

TRURO CATHEDRAL ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP

Truro Cathedral is situated in the centre of the city and was consecrated in 1887. St Mary's Aisle within the Cathedral is also the Parish Church of St Mary, Truro, of which the Dean is Rector.

The Cathedral Choir consists of 18 Choristers, 7 Lay Vicars and 5 Choral Scholars. The boys are educated at Polwhele House Preparatory School, with bursaries from the Chapter for a generous proportion of their day-school and boarding fees. The Lay Vicars and Choral Scholars receive an honorarium. Christopher Gray is the Organist and Director of Music and Luke Bond is the Assistant Director of Music.

The Choir tours regularly and has made a series of recordings on the Regent, Lammas and Priory labels. These have received widespread critical acclaim. In June 2010 a CD of Benjamin Britten's music was recorded. In May 2006, a recording was made of music which has been commissioned for the Choir during recent years; this has been described as "of truly international standard". A release of the complete liturgical music of Louis Vierne has just received a top five star rating from *Choir and Organ* magazine.

The Chapter wishes to appoint an Organ Scholar for one year, beginning in September 2011. The purpose of the scholarship is to give the holder experience and training in a full-time choral foundation. The Organ Scholar will act as an assistant to the Director of Music and to the Assistant Director of Music.

The Cathedral Choir's regular weekly schedule is as follows:

Sunday	8.50am	rehearsal (men 9.05)
	10.00am	Sung Eucharist (full choir)
	3.15pm	rehearsal (men 3.30)
	4.00pm	Evensong (full choir)
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	8.10-8.55am	rehearsal (boys)
	4.40pm	rehearsal (men 5.00)
	5.30pm	Evensong or Solemn Eucharist
	6.20-7.00pm	men's rehearsal (Wednesday only)
Thursday	8.10- 8.55am	rehearsal (boys) no Evensong

The full Choir sings Eucharists on Feast Days in place of Evensong. There are additional full choir services for the great festivals of the Church. There are various special services, such as those for civic and diocesan occasions.

The Choir's main work is to enhance the magnificent ceremonial and liturgy which characterises the Cathedral's worship, but it also undertakes a number of outside engagements. Recent tours have included Spain, Italy, France, Germany, the USA, Sweden, Austria and Switzerland. The choir has appeared regularly on BBC radio and television: Choral Evensong (Radio 3), Sunday Worship (Radio 4), a concert with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales (Radio 3), a live broadcast of Mass for Pentecost (BBC1), music for *The Truth about Carols* (BBC2) and *Songs of Praise* (BBC1).

The Cathedral's '**Father**' Willis organ (4 manuals, 45 speaking stops) dates from 1888 and is widely considered to be one of Willis' greatest achievements. It attracts many players of

international calibre to the cathedral each year. The **Byfield** organ in St Mary's Aisle (2 manuals, 12 speaking stops) dates from c. 1750 and was completely overhauled in 1984 and cleaned in 2002. In 1997 a Chamber Organ for the Cathedral was built by the Northamptonshire builder **Kenneth Tickell**. Generous practice time is available on all the Cathedral's organs.

The Organ Scholar's duties vary according to the current holder's abilities. Generally they include accompanying Evensong once a week, and various special services. Duties will be more extensive during the absence of the Director of Music or his Assistant. The Organ Scholar attends most rehearsals and services, teaches theory and makes a big contribution to the training of probationers. The scholar also looks after the music library and is responsible for assisting visiting recitalists with their practice time.

The scholarship for the year commencing September 2011 is worth £2,375 per annum. Accommodation is usually in a house provided rent-free by the Chapter. It is fully furnished and has a large inventory of kitchen equipment, iron and ironing board, vacuum cleaner etc. Water, Gas and Electricity bills are paid by the Chapter. The house is opposite the east end of the Cathedral. A £50 deposit is taken for the house, and a single £100 payment towards the cost of utilities. Free internet access is provided and we expect Scholars to maintain the same professional protocols with regard to use of the Cathedral's system as staff do. Details are included in the Staff Handbook in the Cathedral Office.

During 2011/12, it is possible that the organ scholar will be asked to assist with Truro's pilot scheme for Outreach in secondary schools and Cornwall Youth Choir.

Truro Cathedral has offered an Organ Scholarship since 1992. Past holders are:

1992	James Parkin	Organ Scholar, Balliol College, Oxford; now a Radio 3 Producer
1993	Benjamin Lamb	Director of Music, Lichfield Cathedral
1994	Peter Heginbotham	until recently Assistant Organist, Sheffield Cathedral
1995	Philip Stopford	until recently Organist, Belfast Cathedral
1996	Mark Williams	Director of Music, Jesus College, Cambridge
1997	Thomas Corns	Director of Music, St Mary's, Warwick
1998	Luke Bond	Assistant Director of Music, Truro Cathedral
1999	Christopher Teel	Now based in the USA
2000	Andrew Senn	Director of Music, First Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia
2001	Nicholas Wearne	Assistant Director of Music, St Mary's Cathedral Edinburgh
2002	Michael Phillips	Choral Scholar, Queens' College, Cambridge
2003	Tom Wilkinson	Organist, University of St Andrews, Scotland
2004	Claire Cousens	Organist and Music Staff member, Bradfield College
2005	Tom Little	Royal College of Music
2006	David Moore	Bishops Stortford College Teacher training
2007	Shiloh Roby	St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin
2008	Joshua Hales	Exeter College, Oxford
2009	Donald Hunt	Organ Scholar, St Paul's Cathedral

The deadline for applications for September 2011 is Friday 8th October 2010.

Applicants should send a CV to:

Christopher Gray, Organist and Director of Music, Truro Cathedral, 14 St Mary's Street, Truro, TR1 2AF. Tel: 01872 276782. Fax: 01872 277788.

E-mail: christophergray@trurocathedral.org.uk

Please give the names of two people willing to act as referees.