

St Andrew's Parish Church, Handsworth is seeking an Organist/Choir Leader

Key responsibilities

- Playing and directing the choir at the weekly 10.00 am Sunday service as agreed throughout the year.
- In cooperation with the Incumbent on plan and implement all worship services under the terms of the contract, including all special services – Lent Season, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Easter, Ascension, Corpus Christi, Mother's Day, Pentecost, Children's Day, Father's Day, Harvest Service, Patronal Festival, Advent, Christmas Eve & Christmas Day.
- Collaborating with the Incumbent on the choice of hymns for these services
- Selecting an anthem for the choir to sing at the services.
- Leading a weekly choir practice for at least an hour on a flexible day.
- Nurturing, encouraging, and developing the skills of the choir members.
- Drawing in and recruiting new members to the choir, especially young people.
- Playing the organ and leading the choir (when required) for weddings and funerals in the church as availability permits (for which an agreed additional fee would be paid)
- Overseeing the maintenance and tuning schedule of the organ and pianos

Person specification

Essential	Desirable
Must be a self-disciplined, self-motivated, committed, hard-working individual who is willing to put in the time and give the effort to accomplish ministry with excellence.	
Ready to learn more contemporary music to accommodate young families and children.	
Having a clear personal Christian faith that is grounded in the Bible as God's word for their own life.	Accepts, practices, and will promote the doctrinal standards, sacraments as set within Anglican traditions.
Previous experience of leading a choir	Ability to arrange music settings based on resources available
Previous experience as a church organist	Good sight reading would be a distinct advantage
Ability to provide leadership and to inspire the choir	
Good organist, with excellent awareness of musical repertoire	
Good verbal communication and time management skills	
An encourager of others who is approachable, kind and enjoys working with people of all ages	
Able to work creatively and collaboratively as part of a wider team	

Has the ability to relate well and work with youth, adults, and the elderly.	
Sets a good example of personal spiritual and family life	
Respectful and inclusive with regard choosing hymns/songs that represent the diversity in the church, including Taizé music.	

The Organist/Choir Leader will report directly to the Incumbent and will work collaboratively to deliver the weekly Sunday 10.00am service in the main church.

Our services are traditionally Anglo-Catholic based on the Church of England 'Common Worship' and the singing is led by our robed choir and our 'two manual and pedal' Walter James Bird & Son Pipe Organ. The choir usually sing an anthem during the Communion, and this is supported by our vast choral music library.

The second Sunday service of each month is aimed at All Age Worship/ young families and Sunday School and usually features hymns and songs aimed at young people but inclusive of all and this is generally led from the piano.

The third Sunday of each month is our 'Healing' service, and the organist will be required to provide appropriate organ music – reflective & meditative during certain parts of the service.

Our services are attended by between 50 – 70 people and music are much valued part of the worship expression at St Andrew's.

The post is subject to a 6-month probationary period. The Organist/Choir Leader is entitled to 4 weeks holiday per year (pro rata, this equals 30 hours holiday). As this includes Sundays in your holidays. You are expected to arrange cover for your absence. At St Andrew's Parish Church we are committed to safeguarding children, young people, and adults. This appointment is subject to acceptable pre-appointment checks, including a satisfactory enhanced DBS check. Salary would be offered £1920 per annum which includes all principal services as part of your contract. You will be paid £40 per service.