Souls and Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

St Mary's has enjoyed the involvement of a Junior Choir (ages 6-14) for many years, although this is currently in abeyance during the DMO vacancy. Re-establishing and growing our musical work with children are important parts of this role.

St Mary's has a two-manual tracker action Peter Collins organ and Steinway Concert Grand.

Barnes Music Festival

The Barnes Music Festival was launched twelve years ago and has developed into a popular and respected two weeks of high-quality music-making in Barnes each year. It is a community-wide event involving all the local music and community groups run under the auspices of St Mary's. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to lead the St Mary's musical involvement in the Festival with additional opportunities for personal involvement if desired.



Key Relationships

The DMO is accountable to the Rector and is expected to work closely with the Churchwardens and PCC. During a vacancy when the parish has no Rector, the candidate will be accountable to the Churchwardens. There is volunteer support for general choir admin and music library management.



General Duties

- 1) To accompany the 10am Parish Eucharist, the monthly 11.45 Baptism Service, Choral Evensong and other services with organ voluntaries, mass settings, anthems, and hymn accompaniments.
- 2) To lead the Senior and Junior Choirs in rehearsals. These are currently at 6.00pm on Wednesdays for the children, and for the adult choir at 7.30pm on Wednesdays and at 9am on Sunday mornings. The Junior Choir has joined the senior choir in worship periodically.

- 3) To meet the Rector regularly to plan services, the hymn schedule, and the programme of music for the choirs.
- 4) To arrange music with wedding couples and play, when possible, at weddings, funerals, and memorial services (extra fees payable).
- 5) To recruit and nurture new choral and organ scholars.
- 6) To recruit and enthuse new members of choir.
- 7) To re-establish and develop the Junior Choir.
- 8) To engage accompanists and deputies for agreed absences.
- 9) To purchase additional choir music, within the budget set by the PCC.
- 10) To arrange and supervise maintenance of the organ and piano, in consultation with the Churchwardens.
- 11) To liaise closely with the Youth and Children's worker.



A scholars' concert

Person specification

The successful candidate will be:

- a highly competent organist, ideally to ARCO/FRCO standard;
- experienced in training and conducting Senior and Junior Choirs;
- experienced in traditional Anglican church music but able to bring other styles to the church's worship;
- in sympathy with the Christian ethos of St Mary's;
- able to work within a team and maintain good working relationships with staff, volunteers and parishioners;
- capable of working independently and of taking the initiative in developing new ideas;
- administratively competent;
- comfortable and competent working with children from 6 years old upwards;
- and will have a good understanding of safeguarding principles and practice.



Views of Barnes

Conditions of service

- 1) The salary will be £11,510 pa plus fees for weddings and funerals, based on 12 hours/week.
- 2) The DMO will be regarded as an employee of the church; salary and fees will be paid net of employee's NI and tax. The salary will be reviewed annually.
- 3) An optional pension scheme via NEST is available.
- 4) Six weeks paid holiday per year, but the DMO is expected to be available in the week leading up to and including Easter and Christmas.
- 5) £1,680 pa will be available for engaging deputy organists to cover absence during holidays. Any additional costs of deputies will be covered by the DMO.
- 6) An additional sum of £500 is available for expenditure on music.
- 7) The DMO will have first refusal on playing at weddings and funerals at St Mary's (additional fees payable).
- 8) The DMO will be DBS-checked and trained (which St Mary's will arrange) and will work within PCC policies and procedures for Safeguarding Young People and Vulnerable Adults.

For more information about St Mary's, please visit www.stmarybarnes.org

Applications should be submitted by **Friday, 27 October 2023** to admin@stmarybarnes.org (with **DMO application** in the subject line) and comprise:

- a detailed CV;
- a full covering letter explaining why you feel you are well suited for the post and what you can contribute to St Mary's;
- contact details of three referees, including your most recent employer.

It is hoped that interviews will be held in mid-November. Ideally the successful candidate would start as soon as possible. However, we are open to candidates who would be able to start during early 2024, recognising that notice period at another job may have to be given.

Any queries can also be sent to admin@stmarybarnes.org.

Revd James Hutchings
Team Rector of Barnes
September 2023