

Church of St. Michael and St. George

Director of Music/Choirmaster

CSMSG Vision

The Church of St Michael & St George transforms lives through Christ

CSMSG Mission

Live Christ's life into the world through the Anglican traditions of worshipping God with reverence, joy, and awe; serving and caring for our community; and leading spiritual formation for all ages.

Position Summary

The Director of Music - Organist/Choirmaster at the Church of St. Michael and St. George, St. Louis, MO, is a dynamic and versatile role that encompasses a wide range of responsibilities within the music ministry. This position involves collaborating with clergy, musicians, and support staff to ensure the excellence of the church's music programs, particularly in the context of worship services. The Director will also oversee the musical activities of the St. Michael School and promote music education and outreach within the community.

Responsibilities

Liturgical and Musical Direction:

- Play the organ and direct the music for regular services, including Sunday morning Eucharists and Sunday evening Rite II services.
- Conduct pre-service warm-up rehearsals for regular and special services, ensuring a polished and unified musical presentation.
- Select, learn, or review music for liturgical seasons and special parish events, such as Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Holy Week.
- Oversee music arrangements for weddings, funerals/memorials, and blessing ceremonies.
- Collaborate with clergy to plan and implement liturgies that reflect the richness of Anglican liturgical music.

Administration and Management:

- Attend staff meetings and worship planning sessions to contribute to the coordination of parish programs.
- Develop and manage the music budget, ensuring efficient allocation of resources for musical needs.
- Curate a diverse repertory for the year, encompassing service music, anthems, hymns, psalm settings, preludes, postludes, and incidental instrumental music.

- Supervise paid singers, instrumentalists, volunteer choir members, and administrative assistants.
- Provide timely information for worship materials, website articles, newsletter contributions, and concert/recital programs.
- Collaborate with clergy and support staff to develop promotional materials and strategies for program events.
- Respond promptly to communication from choir members, choir parents, parishioners, and other stakeholders.
- Organize and oversee special musical services, concerts, and recitals.

Choir Direction:

- Select, learn, or review music for services and develop nuanced interpretations.
- Create and arrange music to meet specific liturgical requirements.
- Maintain attendance records, rosters, and choir vestments.
- Prepare and organize rehearsal spaces, seating arrangements, and teaching aids.
- Conduct regular rehearsals and sectional sessions, both individually and with the Children's Musician.
- Provide coaching and support for choir members, soloists, and instrumentalists as needed.

Organist Duties:

- Regularly practice maintaining technical skills and proficiency on the organ.
- Select and learn organ literature for services and special occasions.
- Acquire new organ compositions to meet evolving service needs.
- Adapt choir accompaniments as necessary.
- Rehearse with instrumentalists and vocal musicians.
- Perform organ recitals showcasing musical talents.

Music Education and Outreach:

- Plan and schedule concerts, performances, and special productions.
- Foster collaborative relationships with area musicians and organizations.
- Act as a resource person for musicians and clergy beyond the parish.
- Generate and distribute correspondence related to the role.

Pastoral Care:

- Foster a collegial and supportive atmosphere within the church staff.
- Build relationships with enthusiastic parishioners to enhance community engagement.
- Maintain communication with choir members or choir parents regarding attendance, concerns, and pastoral matters.

The Director of Music - Organist/Choirmaster plays a vital role in enriching the spiritual and musical life of the Church of St. Michael and St. George. This position requires a passion for music, dedication to liturgical excellence, and the ability to collaborate effectively with diverse stakeholders.