

# Vacancies

Hampstead Parish Church

## Vacancies

Organist

Director of the Junior Choir

Hampstead Parish Church has and developed and varied musical life, with professional singers working closely with young people in Sunday worship, and a programme of high quality concerts and musical events.

We seek to fill two post, available from January 2020.

The **Organist** will accompany the professional and junior choirs to the highest standard during Communion and Evensong every Sunday, and at occasional weekday special services

Salary in the region of c £7,000 p.a.

The **Director of the Junior Choir** will develop and train young singers (currently more than 20). Thursday and Friday late afternoon rehearsals and some services. Some Sundays and special services.

Salary in the region of £5,000 p.a

The posts could be held by a single postholder, though we are looking for the best candidate for each role.

We would welcome applications from people interested in a time limited appointment of up to two years, or as open ended appointments.

## Job Descriptions

### Organist

Accompany 10.30 Holy Communion. Sung Mass settings most weeks. Professional and Junior Choir.

Accompany Choral Evensong (6.00 summer and 4.30 winter). Professional choir.

Accompany other weekday special services as agreed.

Occasional playing for weddings/funeral/baptisms by agreement with the Director of Music (fees extra)

Other parish services such as toddlers and school services, by agreement.

Opportunities for individual teaching and involvement in teaching the Junior Choir.

Use of organ and piano for teaching (subject to the church diary)

Hours:

### 5.5 hours on Sundays

Major Festivals: Palm, Holy Week, Easter Day

Christmas Eve, Christmas Day

**Remuneration:**

Basic salary in the region of £7,000.

**Direction of Junior Choir**

Training of junior choristers in singing and theory

Training using the RSCM framework or similar

Arrangement of singing lessons by singing teachers

Direction at services led by the Junior Choir (Thursdays)

Production of Term Card

Recruitment of Junior Choristers

Junior Choir Community Life (eg trips etc)

Arrangement of Junior Choir musical events outside worship

**Hours:**

1.5 hours Thursdays

1 hour on Fridays

Sundays by arrangement

Admin: 3 hours per week.

36 weeks per year worked in school terms. State school Half terms off.

**Remuneration:**

In the region of £5,000 p a

**To apply**

Please specify whether you are applying for one or both posts, and whether you would be interested in a time limited or open ended appointment.

Please write a covering letter, and attach your CV, with details of two referees, who should be able to speak for your musical and liturgical involvements.

Apply (ideally by email, and by Monday September 30) to:

The Revd Jeremy Fletcher  
Hampstead Parish Church  
Church Row  
London  
NW3 6UU

Email: [vicar@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:vicar@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk)

**Further Information****Hampstead Parish Church**

St John-at-Hampstead is a beautiful Sanderson church dating from 1745, set in the heart of Hampstead. The parish population is over 9000. Sunday worship is robed and choral. An inclusive church, with membership drawn from a wide range of nationalities and cultures, the Electoral roll numbers over 300, and up to 100 children are registered in Junior Church.

A varied parish life includes not only a commitment to music, but also literature and drama, supported by different parish organisations. There are close links with Hampstead Parochial School (primary), and other local schools. On average 100 adults and 50 children attend the 10.30 Eucharist. Choral Evensong has a congregation of 20 – 30.

## **Music**

Music has played a crucial role at Hampstead Parish Church throughout its history. Previous organists include 'Father' Willis and James Shaw (father of Martin and Geoffrey). The renowned choirmaster Martindale Sidwell nurtured many nationally known musicians during his near 50-year tenure. Lee Ward and James Sherlock continued and developed this rich heritage. Peter Foggitt was appointed as Director in January 2018. The Organist and Director of the Junior Choir from 2008 – 2019 was David Moore.

HPC is distinctive in its commitment to the highest standard of professional music-making (comparable to the finest City churches), to the musical life of the wider parish, exemplified in the very active Junior Choir and the newly formed Community Choir, and to music beyond the church, including links with the Hampstead Arts Festival.

The ministry of music is resourced not only by the PCC, but also by the Friends of the Music (with a large group of supporters), and the Hampstead Church Music Trust. Founded in the 1970s the Trust gives financial support to the music of HPC and to church music in wider Hampstead. A recent seven figure legacy to the Trust means that music is not only financially secure, but also new areas of work can be developed. Our vision is therefore not just to continue what we already do, but develop it.

The church employs a professional choir of eight singers and a mixed Junior Choir of 20 or more singers. Five of the professional choir sing at the 10.30 Eucharist, and eight sing Choral Evensong. The calibre of singing is extremely high and the choir includes conservatoire graduates, cathedral singers and opera professionals. The Junior Choir sings separately at the 10.30 Eucharist, and is beginning to sing weekly on Thursdays for Evensongs. A recently introduced Community Choir has proved very popular and has expanded the musical range of the church. The Junior Choir and Community Choir are under the direction of the Assistant Director of Music, David Moore FRCO.

Weddings, funerals and memorial services number up to twenty per year, and choirs and musical ensembles are often required. In addition to the liturgical music of the church, there are concerts given by young professional musicians and more established ensembles. Members of the choir regularly give solo recitals, including the annual Sidwell Recital. These concerts are supported both financially and commercially by the 'Friends of the Music'. The recently introduced Bach Passion and Christmas-time concert, with quality orchestral accompaniment, have proved popular.

Facilities in the church include a large choir vestry which functions as a song room for rehearsals and music storage. There is a concert quality grand piano in church, and practice pianos and keyboards are available. The fine Willis organ was restored in 1997 to its original Willis 'sound' by Bower and Company and includes a brand new nave section and English-style choir organ.

The parish's Mission Action Plan recognises the place of music in worship and community life, and has a vision for its growth and development. The Organist, and the Director of the Junior Choir, will play a vital part in this, and we look for people who will recognise and be inspired by this vision.