



## **PARISH ORGANIST at St George-in-the-East Parish Church**

### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

- ACCOUNTABLE TO:** The Music Coordinator, the Rector & PCC
- LOCATION:** St George-in-the-East Parish Church, 14 Cannon Street Road, E1 0BH (offices in the East Crypt of the church building)
- BACKGROUND:** The PCC of St George-in-the-East (SGE) are committed to the renewal of parish ministry in Shadwell and to working within an alliance of organising parishes in east London. The Diocese of London have designated SGE as a Resource Church in an innovative partnership with the Centre for Theology and Community (CTC) – see, [www.theology-centre.org](http://www.theology-centre.org)
- The practice of community organising is at the heart of CTC's approach - harnessing its potential to both strengthen churches and enable them to act with others for the common good. SGE is deeply committed to organising in its approach to mission in Shadwell. The vision of the parish captures the most important aspects of our mission – to worship God, build community and to challenge injustice.
- Ministry in our parish in the last 5 years has seen our musical worship strengthen and become established. We are a musical church with 4-5 singers supporting the congregation each Sunday, young people learning to play instruments, organist/pianist, violin, clarinet and cajón. The congregation is used to a broad repertoire with a primary focus on hymns (ancient and modern), Pentecostal choruses and a range of Catholic Psalm settings.

- JOB SUMMARY:** We are seeking a gifted musician who understands music, worship, and liturgy, who plays the organ and piano to a high standard (as an accompanist), with empathy, and with a desire to gain hands-on experience of community music. Elements of the job will require the facilitation of group singing (including children), working with professional and amateur congregation musicians, although the role is primarily that of an accompanist. We are seeking someone to assist with two primary areas of our ministry:

1. **Sunday worship**
  - Weekly playing at the Parish Mass each Sunday - 10:30-12noon
  - Arrival at 10am to prepare for worship and accompany rehearsal of singers and musicians
  - The Music Coordinator (James Batty) leads a longer monthly rehearsal. The post-holder will be the accompanist.
  - The post-holder will be entitled to one Sunday off per month.
2. **Choir Church: Children's Choir aged 5-11yrs ([www.choirchurch.com](http://www.choirchurch.com))**
  - Weekly rehearsal in St Paul's Whitechapel CE Primary School, Wellclose Square, Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm during term time



- Monthly Holy Communion (also a Wednesday, 3:30-5pm) led by the Children's Choir
- Choir Church Leader (Tom Daggett) rehearses the choir. The post-holder will be the accompanist.

The post-holder will be expected to be present for major Festivals in the parish, listed below:

- Advent Sunday
- Parish Carol Service (typically on a Sunday evening in Advent)
- Christmas Eve (two masses at 4pm and 11pm)
- Christmas Morning
- Ash Wednesday (12noon and evening)
- All Holy Week services
- St George's Day (23<sup>rd</sup> April – typically an evening service)
- Ascension (Thursday evening in Eastertide)
- Pentecost
- The Dedication Festival (Sunday morning closest to 19<sup>th</sup> July)
- All Saints' Sunday (Sunday morning on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> November)
- All Souls' Day (2<sup>nd</sup> November – typically an evening service)

The post-holder will have accompanist duties for weddings, funerals, and other parish events. The number of such services are below the average at St George-in-the-East.

The post-holder will be supervised by the Music Coordinator.

At St George-in-the-East we hope this role will be held by someone for whom this work is at the heart of their vocation. A range of supports will enable the postholder to grow their vocation – including opportunities for retreat, training and mentoring.

**PERSON  
SPECIFICATION:**

**Essential**

- Good administrative skills and experience
- Experience of working with children, 0-11 years old
- Experience working musically in diverse communities
- Able to accompany and support a broader vision
- Experience working in a church/charity/educational environment
- Prayer person and faithful to sacramental worship
- An open and collaborative working style
- Willingness to work creatively with people with a wide range of musical and worship experiences
- Ability to manage workload whilst also participating in a wider team to deliver shared projects

**TERMS AND  
CONDITIONS:**

**Hours:** 2 half days per week

- Sunday mornings - one Sunday off each calendar month, agreed with the Rector and Music Coordinator
- Wednesday afternoons - term-time only; additional Choir Church activities agreed with the Choir Church Leader



**Salary:** £5,500 per annum

Additional fees for festivals, special services and external performance engagements

Payment via invoice at the end of each half term (c. 6 weeks)

It is expected that the candidate will be self-employed, but making the position a part-time employed position could be discussed

We are ideally looking for one musician to take on this work as part of a portfolio.

**Child and Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding and Protection**

The successful candidate will be required to undertake an enhanced self-disclosure (DBS) and complete annual safeguarding training.

**Contract and Appraisal**

This job is offered as a 12 month contract. There will be an annual appraisal with the Rector and a representative of the PCC. There is a probationary period of 2 months.

**Notice Period**

The notice period, after completion of the probationary period, is 2 months.

**Note:** In accordance with the Equality Act 2010 it is a genuine occupational requirement that the post holder is a practising Christian and willing to become a worshipping member of the congregation and community at St George-in-the-East.