

# ST PAUL'S

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

## **POSITION OF ORGANIST & ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL MUSIC (post available from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020, or by negotiation)**

### **ST PAUL'S KNIGHTSBRIDGE**

St Paul's Knightsbridge is a parish church of the Anglo-Catholic tradition in Belgravia, London. Its liturgical style is formal and dignified, and along with thoughtful preaching, a sensitive liturgical programme of music has always been an important part of its witness. The church is committed to maintaining the very highest standards in its offering of worship to God. The repertoire for regular services and special events is eclectic and the congregation is used to music in a wide variety of styles from all centuries down to the present day. The church is particularly well-known for its creative use of music in special services - especially memorial services – and for welcoming outside performers (whether the London Chamber Orchestra, State Trumpeters, or singers such as Chris de Burgh, Roger Taylor, Lulu or Kiki Dee) and sensitively embracing music of all styles (alongside more traditional church repertoire) in celebrating the lives of a variety of lesser- or well-known personalities.

In September 2019 The Assistant Director of Music, Michael Papadopoulos, left after four years to pursue a career as a répétiteur and conductor. Following a review of the music staffing, the church now seeks to appoint his successor to join its team of professional musicians, and the church is currently scoping a new role to focus on the use of music as a tool for mission and outreach.

This role, The Organist and Assistant Director of Liturgical Music (ADofLM) will support Dr Stephen Farr (who has been in post since 2007) in maintaining and developing liturgical music making for regular and special services. The ADofLM must be a first-rate organist, of FRCO standard, with wide experience of liturgical playing and an extensive solo repertoire, and must be able to work with good humour under pressure of tight deadlines. He or she will have some experience in directing vocal ensembles of professional singers.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL MUSIC**

The ADofLM's responsibilities will include, but are not limited to:

- playing the organ at Sunday and weekday liturgies and on feast days,
- playing the organ for special services and other events;
- booking organist deputies of an appropriate standard when necessary, with the approval of the Director of Music;
- assisting the Director of Music as requested with the direction of the choir of St Paul's;
- assisting the Director of Music in training and mentoring the Organ Scholar;
- making appropriate arrangements for maintenance and organisation of the music library;
- making arrangements for the tuning and maintenance of the organ.

St Paul's maintains a professional mixed choir of eight on Sundays and Feast Days/eight or ten for special services, and in most years there is an Organ Scholar. Instrumentalists have often joined the choir on Sundays and on other occasions. There is a fine four-manual Willis organ, restored in 2001, which is in good condition; it is maintained and tuned by Harrison and Harrison. The church acquired a concert-standard Model D Steinway piano in 2015. The instruments are available for practice when the church diary permits, and the ADofLM holds a key to the building.

### **THE STATUTORY SERVICES**

As far as possible the church is kept open for prayer from 8.45am-6.30pm daily. There is a low mass at 7 pm on Wednesdays (with music – played by the Organ Scholar) and (a said) mass at noon on Saturdays; Morning Prayer is said daily at 9am.

There is a 9 o'clock low family mass with hymns on a Sunday morning (played by the Organ Scholar). The main service on a Sunday is the 11 o'clock High Mass at which the choir sings a setting of the ordinary of the mass, and usually two anthems, hymns, and a psalm. The rehearsal for this service is from 10.00am (very occasionally, 9.45 am). The choir also sings at occasional mid-week feast days and for the usual services in Advent and at Christmas, for Holy Week, and at Eastertide.

In the month of August, and on the Sundays after Christmas and Easter, a simpler liturgy at 11 o'clock is accompanied by the organist and a cantor, and the ADofLM will be expected to make arrangements for the accompaniment of these services.

### **REMUNERATION**

The Assistant Director of Liturgical Music is paid £6K per annum in respect of the Statutory Services (see note 1 below) with eight paid services off per annum (by agreement with the Vicar and Director of Music). Payment is through the Church Payroll, monthly in arrears.

### **OCCASIONAL SERVICES**

The church has many occasional special services (baptisms, weddings & blessings, funerals and memorials) which are currently paid at a rate of £140 (with the usual enhancements for recording, as appropriate). The number of these services varies annually. It is hoped that, for the sake of consistency, the regular musicians including the Assistant Director of Liturgical Music, will be available for the majority of these, (regular musicians are given first choice of these events), providing a deputy approved by the Director of Music when necessary. The ADofLM may from time to time be requested to liaise with those planning these events.

### **THE PERSON**

The role of ADofLM at St Paul's is a challenging and exciting one, and the successful candidate will be an experienced musician whose professional abilities will include: a high degree of liturgical sensitivity; the ability to improvise fluently; a wide knowledge of the solo organ repertoire; a strong ability as an accompanist in all styles of repertoire; and demonstrable ability as a conductor. An ability to work accurately and reliably to tight deadlines, and to maintain grace under pressure, is essential. He or she will be a team-player, a completer-finisher with personal initiative, a good communicator with an understanding of the occasional need for discretion, and will work as part of a small but enthusiastic musical and administrative team whose desire for high standards extends to excellence of pastoral care and the offering of the best of music and worship to God.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

These details of the role are also available on the church's website ([www.spkb.org](http://www.spkb.org)). An informal conversation (in person or by phone) may be arranged with Stephen Farr, The Director of Music, by emailing him ([sforganist@gmail.com](mailto:sforganist@gmail.com)) and a visit to the church can be arranged by contacting the Parish Office on 020 7201 9999.

A Letter of Application accompanied by a full Curriculum Vitae and the names of two referees (who will not be contacted until after shortlisting has taken place) should be scanned and sent by email to Felicity Cranfield ([felicity@spkb.org](mailto:felicity@spkb.org)) by the closing date 13/12/19. Shortlisting will take place on 17/12/19 and all candidates will be notified by email by midnight on that day as to the success of their application.

Auditions and an interview for the post will be held at St Paul's Knightsbridge on 12/01/20. Full details of requirements for audition will be communicated to successful candidates.

Appointment will be subject to the completion of a Safeguarding self-declaration form and provision of proof that the appointee has the right to work in the United Kingdom. Candidates may be asked to provide proof of qualifications.

### Note 1: Statutory Services

Every Sunday of the Church year, plus Advent Carols and Parish Carols, The Midnight Mass of Christmas and Christmas Morning, The Patronal Festival (25<sup>th</sup> January, if not on Sunday), Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, The Easter Vigil, The Ascension and All Souls.

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### Timetable:

- Closing Date: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December.
- Shortlisting, notifications and references requested on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Interviews and auditions on the afternoon of Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020.
- Invitation to start on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020 or as soon as possible thereafter.  
Probationary period of six months.

St Paul's Knightsbridge, SW1  
*seeks to appoint an*  
**ORGANIST &  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL MUSIC**  
to work with Dr Stephen Farr and its musicians to provide  
a programme of music for statutory and special services.

(The post is available from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020, or by  
negotiation; full details are available on the parish  
website, [www.spkb.org](http://www.spkb.org))