



LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL EGLWYS GADEIRIOL LLANDAF

Appointment of

ALTO, TENOR and BASS CHORAL SCHOLARS (Academic Year 2021/22)

Background

From September 2021 (or as soon after that as possible), Llandaff Cathedral is establishing three Choral Scholarships: one each of Alto (Male or Female), Tenor and Bass voices. The purpose of the Choral Scholar scheme 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. It is hoped to attract a broad range of singers from different backgrounds over the years and to introduce and extend the opportunity offered to young musicians in this very special form of music making. Choral Scholarships will be offered following an audition and interview process.

The Cathedral Music Department

The Canon Precentor, The Reverend Canon Mark Preece, is responsible for the worship of the Cathedral and represents the Music Department within the Chapter, the governing body of the Cathedral. Other members of the Music Department include:

- Director of Music – Stephen Moore
- Assistant Director of Music – Aaron Shilson (from September 2021)
- Organists – David Thomas and Philip Aspden

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 and from September 2021 it will consist of four main choirs:

- The Cathedral Choir (separate streams of up to 18 boys/18 girls)
- The 'Back Row' of ATB (6-10 at each service)
- The Parish Choir (16 girls/boys and voluntary ATB)
- The Cathedral Consort (a group of up to 24 adult fully auditioned SATB)

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. In the last few years this has included a sold-out concert just before Christmas 2019 and a concert with the City of London Sinfonia as part of their 2019 Cathedrals Tour. During 2018, the choir sang live on BBC Radio 4 Morning Worship and in a live service on BBC1 Wales and S4C for the centenary of Armistice Day. Earlier that year a CD of music for Advent and Christmas was recorded and released with Regent Records. In March 2021, the choir recorded two episodes of Songs of Praise, the first of which was broadcast on Easter Day. The choir has sung in many other places in recent years including the Cathedrals of St Paul's, Gloucester, Bristol, and a week-long residency at Canterbury. Recent foreign tours have included Sweden and France.

From the beginning of University or College terms in the Autumn of 2021, Choral Scholars will be expected to attend Evensong on Monday and Thursday evenings, and two Sunday services during school term time and at major festivals. In addition, they will be expected to sing with the Cathedral Consort in rehearsals and services when they arise. A separate schedule is produced each year.

General Information

The Dean and Chapter of Llandaff Cathedral seeks to appoint alto (male or female), tenor and bass choral scholars for the academic year 2021-22 to sing in the Cathedral Choir. 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.

Pattern of Worship

The Cathedral maintains a busy schedule of worship. Before the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic this was as follows:

Sunday worship:

7.30am	Matins (said)	
8.00am	Holy Eucharist (said)	Welsh Book of Common Prayer, 1984
9.00am	Parish Eucharist	Contemporary Language Rite 2004
	<i>Congregational with Parish Choir singing Responsorial Psalm, Anthem, and Hymn during communion. There is a thriving Sunday School of around 80-100 children.</i>	
11.00am	Choral Eucharist	Contemporary Language Rite 2004
	<i>Sung by the Cathedral Choir and with Incense.</i>	
12.30pm	Holy Eucharist (said)	Welsh Book of Common Prayer, 1984
3.30pm	Choral Evensong	
	<i>Sung by the Cathedral Choir</i>	

Weekday worship:

8.30am	Morning Prayer	Daily
9.30am	Holy Eucharist	Saturday
10.00am	Holy Eucharist / Yr Offeren	Monday to Friday
5.30pm	Evensong/Evening Prayer	Daily

This service is sung on Monday to Friday by the Cathedral Choir and is usually said on Saturdays. Outside of school term there may be a visiting choir or Evening Prayer will be said.

Proposed Choral Scholar Schedule from September 2021

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:

Monday

1600	Choral Scholar Rehearsal
1650	Full Rehearsal (Song Room & Cathedral)
1730-1820	Evensong (Girls and ATB)

Thursday

1650	Full Rehearsal (Song Room & Cathedral)
1730-1820	Evensong (Boys and ATB)

Friday

1900-2030	Consort Rehearsal (Song Room – twice monthly)
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Sunday

1000	Full Rehearsal (Song Room & Cathedral)
1100-1220	Choral Eucharist
1500	Full Rehearsal (Song Room & Cathedral)
1600-1650	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
2 Cathedral Carol Services
Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve
Christmas Day Eucharist
Epiphany
Advent to Candlemas Carol Service
Candlemas

Ash Wednesday
2 Services on Maundy Thursday
Good Friday
Easter Eve
2 Services on Easter Day
Ascension Day

The services 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 services which fall outside of the requirement of their Scholarship. An additional service fee will be paid for these.

Key Information

1. Scholarship and Remuneration

The Choral Scholarship honorarium is £1750 for the academic year. 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.

In addition, during the period of this scholarship, the Chapter will pay up to a further £250 per annum which may be used for lessons, buying music or for other activities relating to the furtherance of the Scholar's musical career as agreed with the Director of Music. This will be paid on receipt of invoices and/or proof of expenditure.

2. Responsibilities

You will be responsible to the Director of Music, with oversight from the Canon Precentor on behalf of the Chapter. The Director of Music will monitor your performance and give you regular feedback.

3. Attendance

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.

4. Dress code

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.

5. Preparation

As Scholars will be holding a part on their own, they will need to be able to sing all the notes correctly at the start of each rehearsal, as well as to have a feel for the style and shape of the music. 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.

6. The Cathedral Consort

The Cathedral Consort is a fully auditioned adult voluntary choir who normally sing one Sunday of services each term and for other events throughout the year. The Choral Scholars are required to be members of the Cathedral Consort, who rehearse on Friday evenings twice monthly from 7.00–8.30pm.

7. Holidays and Absence

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 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.

8. Conduct

Reverent behaviour must be maintained during 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.

9. 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.

10. 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, following best practice in relation to their own behaviour and conduct and undertaking any safeguarding training commensurate with their role.

How to apply

Applications should consist of the following items:

- A completed application form, including a confidential declaration and diversity form.
- Your Curriculum Vitae.
Please note that this can only be accepted in addition to and not instead of a completed application form.
- A recording of yourself singing two contrasting pieces of your own choice.

Applications may be sent electronically (recordings may be sent by WeTransfer) or be posted to:

The Director of Music, Mr Stephen Moore
stephenmoore@llandaffcathedral.org.uk
The Administration Office,
Llandaff Cathedral,
Llandaff,
Cardiff.
CF5 2LA

The deadline for submission of applications is **midday on Friday 3rd September, 2021.**

Interviews and Auditions

All applications submitted will be considered. If needed, a short online meeting may be convened with Candidates, the Director of Music, and the Precentor.

If you would like to arrange an informal conversation about this post, then please contact:
Stephen Moore, Director of Music (stephenmoore@llandaffcathedral.org.uk)