



EGLWYS GADEIRIOL LLANDAF
LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL



BASS CHORAL SCHOLARSHIP
for the 2024/25 academic year

APPLICATION PACK

INTRODUCTION

Llandaff Cathedral is delighted to offer a Bass Choral Scholarship from September 2024. The successful applicant will join the existing Alto and Tenor Choral Scholars who will remain in post for 2024/25. 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 that this programme will attract a broad range of singers from different backgrounds, and that it will introduce and extend the opportunity offered to young musicians in this very special form of music making. Previous holders of these scholarships have gone on to hold positions in Oxford, and with Genesis Sixteen. Choral Scholarships will be offered following an audition and interview process.



ABOUT LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL

There has been a Christian presence on this site from the time of Saint Teilo in the sixth century, as is still visible in the early Christian pillar-cross in the south aisle and grave markers reset into the fabric.

The present building dates from the Norman period, around 1120 under Urban, bishop from 1107 to 1134, a Welshman, and it was extended in the early thirteenth century, with further additions and modifications in the later Middle Ages.

The Cathedral has undergone three major upheavals and restorations. In the eighteenth century, when the nave was roofless, the architect, John Wood of Bath, built a 'temple' style church in the choir and part of the nave.

Wood's building was swept away in the Victorian restoration which commenced in the 1840s, under John Prichard and John Pollard Seddon, culminating with the south-west tower in 1867-69.

The devastation of the Cathedral on 2 January 1941 caused by the explosion of a German landmine outside the south aisle was addressed in the 1950s under the architect, George Pace, with a repaired and refurbished Cathedral and the addition of the St David, or Welch Regiment, Chapel.

Llandaff Cathedral's multifaceted role is understood in various ways. As the Mother Church, it is the focus for the corporate life of the Diocese of Llandaff, which is part of the Anglican Province of The Church in Wales. It is therefore the seat of the Bishop of Llandaff and as such supports and facilitates the bishop's sacramental and teaching ministry. The Cathedral is also its own vibrant Ministry Area, with a busy round of occasional offices and a demanding pastoral ministry.

By virtue of its place in Wales' capital, Llandaff Cathedral plays host to many national services and it is increasingly the case that its ministry and witness speaks directly into the public sphere. Most recently in September 2022, the Cathedral hosted HM King Charles III and Queen Camilla following the demise of HM Queen Elizabeth II in a service of national remembrance that was broadcast internationally.

We have principal relationships with four schools in the parish; the Cathedral School (from which our choristers are drawn), a Voluntary Aided Church in Wales Primary School; a Voluntary Aided Church in Wales High School, and to a lesser extent, Howells, an independent GDST day school for girls with co-educational sixth form. St Padarn's, the Church in Wales' ministerial training institution is close by. The Cathedral also has a thriving Sunday School of around 100 children attending on a weekly basis.

The Cathedral has an important role in the life of the Diocese, Ministry Area, City and Province, principally as a place of pastoral care, ordered liturgy, teaching and encounter with the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship and prayer where the house style is within the modern catholic tradition.

The Cathedral is used regularly as a venue for external events, and we currently have longstanding arrangements with several groups including the London Concertante and Fever Events UK.

The Llandaff Cathedral Festival takes place annually each July. The festival brings together the local community in a wide array of events, ranging from talks and concerts through to the Family Fun Day, featuring family activities, performances and a craft fayre attended by local artists and vendors.



THE CATHEDRAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The Canon Precentor, The Reverend Canon Ian Yemm, 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
- Assisting Organists – David Thomas and Philip Aspden
- Animateur - Rachel Kilby

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 which will include the following choirs from September 2024:

- The Cathedral Choir (separate streams of up to 18 boys/18 girls)
- The 'Back Row' of ATB (6-10 at each service)
- Majestas Consort (an SATB voluntary choir of adults)
- Majestas Youth (a group for children aged 13-18)
- Majestas Kids (a group for children aged 6-11)

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 sold-out concerts for Christmas in 2022 and 2023 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. Following the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II in September 2022, a National Service of Thanksgiving was held at the cathedral which was attended by HM King Charles III and Queen Camilla and which was broadcast live across the world on television and radio. The choir has recorded two CDs with Regent Records since 2018 and appeared on *Songs of Praise* on Easter Day 2021 and Christmas Day 2022. A broadcast of BBC Radio 3 Evensong—the first from Llandaff in over 25 years—took place in September 2023. There have been trips to sing in many other places in recent years including the Cathedrals of St Paul's, Gloucester, Bristol, St Edmundsbury and Ely and a week-long residency at Canterbury. A highly successful tour to Belgium took place in October 2023 and other recent foreign tours have included Sweden and France.

Plans for the 2024-25 academic year include two BBC Radio broadcasts in the autumn term and a CD recording early in 2025. A tour to Llandaff's link diocese in Uppsala, Sweden, is being planned for October 2025.

From the beginning of University or College terms in the Autumn of 2024, the minimum expectation for Choral Scholars will be to attend two Sunday services during school term time and at services for major festivals. In addition, they will be expected to sing with the Majestas Consort in rehearsals and services when they arise. A separate schedule is produced each term.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Dean and Chapter of Llandaff Cathedral seeks to appoint a bass choral scholar for the academic year 2024-25 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. Currently the pattern is as follows:

Sunday worship

8.00am	Holy Eucharist (said)	<i>Welsh Book of Common Prayer, 1984</i>
9.00am	Holy Eucharist	<i>Contemporary Language Rite 2004</i> <i>There is a thriving Sunday School of around 80-100 children.</i>
11.00am	Choral Eucharist	<i>Contemporary Language Rite 2004</i> <i>Sung by the Cathedral Choir.</i>
4.00pm	Choral Evensong	<i>Sung by the Cathedral Choir.</i>

Weekday worship

8.00am	Morning Prayer with Holy Eucharist	Daily
9.30am	Holy Eucharist / Yr Offeren	Tuesday / Thursday
5.30pm	Choral Evensong / Evening Prayer	Daily

This service is sung on Monday to Friday by the Cathedral Choir and is usually said on Saturdays.



PROPOSED CHORAL SCHOLAR SCHEDULE FROM SEPTEMBER 2024

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:

Friday

1900-2030 Majestas Consort Rehearsal (Choral Scholars are required to attend)

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

Cathedral Choir Christmas Concerts

2 Cathedral Carol Services

Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve

Christmas Day Eucharist

Epiphany

Advent to Candlemas Carol Service

Candlemas

Ash Wednesday

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. This will be as a deputy of the lower voices and an additional service fee will be paid for these. Over the 2023-24 academic year, Scholars have earned over £500 in additional fees.
6. Opportunities may arise to work with our Animateur, Rachel Kilby as part of one of our Music Outreach projects. These projects take place once a term, and work with between 300-500 children from primary schools in Cardiff and the surrounding areas.



KEY INFORMATION

Scholarship and Remuneration	<p>The Choral Scholarship honorarium is £1250 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.</p> <p>In addition, during the period of this scholarship, the Dean and Chapter will pay up to a further £250 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.</p>
Responsibilities	<p>You will be responsible to the Director of Music, with oversight from the Canon Precentor on behalf of the Dean and Chapter. The Director of Music will monitor your performance and give you regular feedback.</p>
Attendance	<p>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.</p>
Dress code	<p>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.</p>
Preparation	<p>As Scholars will often 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.</p>
The Majestas Consort	<p>The Majestas Consort is an adult voluntary choir who normally sing one Sunday of services each term and for other events throughout the year. Recent projects have included the Requiems of Rutter, Fauré and Duruflé, and Bob Chilcott's St John Passion as well as services for Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day. The Choral Scholars will be required to sing with the Majestas Consort, who rehearse fortnightly on Friday evenings from 7.00–8.30pm.</p>
Holidays and Absence	<p>Holidays should be taken outside of Choir term. A termly schedule is published in advance and follows the term dates of the Cathedral School.</p> <p>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.</p>

Conduct

Reverent behaviour must be maintained during rehearsals and 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.

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.

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.

Applications may be sent electronically 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 14th June 2024**. Shortlisting will take place immediately following the application deadline.

INTERVIEWS AND AUDITIONS

Interviews and Auditions will take place by individual appointment between 21st and 28th June. These will consist of:

- A performance of two contrasting pieces.
- Performance of two pieces of Cathedral Choir repertoire as well as a portion of Psalmody. These will be supplied at least 48 hours in advance of the audition.
- A short interview with the Director and Assistant Director of Music.

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





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