



JUNIOR CHORAL SCHOLARSHIPS 2019-20

Age 16-18

The Church of St Margaret's, Lee seeks to appoint four junior Choral Scholars (SATB) for the coming academic year. The annual honorarium for each scholar is up to £500.

MUSIC AT ST MARGARET'S

The choir has long been at the heart of worship at St. Margaret's, performing a wide repertoire of music from the British sacred music tradition. The choir consists of two parts: the Junior Choir is auditioned and made up of children aged 7-14 drawn from a number of local schools, while the Senior Choir is a friendly body of volunteers drawn from the congregation and others interested in church music.

In addition to its function as a place of worship, the church acts a concert venue for Trinity Laban, and regularly hosting concerts from local ensembles. The choir has also produced two CDs and aims to record another in the coming year.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholars will be required for morning services and at least one evensong per month during term-time, as well as for all major festivals (excluding Midnight Mass and Christmas Day). Evensongs are usually on the last Sunday of each month at 6pm (full choir), though it is hoped that there will also be a number of scholars-only evensongs throughout the year.

Beyond these regular commitments, the choir makes an annual visit to a cathedral in the South East of England – recent visits have included Rochester, Winchester and Southwark, as well as St George's Chapel, Windsor. Previous scholars have gone on to sing at Southwark Cathedral, St Martin-in-the-Fields and St George's Church, Beckenham, as well as setting up vocal ensembles of their own.

Scholars are strongly encouraged to take part in termly concerts and are also welcome to use the church for their own concerts and rehearsals, subject to prior arrangement. In addition, scholars are welcome to compose for the choir.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Candidates will be expected to have prior experience of choral/solo singing, as well as a good level of sight-reading and the ability to hold a vocal line alone. Effective time management skills are also essential.

TIMES/DATES REQUIRED

The choir's calendar is loosely based around university terms, though some services may take place during university holidays. A typical schedule is outlined below:

- Thursdays: 7.30pm-9pm
- Sunday mornings: 10am-10.30am (rehearsal); 10.30am-11.30am (service)
- Last Sunday of each month: 4.15pm-5.30pm (rehearsal); 6.00pm-7.30pm (service)

On most Sundays, there is a parish communion service – here, the choir leads the hymns and a congregational mass setting, as well as singing an anthem. Once a month, the choir will perform a full setting of the Mass, for example settings by Haydn, Mozart, Darke and Stanford. On the second Sunday of the month, there is a service of Morning Prayer, in which the choir additionally sings a psalm and canticles. The choir also sings Evensong once per month – at this service, the choir sings an introit and anthem, as well as settings of the psalms and canticles.

HONORARIUM/FEES

The annual honorarium for each scholar is up to £500 (paid in termly instalments), with extra fees available for weddings and funerals throughout the year.

APPLICATION/AUDITION

Candidates will be invited along to a rehearsal and service before audition. In the audition itself, candidates will be expected to sing a piece of their choice, as well as sight-reading a short piece.

To apply, please send a completed application form and CV to Duncan Atkinson via the Church Office (office@stmargaretslee.org.uk).

For any further information or if you wish to have an informal chat about the position, Duncan Atkinson can be contacted on 07802 725519.