

CADEIRLAN  
LLANDAF  
CATHEDRAL



Choral Scholarships  
2026-27

*Application Pack*

# Welcome

Llandaff Cathedral is delighted to offer two (2) Choral Scholarships - one Alto and one Tenor - from September 2026. The successful applicants will join the existing Bass Choral Scholar who remains in post. The purpose of the Scholarships is to encourage young singers to become part of the longstanding tradition of Cathedral Music, which is such an important part of our national musical heritage. Over the years, this programme has attracted a broad range of singers from different backgrounds, introducing them as young musicians to this very special form of music making. Previous holders of these scholarships have gone on to similar positions in Oxford and with Genesis Sixteen. Choral Scholarships will be offered following an audition and interview process.



## THE CATHEDRAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The Canon Precentor, The Reverend Canon Ian Yemm, is responsible for the worship of the Cathedral and represents the Music Department within the Dean and Chapter, the governing body of the Cathedral. The Music Department includes:

- Director of Music – Stephen Moore
- Assistant Director of Music – Aaron Shilson
- Assisting Organists – David Thomas and Philip Aspden
- Music Animateur - Rachel Kilby

The Choral Scholars will be managed by the Director of Music who is responsible for overseeing all musical aspects of the Cathedral's life. The Cathedral has a thriving music department which comprises the following choirs:

- The Cathedral Choir (separate streams of up to 20 boys/20 girls)
- The 'Back Row' of ATB (6-12 at each service)
- Majestas Consort (an auditioned SATB voluntary choir of 20-24 adults)
- Majestas Kids (a group for children aged 6-11)
- The Llandaff Festival Chorus (open to all and meeting during the Summer Term only)

The Cathedral Choristers are all educated at The Cathedral School, Llandaff, a fully co-educational school of around 800 pupils located only a stone's throw from the Cathedral on the site of the Old Bishop's Palace. There is a busy schedule of extra services, trips, broadcasts, and tours which is constantly being developed. Recently this has included sold-out concerts for Christmas each year and one as part of the Cathedral's celebration of Holy Week. In 2018 the choir sang live on BBC1 Wales and S4C for a service marking the centenary of Armistice Day. Following the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II in September 2022, a National Service of Thanksgiving was held at the cathedral which was attended by HM King Charles III and Queen Camilla and which was televised live across the world. The choir has made three commercial recordings since 2018 and appeared on Songs of Praise on Easter Day 2021 and Christmas Day 2022. Live Broadcasts of BBC Radio 3 Evensong have come from Llandaff in 2023 and 2024 and the choir has also appeared in broadcasts on BBC Radio 4 and BBC Radio Wales in the last two years. There have been trips to sing in many other places in recent years including the Cathedrals of St Paul's, Gloucester, Bristol, St Edmundsbury, Ely and Canterbury. A highly successful tour to Belgium took place in October 2023 and a 5-day trip singing in various locations in London took place in October 2025. Plans for the 2026-27 academic year include a weekend of services at St Davids Cathedral in September 2026, and a commercial recording during the Summer Term 2027.

From the beginning of University or College terms in the Autumn of 2026, the minimum expectation for Choral Scholars will be to attend two Sunday services during school term time and services and events surrounding major festivals as shown on the proposed schedule below. In addition, they will be expected to sing with the Majestas Consort in rehearsals and services when they arise. A Choral Scholar schedule is produced in advance of each term.



## WORSHIP AT THE CATHEDRAL

The Cathedral maintains a busy pattern of worship drawn from across the rites that are prescribed in the Church in Wales:

### SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am	Holy Eucharist (Said)	Church in Wales Book of Common Prayer (1984)
9.00am	Holy Eucharist	2004 rite. <i>Sung with a congregational mass setting and hymns.</i>
11.00am	Choral Eucharist	2004 rite. <i>Sung by the Cathedral Choir</i>
4.00pm	Choral Evensong	<i>Sung by the Cathedral Choir</i>
6.00pm	Taizé Prayer	<i>Every third Sunday of the month</i>

### WEEKDAY SERVICES

8.00am	Holy Eucharist (Said)	Daily
9.30am	Holy Eucharist (Said)	Tuesdays
9.30am	Cymun Bendigaid	Thursdays
5.30pm	Choral Evensong/Evening Prayer	<i>Daily; Choral Monday-Friday in term time</i>



The Dean and Chapter of Llandaff Cathedral seeks to appoint one Alto and one Tenor Choral Scholar for the academic year 2026-27. Applicants should be excellent singers with some proven experience of choral singing. The ability to sight-read music confidently is essential, as is a good musical ear and sense of musicianship. Suitable candidates may be in full time education or looking for either gap-year or post-graduate experience, but regardless will be seeking to gain as much choral singing experience as possible. They should be good at working alongside others in a team. It may be possible to extend the scholarship for further years subject to discussion with the Director of Music.

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<b>Scholarship and Remuneration</b>	The Choral Scholarship honorarium is £1555. This will be paid in six equal instalments at the end of September, November, January, March, May and July. Since this is a Scholarship, it will not be subject to HMRC. Payment for concerts and other engagements (Weddings, Funerals, Recordings and Broadcasts) in addition to the those listed in the regular duties above will be made alongside your scholarship payment at rates agreed and published by the Chapter or otherwise negotiated on your behalf.
<b>Responsibilities</b>	You will be responsible to the Director of Music, with oversight from the Canon Precentor on behalf of the Dean and Chapter. The Director of Music will monitor your performance and give you regular feedback.
<b>Attendance</b>	Regular and punctual attendance is vital to the demanding work of the Cathedral Choir. If a service or rehearsal must be missed through illness, all attempts must be made to contact the Director of Music or his Assistant.
<b>Dress code</b>	Cassocks and surplices will be provided by the Cathedral for your use. It is customary to wear dark trousers and formal black shoes. Jeans should not be worn under any circumstances.
<b>Preparation</b>	As Scholars will often be holding a part on their own, they need to be well prepared ahead of each rehearsal. This may need a good degree of preparation in advance and time should be allowed for this, particularly in the early days as a Scholar.
<b>The Majestas Consort</b>	The Majestas Consort is an adult voluntary choir who normally sing one Sunday of services each term and for other events throughout the year. Recent projects have included the Requiems of Rutter, Fauré and Duruflé, and Bob Chilcott's St John Passion as well as services for Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day. A weekend residency as a visiting choir at Bath Abbey took place in August 2025, with a residency at Tewkesbury Abbey planned in July 2027. The Choral Scholars will be required to sing with the Majestas Consort, who rehearse on some Friday evenings from 7.00–8.30pm. A separate schedule is agreed for each term.
<b>Holidays and Absence</b>	Holidays should be taken outside of Choir term. A termly schedule is published in advance and follows the term dates of the Cathedral School. Leave of absence for good and sufficient reason may be sought from the Director of Music. Unless for unforeseen circumstances, such requests must be made in writing and at least 4 weeks in advance. Chapter will cover deputy fees for up to two absences (services) each term. Above and beyond this, the Choral Scholar will be expected to pay the deputy fee. Absence without leave or without an explanation satisfactory to the Director of Music will be regarded as a breach of discipline.

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**Conduct** Reverent behaviour must be maintained during rehearsals and services. Mobile phones or other electronic devices should not be used in rehearsals or services. Good corporate and individual behaviour is required of all choir members in all public places and with all people whenever the choir is together either formally or informally.

Poor conduct during services or lack of discipline which brings the choir or cathedral into disrepute will be regarded as a breach of discipline.

**Community** As part of the Cathedral Community, the mutual respect required between all members of the choir and all those connected with the Cathedral is important. Good relations with staff, volunteers, colleagues, and chorister families are also key to a successful partnership.

**Safeguarding** All staff and volunteers are expected to demonstrate a commitment to safeguarding the welfare of all children and adults who may be vulnerable, who are involved with and/or visit the Cathedral. Choral Scholars will be expected to adhere to policies and procedures related to safeguarding as laid out by the Church in Wales, following best practice in relation to their own behaviour and conduct and undertaking any safeguarding training commensurate with their role.

## PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF DUTIES

1. All normal rehearsals and services will take place within the Cathedral, though Chapter may request that you sing at other locations with reasonable notice.

2. The proposed week-by-week schedule for Choral Scholars is as follows:

**Friday**

1900-2030 Majestas Consort Rehearsal (as indicated on the termly schedule)

**Sunday**

9.30am Occasional Choral Scholar Rehearsal  
 10.00am Full Rehearsal (Song Room & Cathedral)  
 11.00am-12.20pm Choral Eucharist  
 3.00pm Full Rehearsal (Song Room & Cathedral)  
 4.00-4.50pm Evensong

3. On certain days, there may be different service and rehearsal times, which will be included on the dates list with reasonable advance notice.

4. Choral Scholars will also be required to sing at other Cathedral services. These will normally include such major festivals as:

Advent Procession with Carols	Ash Wednesday
<b>Cathedral Choir Christmas Concerts</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>
<b>2 Cathedral Carol Services</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>
<b>Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve</b>	<b>Easter Eve</b>
<b>Christmas Day Eucharist</b>	<b>2 Services on Easter Day</b>
<b>Epiphany</b>	Ascension Day
Advent to Candlemas Carol Service	

The events in bold frequently fall outside term time but form a statutory part of this scholarship. A list of the required services and their times will be agreed each year in advance. Reasonable notice will be given for any service which falls outside the normal pattern.

5. Choral Scholars may also be asked to sing for other events which fall outside of the requirement of their Scholarship. This will be as a deputy of the lower voices and an additional fee will be paid for these. Scholars can typically expect to earn around £500 in additional fees each academic year.

6. Opportunities may arise to work with our Animateur, Rachel Kilby, as part of one of our Music Outreach projects. These projects take place once a term, and work with between 300-500 children from primary schools in Cardiff and the surrounding areas.

## HOW TO APPLY

Please complete our online application form which can be found here:

<https://llandaffcathedral.churchsuite.com/-/forms/xuubdupr>

The deadline for submission of applications is **midday on Friday 12th June 2026**. Shortlisting will take place immediately following the application deadline and auditions will then be arranged on an individual basis.



## SAFEGUARDING

The Cathedral is committed to taking seriously its responsibilities to protect children, young children and vulnerable adults and safeguard their welfare. The Cathedral adopts the Church in Wales Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and upholds its Code of Good Practice.

Documents relating to these policies can be found on the Church in Wales website:

<https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/clergy-and-members/safeguarding/provincial-safeguarding-policy-and-procedures/>

## EQUALITY STATEMENT

The Dean and Chapter of Llandaff Cathedral (Registered Charity No. 11569090) is committed to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion in all its activities and within the mind-set of all employees, in order to retain a positive organisational culture where everybody can achieve and prosper.

Equality, diversity and inclusion is at the heart of The Dean and Chapter of Llandaff Cathedral's mission and is embedded within our DNA. The Dean and Chapter of Llandaff Cathedral has a unique opportunity to affect positive change within society and we recognise that in order to reach our maximum potential as a charity, we need to foster the same ideologies within our own working practices.

This policy extends to those employed by The Dean and Chapter of Llandaff Cathedral, our trustees, volunteers, those on external/internal secondments or work placements, our customers and suppliers and all third parties carrying out operations in the name of The Dean and Chapter of Llandaff Cathedral, collectively referred to as 'our people'.

The full policy can be found on the Cathedral website.

