**Choral Scholarship**

St Peter’s Church, Bolton–le–Moors is pleased to offer Choral Scholarships for all voice types for the academic year 2024–2025.

**Music at St Peter’s Church:**

St Peter’s is a welcoming, inclusive Church of England church with a proud and ambitious musical tradition. St Peter’s runs a very active music programme with a Choral Eucharist every Sunday which alternates between Book of Common Prayer and Common Worship and Choral Evensong which is currently on the 4th Sunday. Furthermore, there are also Festival Services and occasional concerts.

The Tuesday lunchtime concert series starts in May and runs until July, and this year it also runs from September to the end of October. The recital series attracts professional musicians from around Greater Manchester and Lancashire, as well as students from Chetham’s School of Music and both the RNCM and JRNCM.

The Choir, which rehearses on a Thursday evening is currently recruiting all voice types as well as starting a new Children’s Choir to augment the current choir. In recent years the choir has sung services at Chester and Lichfield Cathedrals among others.

**How to get to St Peter’s Church:**

To get to the church is relatively straight–forward. If driving, there is ample free parking right outside the Church (BL1 1PS). If coming via train from Manchester for a Thursday rehearsal, you can depart Manchester Piccadilly at 18.33 which stops at Oxford Road, Deansgate, and Salford Crescent before arriving into Bolton at 18.52. From there it is an 7 minute walk to the Church. On a Sunday, you can get the 9.55 from Piccadilly which stops at the same stations.

**The role of the Choral Scholars:**

The Choral Scholars will support the Director of Music (DoM) in the preparation and delivery of the weekly musical offering by:

* Attending the weekly choir practice (Thursday 7–8.30pm)
* Attending the weekly Sunday morning service (Sundays 11am, rehearsal 10.30am)
* Attending any additional Services where possible.

According to aptitude and interest, Choral Scholars also have the option to be involved in:

* Supporting the organisation, administration, and event management for the annual series of lunchtime concerts.
* Organising and maintaining the choir library.
* Assisting with the Junior Choir training in music theory and the RSCM’s *Voice for Life* scheme.
* Choir training/rehearsal/conducting
* Other activities taking place in and around the church community.

We intend this position to be primarily a ‘learning’ position, so we are looking for people who show potential but also a willingness to learn. The exact role will be tailored to the strengths, experience, and ambitions of the candidates. Further training will be given to help the Choral Scholars to perform their duties.

The Choral Scholars may have up to four Sundays during the academic year off, and may request further leave around examination periods, to be agreed with the Director of Music.

Successful applicants will have strong teamwork skills and the ability and willingness to learn new music quickly. For guidance, a Choral Scholar should be at least Grade 5 standard in singing (a qualification is not essential), with a good ear and a reasonable sight–reading experience.

Although it is not a requirement that the scholar should be a communicant member of the Church of England, it is hoped that the scholar will want to involve themselves fully in the life of the church. Bolton Parish Church follows national, Diocesan and C of E guidelines and is committed to the safeguarding of children and young adults.

**Fees**

There is an honorarium of up to £1000 per year, and there is also the possibility of free singing lessons or other tuition where appropriate. The scholarships are available from September until the end of term in July, normally following University Term Dates. Extra fees are available for weddings, funerals and other services which fall outside the normal pattern of commitments. Robes will also be provided during the scholarship.

**Applications**

Applications are now open for scholarships for the academic year 2024–2025. The Director of Music is always happy to discuss the role and its requirements informally prior to an audition.

If you would like to know more or would like to apply, please contact the Director of Music,

Philip O’Connor, by emailing music@boltonparishchurch.co.uk .

