

Assistant Organist, St Mary's Attleborough



St Mary's Church, Attleborough (Norfolk) seek an enthusiastic and talented Assistant Organist.

- RSCM-affiliated choir of 20-25 adults and nine children trained to a high standard (recent engagements include Norwich Cathedral and St Edmundsbury Cathedral)
- Traditional Churchmanship and monthly Choral Evensong
- 3 manual Norman & Beard organ
- Working collaboratively with the Director of Music
- Start date: 1st September 2019

Full job description: www.attleboroughchurch.org.uk/assistant-organist

For further details or an informal chat, please contact:

Ben Miller, Director of Music

music.attleboroughchurch@outlook.com

Revd Matthew Jackson, Rector

therectory@me.com

01953 453185

Applications invited by 16th June 2019 for interviews at the end of June

Job Description

Introduction

St Mary's Church stands in the centre of the Norfolk town of Attleborough, approximately 15 miles south west of Norwich. The churchmanship is broadly liberal catholic and the main Sunday service is the Parish Eucharist, which is traditional in nature. There is a service of Evening Prayer with hymns every week, which is replaced by Choral Evensong on the last Sunday of the month. The church has a long choral tradition and is proud of its choir. Over the years, the choir has sung in many cathedrals, including most recently Evensong at St Edmundsbury Cathedral and Norwich Cathedral. This summer the choir will be singing for a weekend at Peterborough Cathedral. The choir consists of approximately 20-25 adults and there are currently nine choristers. A part-time, paid Director of Music is responsible for leading the music at St Mary's, with the Assistant Organist sharing the workload of playing for services and directing/rehearsing the choir.

Background

The present Assistant Organist, David Hilton, is retiring after over thirty years at St Mary's.

The Organ

St Mary's has a well-maintained three manual Norman & Beard organ dating from 1913. The organ was overhauled in 1962 (Arnold, Williamson & Hyatt) and was refurbished in 2006 by William Johnson. There are early-stage plans for a more major rebuild of the organ in the next few years.

Duties

- Playing the organ and/or directing the choir at the Parish Eucharist each Sunday and the monthly service of Choral Evensong. In addition, to play and/or direct the choir at services on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Eve, Ascension Day, and other feast days and special services given reasonable notice
- Taking a share in playing for weekly Evening Prayer
- Assisting the Director of Music with rehearsing the choir on Friday evenings, except in the weeks after Easter and Christmas, and during the month of August
- Maintaining and developing the established choral tradition of the church, including the recruitment and retention of adult choir members and the choristers
- Assist with preparing hymn and music lists for approval by the Rector, plus preparing the organist rota
- Assist with arranging maintenance and tuning of the organ, including informing the PCC if work is needed in addition to routine maintenance

Holiday

The holiday entitlement is six Sundays and four Fridays paid holiday per calendar year (in addition to the Fridays in August, after Christmas and after Easter).

The Choir does not sing in August, on Low Sunday or the Sunday after Christmas.

Remuneration

The current rate of pay is £2603.64 per annum. PCC policy is to increase the salary of all paid staff by RPI annually. This increase is applied to the Assistant Organist salary every April.

In addition to this, fees are due for weddings and funerals (these services are shared with the Director of Music). The current fee is £102.50 for weddings and £77.50 for funerals. There were 12 weddings and 26 funerals at St Mary's in 2018.

The Assistant Organist will have free use of the organ for private practice and teaching if required, subject to the availability of the church.

The Director of Music and Assistant Organist currently also share the role of Organist of Besthorpe church, which is within the Benefice and has a fortnightly Sunday service. A suitable candidate could also share this role, and would be remunerated in addition to the position at St Mary's (current rate of pay is £240 per annum). The role at Besthorpe church would also include playing for weddings and funerals; with fees as above at St Mary's. There were 2 weddings and 3 funerals at Besthorpe church in 2018.

We are willing to consider applications from candidates who seek flexible arrangements (e.g. job sharing) and would encourage interested candidates to contact us informally for discussions about such a possibility.

This appointment is subject to enhanced DBS clearance.

Please apply by sending a CV and covering letter, including two references, to:

Revd Matthew Jackson
The Rectory, Surrogate Street, Attleborough, Norfolk, NR17 2AW
therectory@me.com

Closing date for applications: 16th June 2019
Interviews to be held at the end of June