

St Andrew's, Chesterton, Cambridge

Director of Music

St Andrew's is the old parish church of what was the village of Chesterton and is now part of suburban North Cambridge. It has had, and continues to have, a strong musical tradition that continually seeks to blend together the old and the new. The church community is rooted in the historic faith of the Church but open to exploring and welcoming those from a wide spectrum of Christian traditions and spiritual seekers who value being in a faithful but open Christian community. Our Mission Action Plan is based on the image of the tree of life: we long to be a church that is deeply rooted in prayer and worship, nurtured by Scripture and the sacraments, growing in its life in Christ and reaching out with love and hospitality to our local community (and beyond). We are a medium-sized church with a Sunday attendance (at our main 10 am service) of 90-130 adults and 20-40 children. We are looking for a Director of Music to coordinate and develop all our musical activities.

St Andrews is by no means a traditional one-declining-choir church. On the contrary, we have developed a range of choirs and musical activities involving many tens of people aged 4-80+. The role of the Director is therefore a broad one: **to lead, coordinate, encourage, recruit, and develop our musical life.**

Music is important to our life together in at least three ways:

- **It forms an important part of our worship.** We currently have five choirs, spanning different age ranges, all of which are involved in worship. We also from time to time involve instrumentalists in both formal and informal services.
- **It is a key area of growth and outreach.** Music has proved to be an accessible "way in" to the church, especially for children.
- **It is valuable in its own right.**

We are looking for someone who values all three of these aspects, recognising that they are to some extent in tension - for example, in welcoming all abilities into some of our choirs.

The current pattern of choirs is not set in stone – it has evolved over the years and no doubt will continue to do so. The Director of Music is in overall musical charge, in consultation with the Vicar. We would look to him/her to **lead and develop** our music, not just to maintain it, and we understand that development may mean change!

At the moment we enjoy a wide range of musical and liturgical styles. Our Sunday morning pattern includes two All-age services (Communion on 1st Sundays, Family Service on 3rd Sundays), a Sung Eucharist (with introit, setting and anthem) and a Parish Communion (music largely congregational). Music used ranges from Tallis to Howells to James Macmillan to John Bell to Graham Kendrick to Matt Redman. This diversity is important to us, and we hope to find a Director who enjoys and values a range of musical and liturgical styles – and

has a spirituality expressed in music that is in tune with a church that longs to be broad and deep in its worship of God.

If you can play the organ and/or keyboard, that would be a huge advantage, but we are fortunate to have a committed organist, John Marsh, who wishes to remain in post.

We would be glad to provide a salary/stipend according to RSCM rates (in the range £4,500-£6,500 pa) and will negotiate a suitable contract for the individual (based on RSCM guidelines).

St Andrew's is fully compliant with national and diocesan child protection procedures. An enhanced CRB check will be required before appointment is confirmed.

For further details and for how to apply, please email the vicar, Nick Moir:

vicar@standrews-chesterton.org