

SAINT MARY
NEWINGTON



KENNINGTON
LONDON SE11 4JQ



Bass Choral Scholarship at St Mary, Newington (Kennington) 26-27

Deadline: 5pm, Friday 19th June 2026



Bass Choral Scholarship at St Mary, Newington (Kennington)

The church of St Mary, Newington (Kennington) is looking to appoint a **Bass Choral Scholar** for the 2026-27 academic year (October 2026 to July 2027).

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 choristers and community choirs at December's carol service.

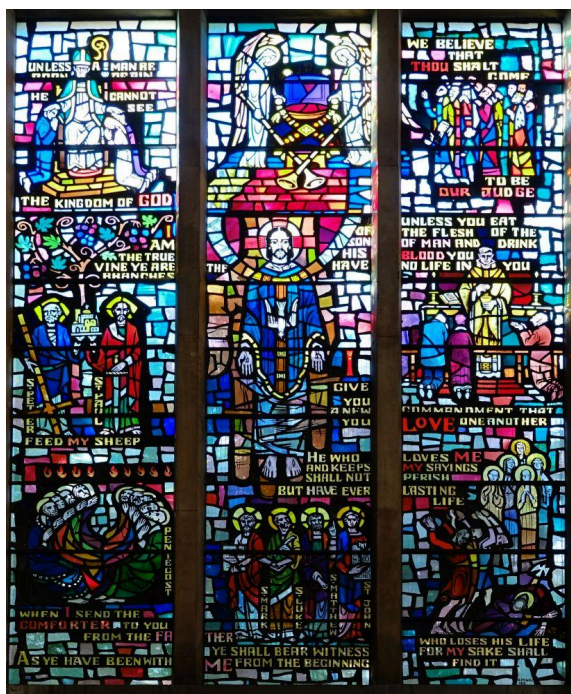
An honorarium of £1,050 per annum, paid in regular instalments, will be available to each singer. Scholarships will be awarded for one year in the first instance, with the opportunity available for renewal.

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 13th December.

In total, the role involves 21 services across the year. 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 four-part mass settings), drawn from a range of musical periods, is programmed over the course of the year, with opportunities for solo singing.

On occasion, the scholars join forces with our robed children's choir and community choir, 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.

Current and former choral scholars include graduates of the Royal Academy of Music, Royal College of Music, Trinity Laban Conservatoire, and the Conservatorium van Amsterdam, as well as former choral scholars and singers from King's College London, the Old Royal Naval College Chapel Choir, and the University of London Chamber Choir.



The twice-monthly term-time commitment has proved ideal for singers balancing freelance work, depping, and other choral appointments, and several former scholars have held this post alongside other professional choir positions.

We're particularly looking for singers who are confident sight-readers, experienced in sustaining an independent line in polyphonic repertoire, and enthusiastic team players, who would relish the chance to enrich our ambitious choral programme. The bass scholar will join a close-knit and friendly quartet 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 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 Friday, 19th June 2026**.

Please note that auditions will take place on a rolling basis as applications are received, and applications may close early should the right candidates be sourced. As such, please apply at your earliest convenience.



<https://stmarynewington.church/music-at-st-mary-newington/>