

SAINT MARY
NEWINGTON



KENNINGTON
LONDON SE11 4JQ

Choral Scholarships (Alto and Bass) at St Mary, Newington

Deadline: 5pm, Wednesday, 9th July 2025



Alto and Bass Choral Scholarships at St Mary, Newington (Kennington)

The church of St Mary, Newington (Kennington) is looking to appoint an **alto and bass choral scholar** for the 2025-26 academic year (October 2025 to July 2026).

St Mary's scholars are at the heart of the church's music programme, singing as a solo quartet **twice monthly** at morning services during term time, on Ash Wednesday, during Holy Week, and alongside our children's and community choirs at December's carol service.

An honorarium of **£1,050 per annum** (made payable as regular instalments) will be available to each singer. Scholarships will be awarded for one year in the first instance, with the opportunity available for renewal.

Schedule

Scholars sing at Sunday mass twice a month (10:30am service, with a 9:20am rehearsal). A post-mass rehearsal will be scheduled on the first of these Sundays to prepare for the following month's music.

Scholars are additionally required for Ash Wednesday, two services during Holy Week, and at our carol service on 14th December.

In total, these commitments will amount to 21 services. A small proportion of services may be depped out to our pool of deputies, in consultation with the Director of Music. There is no choral service scheduled on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.



Choral Scholarships at St Mary's

For the most part, the Choral Scholars perform as a solo quartet, conducted by the Director of Music, Dr Edwin Hillier. A diverse range of sacred music (introits, motets, psalms, and occasional four-part mass settings), from a range of epochs, is programmed over the course of the year, with opportunities arising for solo performance.

On occasion, the scholars join forces with our community and children's choirs, and additional work may be available for any scholars interested in developing their outreach and workshop leading skills.

Who we're looking for

Our scholarships are open to all singers, though they may particularly appeal to undergraduates, postgraduates (at university or conservatoire), recent graduates, and young professionals looking to develop their ensemble and solo singing. Past scholars have included undergraduates from London university chapel choirs and conservatoire vocal students.

We're particularly looking for singers who are confident sight-readers, experienced in carrying their own line in more complex, polyphonic repertoire, and team players who would relish the chance to enrich our ambitious choral programme.

The alto and bass scholars will join a close-knit and friendly group who are committed to growing together musically.

It is important to us that scholars demonstrate a willingness to integrate into the community at St Mary's by staying for post-mass refreshments on occasion, and getting to know people. St Mary's is a welcoming, diverse and inclusive congregation, with a mix of age, ethnicity, race, sexuality and gender identity. It is important to us that singers are supportive of our inclusive and friendly ethos.



How to apply

To apply for the alto or bass choral scholarship at St Mary's, please email a CV and short cover letter to the Director of Music, Dr Edwin Hillier choir.stmarynewington@gmail.com by **5pm on Wednesday, 9th July 2025**.

Please be aware that we will be auditioning candidates on a rolling basis – as and when applications are received – and applications may close early should the right candidates be sourced. As such, please apply at your earliest convenience.

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An inclusive church, building community and nurturing faith

<https://stmarynewington.church/>