



The Choir of St Oswald's Guiseley

Choral Scholarship Opportunities

Martin Baker – Director of Music

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CHORAL SCHOLARSHIPS AT ST OSWALD'S, GUISELEY

We are looking for keen and able musicians who may be studying music in Year 11, 12, 13, or at university or college. Successful candidates will have a passion for singing and have some choral experience already, whether that is in a church choir, school choir or some other choir. Remuneration will be in-line with the current minimum wage as set by the government in April 2026.

At audition, we ask candidates to sing a prepared piece of their choice (sacred or secular) preferably with a piano accompaniment (we will provide the pianist); to sing a few scales so we can determine your vocal range; to sight-sing a short passage of unseen music with piano accompaniment. There will also be a brief interview. Auditions are arranged at the start of term and held later in September at a mutually convenient time.

To apply please email the Director of Music martin.baker63@gmail.com. Applications should consist of a covering letter or e mail explaining your reasons for applying for a Choral Scholarship and include examples of any experience you might have had to date. You will also be required to provide the names of two referees, one of whom should be a musician and the other could be a teacher or clergy person who can comment on you and your suitability for the role.

If you would like to make an informal enquiry or speak to us about the scholarship, please contact the Director of Music martin.baker63@gmail.com

Please note, the deadline for applications is 1st September 2026.

Background Information

The choir of St Oswald's currently consists of 21 members, comprising 1 girl and 20 adults (9 Sopranos, 6 Altos, 3 Tenors and 2 Basses). The choir sings at the weekly Sung Eucharist and twice monthly Choral Evensong. We also offer Choral Matins on the second Sunday of each month. Choir Practice is on a Thursday evening from 7.00-8.30pm

The Choir has an excellent reputation in the Diocese and beyond. We have sung services in Bradford, St Albans, Derby and Wakefield Cathedrals. This is something that we are all extremely proud of. The experience we provide for our younger choristers is something they will remember for the rest of their lives. Many continue to sing in choirs when they leave us for university, some still return to St Oswald's to sing when they are 'home' and several have even got married in our church. In August, last year, we returned to Wakefield Cathedral where we once again received a very warm welcome and have been invited to sing again this year on 8th and 9th August.

The choir has a vast repertoire of music from Mediaeval Plainsong through Renaissance polyphony to many Classical and Romantic greats. Anthems and Canticle settings from 20th Masters regularly feature during choral services and even works by 21st Century composers.

Being part of the Choir of St Oswald's is not all about hard work and singing. At several points during the year, we get together socially to enjoy good food, drink and friendship.