

Organist and Choir Director – Holy Saviour Church, Hitchin

Job Description

The Organist and Choir Director will be required to

- Lead the music in the worship at Holy Saviour
- Play for weddings, funerals and baptisms or arrange a deputy
- Train the choir and arrange and lead rehearsals
- Plan and prepare appropriate music for services in collaboration with the Vicar
- Develop musical participation of younger members of the choir making use of the RSCM Voice for Life Awards
- Oversee the supervision and care of the organ including arranging tuning and maintenance

Skills and Qualities

We are looking for an Organist & Choir Director who

- Is familiar and confident with Church music and liturgy
- Is skilled on organ and piano/keyboard and is able to arrange and improvise music for various instruments and voices
- Has experience of choir training
- Is committed to both maintaining the musical tradition offered within our worship and to taking forward with us the vision of music in the future
- Is happy to embrace music across a wide spectrum
- Is gifted and inspiring and can help move our mission forward

Hitchin

- Hitchin is ideally situated for transport, being just two miles from the A1(M) and only 10 miles from the M1
- Hitchin has recently been voted in the 'Top 10 Best Places to Live in the UK' in The Times
- Hitchin Festival runs throughout the month of July with over 100 different events celebrating the artistic, cultural and community life of the town
- Hitchin is renowned for a vibrant music scene covering all genres including classical concerts

Holy Saviour Church

- Holy Saviour Church was built in a newly developing area of Hitchin near the railway station and was consecrated on Ascension Day 1865. The

architect was William Butterfield. The building is blessed with excellent acoustics

- Our worship is 'modern catholic' in its ethos and has a tradition of excellent music
- Holy Saviour Church hosts the annual Hitchin Christmas Tree Festival on the first weekend of December, featuring live music throughout the weekend. This is very much a local community event which attracts many visitors from far and wide
- We hold a weekly sung Parish Eucharist at 9.45am on a Sunday; on the first Sunday of the month we have a Children's Praise service after the Eucharist service with music appropriate for younger children. The 3rd Sunday service is a family-friendly all-age Eucharist using more contemporary music
- There are also additional Festival services – e.g. Holy Week and Ascension Day and occasional Choral Evensong services
- We have an all-age robed RSCM-affiliated SATB choir with an excellent reputation. They have performed nationally and abroad and have recorded two CDs

The Church Organ

- The organ is a well-regarded 15-stop tracker-action organ located at the east end of the north aisle. It was designed and built in 1987 by John Bailey of Grant, Degens & Bradbeer, Northampton, using as much of the existing materials and pipework of the original 1865 Walker organ as possible
- The organ has been regularly maintained by Bishop & Son of Ipswich, and was completely cleaned and overhauled in 2017
- More information and full history [here](#)

For further information about the post, [please contact Debbie Stalkartt \(Churchwarden\)](#).