

Director of Music
The City Parish of St John The Baptist, Cardiff

Thank you for your interest in the post of Director of Music at St John's. We hope that you will find the information below to be of interest and to be helpful as you discern whether to apply for this post.

St John's

The City Parish of St John the Baptist stands at the heart of Cardiff City Centre.

The church dates from the 12th Century and is one of Cardiff's oldest remaining mediaeval buildings. We are next to the Covered Market and in the centre of Cardiff's main shopping area.

Cardiff Castle, the Principality Stadium, Sophia Gardens (the home of Glamorgan County Cricket Club) and Cardiff Arms Park (the home of Cardiff Blues) and St David's Hall are all within our parish boundaries as is the main campus of Cardiff University, its Chaplaincy and offices for the Welsh Government and Cardiff Council.

St John's is a Diverse and Inclusive Church with a heart for social justice. The community which gathers here believes itself called to share in God's mission by welcoming people of all ages, cultures and traditions to worship, witnessing to Christian faith, knowing God and making God known by serving Christ in both our visitors and our neighbours.

St John's is a growing church. Our average Sunday attendance has grown since 2018 by just over 30% which compares favourably with the national average for Wales and England of a decline of around 25% to 30%. We have also grown younger and more diverse. Somewhere around 25% of our worship community are under 30 and around 50% are under 50.

We are very much active as a community. We meet at St John's every Sunday for a morning Eucharist Service and we end each Sunday with Evensong. We warmly welcome visitors to these services. The Sunday Eucharist starts at 10am and ends around 11.10am. The Evensong service starts at 6pm and ends around 6.45pm.

We also broadcast a Livestream which is streamed to Facebook and YouTube at 4pm each Sunday. There is an intro video from 3.55pm. The audio of the Livestream is available on the phone each Sunday at 5pm. We also have a Eucharist at 12 noon on Fridays. The Worship section of our website has more details.

St John's welcomes a thousand visitors each week and hosts many different celebrations for city institutions, charities and individuals. We are usually open between 10am and 3.30pm each day, although exact hours can vary.

Our Choir

St John's has a longstanding musical tradition. In recent years our choir has blossomed under the direction of Olly Hearn who found St John's as a student and who took on the role of leading our choir 5 years ago. The vacancy arises as Olly has recently moved away from Cardiff.

St John's choir leads us in our music during our services. Whilst parts of the liturgy are sung, the emphasis is on supporting the congregation so that they can join in. We use two different congregational mass settings for our Eucharist, and two settings of the Magnificat and Nunc dimittis for Evensong, carefully chosen with the range of the congregation in

mind. In addition, the choir sing anthems and provide additional music for services at appropriate points in the liturgy.

We currently have around 15 to 20 choir members that regularly attend the 10am service, 4 to 6 of whom regularly attend evensong. We are blessed with a healthy spread across voice types, age ranges and gender identities. We also include people of varying physical ability and adapt our practice to accommodate their needs.

Our repertoire includes, but not limited to, works from the Easy Oxford Anthems books for different seasons. We have a current working repertoire of around 60 anthems of varying difficulty, periods and styles. All pieces are chosen in close collaboration with our organist Philip Thomas, and occasionally by request from choir, clergy, or congregation. In addition, our regular services include sung psalms, both responsorial and chanted.

It is important to note that we view this post as part of the ministry of St John's. We are aware that some church choirs operate well with members who are primarily interested in the music and who do not subscribe to religion or the beliefs of their church. However, at St John's, our choir and musicians offer their talents as part of their offering to God and to our community. It will be important therefore for the successful applicant to be able to do the same.

The Role of Director of Music at St John's

We hope that the attached Role Description will explain the role of the DoM at St John's.

To Apply

To apply for the post of DoM please write us a covering letter outlining what you feel you could bring to the position and what you would hope to gain from the post. Please also include either a c.v. or include the relevant details of your experience.

The Interview Process

Deadline for applications is Monday 28th September. Please send your application to our vicar The Rev'd Canon Sarah Jones by e mail at sarahjones@cinw.org.uk

Interviews will take place week commencing 4th October. We will give you further details once we have shortlisted candidates but we envisage the process to include you conducting and leading the choir as well as an interview-based discussion with the selection panel.

Should you have any further queries please contact our Vicar The Rev'd Sarah Jones by e mail at sarahjones@cinw.org.uk or our Churchwarden Evan Chapman by e mail at evan.Chapman@museumwales.ac.uk You would be most welcome to visit and to attend worship with us as part of your discernment.

Yours faithfully,
Sarah Jones

The Rev'd Canon Sarah Jones
On behalf of the PCC of The City Parish of St John The Baptist, Cardiff.