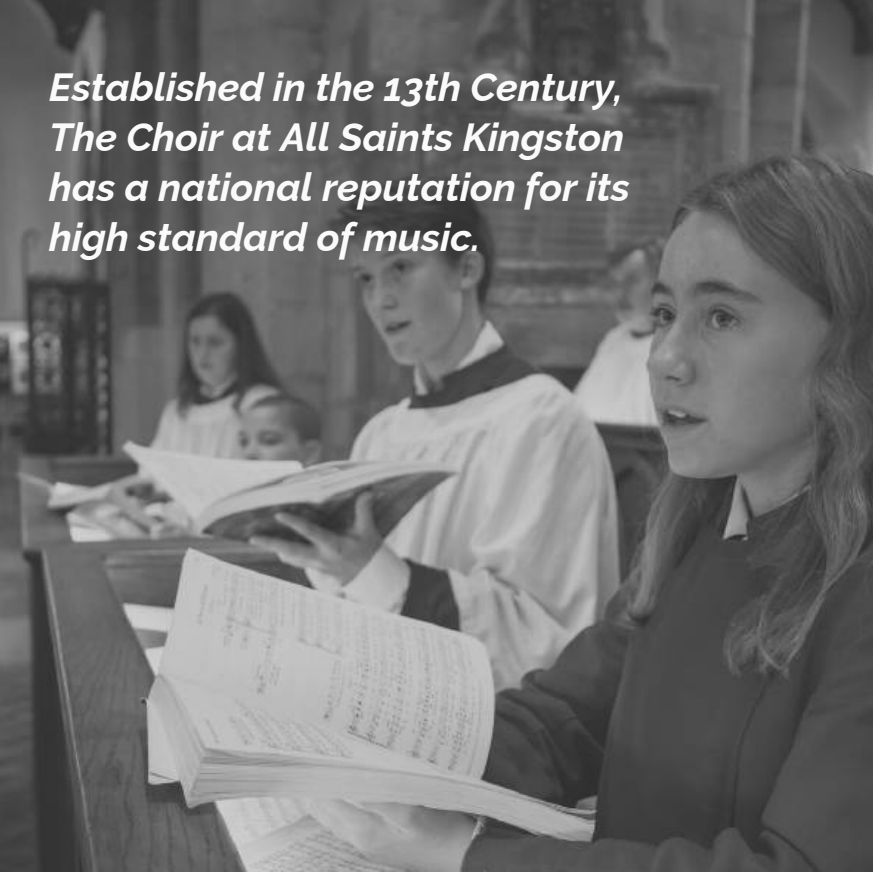




THE CHOIR OF  
ALL SAINTS  
KINGSTON







*Established in the 13th Century,  
The Choir at All Saints Kingston  
has a national reputation for its  
high standard of music.*

# History

There has been a choir at All Saints Kingston since the thirteenth century, and since the 1950's it has gained a national reputation for its extensive repertoire and cathedral-standard music-making. The choir has appeared in TV documentaries, broadcasts, CD recordings and concerts.

All Saints Choir is at the centre of promoting excellence in musical education in Kingston and surrounding areas with excellent connections to local schools. The choir has regularly produced choral scholars at Oxford and Cambridge Universities. The choir consists of 20 boys and girls (trebles) and 20 men.

All Saints Choir leads the music at three fully choral services each week during term time (Wednesday evening, Sunday Morning and Evening), maintaining a tradition that has been largely unbroken for centuries. Outside of services, it has a busy programme of other engagements which include tours, broadcasts, recordings, weddings, and other events in the local area.





# Our Choristers

Up to 20 boy and girl choristers (aged between 8 and 16 years old) sing in All Saints Choir and are selected by competitive audition.

Being a chorister at All Saints boosts confidence and teaches independence and organisation. Our choristers enjoy an unparalleled level of music tuition and experience a similar level of singing to a cathedral choir without the level of commitment needed. Our choristers are trained to a professional standard, singing alongside adult members of the choir and not only benefit from a first-class musical education, but develop a strong sense of commitment, time management, self-discipline, kindness and social skills. Choristers perform their most important and traditional role of leading the worship during services at All Saints but also benefit from the experience of performing:

- In concerts On radio
- broadcasts On television
- documentaries And on tours
- and cathedral visits

All choristers receive free music theory tuition as well as free lesson vocal and coaching from our chorister tutors.

# Benefits

- Choir pay for all rehearsals and services
- Free vocal and music theory tuition from professional teachers and musicians
- Exposure to a wide range of choral music
- Social interaction with other choristers
- Extra pay for weddings

Choristers receive a wage for every rehearsal and service that they attend. Choristers attendance is monitored and choir pay is given out at the end of every term, this is always an extremely exciting day and one our trebles look forward to!



During the normal year, the choir performs in a number of concerts, broadcasts, weddings and other events in addition to 3 choral services per week.



There are often exciting opportunities for the choristers to travel around the country and perform with other professional musicians

# Social life

Socially, All Saints Choir is a fantastic opportunity for a young musician to meet others with similar interests. The choir attracts a wide range of members from varying social and cultural backgrounds and the social events organised for choristers are a great way to meet new friends! Many of our choristers have made life-long friendships and we continue to encourage the 'family-like' atmosphere that has developed over the years.

As a full chorister, our choristers sing at Christmas and Easter services. These times, although busy, are some of the most enjoyable to be a member of the choir. Father Christmas visits the choristers every year, as does the Easter Bunny, and there is always a big Easter Egg hunt through the church for our choristers!



# The Schedule

Wednesday (when required):

16:45 – Rehearsal

17:30 – Evensong starts

18:00 – Evensong finishes

Friday (every week during term time):

17:45 – Chorister tutoring

18:15 – Trebles (boys and girls) rehearsal

19:15 – Snacks and break

19:30 – Full rehearsal with adults

20:30 – Rehearsal finishes

Sunday (every week during term time):

09:00 – Rehearsal for Holy Communion

09:30 – Sing for Sunday Service

10:30 – Break and snack time

11:15 – Rehearsal for Evensong

12:00 – Finish rehearsal and home time!

17:30 – Rehearsal for Evensong

18:00 – Sing for Evensong 19:00

– Finish and go home!

During a regular week in term time choristers can expect to attend the church three times per week. As the choir only sings during term time choristers get 12 weeks off per year.

Wednesday evensongs are sung on a rota so choristers would not be needed every wednesday.



# Organ Scholars

For the last few years, All Saints has encouraged the talent of young organists. The organ scholarship is a highly successful programme aimed at nurturing talented young organists. It allows them access to professional standards at an early stage in their career. The organ scholar at All Saints Church has the unique opportunity to work directly with the Director of Music and the Organist playing for services, accompanying the choir and gaining valuable professional experience.

This is a 1-2 year programme designed to be a training year before undertaking an organ scholarship at a cathedral or university around the country. Organ scholars are expected to be available for Sunday services, Wednesday and Friday rehearsals as well as at special events and services, many of which attract further payment.

- An annual bursary
- Working with a high-quality cathedral standard choir
- Developing directing and rehearsal skills
- Ideal preparation for an organ scholarship at a cathedral or university
- Grounding for a professional career as an organist or director of music.
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Our organ scholars have previously gone on to some of the most well-known choral institutions around the country such as Clare College Cambridge and Sherbourne Abbey.







# Choral Scholars

All Saints Choir's choral scholarship programme provides exciting opportunities for 16-19 year old singers who wish to study singing at a music conservatoire, undertake a university choral scholarship or pursue a career as a professional musician. Choral scholars sing alongside the full choir for three services a week as well as singing as part of a smaller chamber choir for services and events.

Former choral scholars and choristers regularly go on to choral scholarships at some of the most prestigious cathedrals and universities around the country, and All Saints Choir enjoys a close connection and partnership with Oxbridge choral institutions. Choral scholars will receive one-to-one mentoring from the Director of Music and Assistant Director of Music as well as complimentary singing lessons. Choral Scholars are paid a modest fee and have the opportunity to perform solo recitals and in concerts throughout the year.

Previous choral scholars have gone on to be Choral scholars at some of the most well-known cathedrals and universities around the country such as: Kings College Cambridge, St Johns College Cambridge, Magdalene College Cambridge, Christs College Cambridge, Queens College Cambridge, Trinity College Cambridge, Christ Church Oxford, Durham University, Queens College Oxford.



DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

David Condry has been Director of Music at All Saints Kingston since 2018 and head of Choral music and Vocal studies at the Yehudi Menuhin School. David studied music at Leeds University whilst holding a choral scholarship at Leeds Parish Church.

David is a professional singer and alongside solo and occasional operatic work, sings with the Brabant Ensemble – directed by Dr Stephen Rice, a former All Saints chorister, as well as having sung with Tenebrae. David is a regular singer at Westminster Abbey, Westminster Cathedral, St Paul's Cathedral and the London Oratory and was formerly a tenor in the professional choir of St Mary's, Bourne Street under Paul Brough.



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Open Position



LEAD SOPRANO

Eleanor Inglis is the Choir Matron at All Saints Church. Eleanor is in charge of the pastoral care of all the choristers in All Saints Choir. Eleanor has been a member of All Saints Choir for 20 years, having been a part of the first group of girls introduced to All Saints Choir in the Early 2000s. As well as a busy schedule working with All Saints Choir, Eleanor is a professional soprano and has been a soloist for a wide range of companies and events around the country including a season with English National Opera.



After singing at All Saints as a chorister for two years from 2013 to 2015, I returned to sing tenor in 2018, singing weekly services for two years until I left to take up a choral scholarship at St John's College, Cambridge in 2020. Not having come from a musical background, nor having studied it beyond the early years of secondary school, it simply would not have been possible for me to get where I am now, singing seven services a week in one of the most famous chapel choirs in Britain, without the experience I got at Kingston. The repertoire at All Saints is more demanding - and thus more exciting to sing! - than any other church choir of which I know, and this helped improve my sight-reading no end. The week-in, week-out experience of Sunday morning and evening services and general familiarity with the idiosyncrasies of the Anglican choral tradition ensured the transition to John's was very much easier than it would otherwise have been. Aside from the numerous practical benefits, most of all it is jolly good fun, with a really strong sense of camaraderie among the whole choir, and it is no wonder that so many of the back row have been coming back every Sunday for decades - perhaps I might do the same one day!

**EUAN O'CONNOR (2013 - 2021) Current Choral Scholar at St John's College, Cambridge**

I am Tristan Oliver, I have been singing at All Saints Church since 2018, and so far I am loving it here. It feels great to sing in the choir and the choirmaster is eager to conduct and very friendly. **TRISTAN OLIVER (2018 - Present)**



"I sang at All Saints as a Choral Scholar. Up to the time I joined, I had had about six months' experience with the Anglican tradition, far fewer than some of my ex-treble sixth form colleagues. Going, as I did, from singing no services ever to singing twice every Sunday required a "learn on the job" approach to sight-reading, liturgical conventions and the like. The All Saints choir atmosphere helped greatly with this; the regularity and routine of rehearsals and services, combined with decently challenging repertoire choices, meant that I was able to build up my confidence as a countertenor in a welcoming, friendly environment. In September of 2019 I decided to apply for a choral scholarship at Magdalen College, Oxford, where I now sing as an Academical Clerk. I can say with certainty that had I not joined All Saints when I did, I would not be in that position right now. I would like to thank David and Matthew, as well as the whole choir, for creating a community that has allowed me to flourish."

**SAM THYR (2019 - 2021) Currently an Academical Clerk at Magdalen College, Oxford**





# Auditions

Auditioning for All Saints Choir is informal and relaxed, most have said that they really enjoyed their experience. Your audition will be with Mr David Condry (Director of Music) and Eleanor Howard (lead Soprano). We ask prospective choristers to come prepared with a song to sing of their own choice, it doesn't need to be complicated, it can be a hymn, carol, school song anything you enjoy singing!

Please bring some sheet music for our accompanist too. You will then be asked to do some simple aural tests such as picking notes out of a chord, clapping a rhythm back, repeating a melody played on the piano. If you are a bit older, we might ask you to sight read a simple piece of music to see how well you can read music. Don't worry if you can't read music, we can teach you this! There is no need to be nervous about the audition, we will do our best to put you at ease and make this occasion really enjoyable, we know that you will do your best when you are relaxed, happy and confident!

After this you and your parents will get the opportunity to ask any questions about the choir and have a tour of the church and the music facilities. Following the audition, the music staff will meet to discuss the result and we hope to inform you within one week of your audition. Becoming a chorister at All Saints Choir is a very selective process and not everyone can succeed, you may be encouraged to return for another audition or be offered a place in a 'training choir' before joining the full choir.



To audition or for more information please  
email: [choiradmin@allsaintskingston.co.uk](mailto:choiradmin@allsaintskingston.co.uk)









# Contact us

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