



North Circus Street, Nottingham, NG1 5AE

in the

Diocese of Nottingham



Assistant Director of Music (Cathedral Organist)

Job Profile

Nottingham (St Barnabas) Cathedral, within the Roman Catholic Diocese of Nottingham, is looking to recruit an outstanding organist and inspiring educator to assist the Director of Music develop our growing Music Foundation.

Job Description

A key member of the Cathedral staff team, the Assistant Director of Music will, along with the Director of Music, be responsible to the Cathedral Dean for assisting with the management and provision of music at the Cathedral. Responsibilities will include, but not be limited to:

- Playing the organ and accompanying the choir for
 - the Sunday 11.15am Solemn Mass
 - choral services on certain 'high days and holy days' as required
 - the Sunday 6pm Mass (approximately once or twice a month)
- Attending the Wednesday evening rehearsal of the Cathedral Choir as required in preparation for the above
- Assisting the Director of Music with the training of the Cathedral's Youth and Children's Choirs
- Assisting with service sheet production and managing the Music Library
- Deputising for the Director of Music when required



Person Specification

Essential

- A musician of high quality who will be able to inspire by personal example
- An organist of diploma standard (ideally FRCO)
- An experienced liturgical and choral accompanist
- Experience of working with children
- Experience of directing choirs
- A good communicator with a friendly, positive outlook
- A team player with an enthusiastic, positive and inclusive approach to music-making
- Excellent interpersonal skills and confidence in communicating with people of all ages
- Understanding of best practice in safeguarding children
- Sensitive to the ethos, traditions and worship of the Roman Catholic Church (applications are welcome from non-Catholics)

Desirable

- Experience of accompanying Gregorian chant
- Teaching experience
- An inventive and inspirational improviser

Music Staff

Peter Siepmann PhD FRCO LRSM took up his role as Director of Music at the end of November, following eighteen years as Organist & Director of Music at St Peter's Church in Nottingham. He also conducts Nottingham Bach Choir. Having taught in independent secondary schools for almost two decades, Peter now combines his musical activity with work as General Manager of Southwell Music Festival. He is an Examiner for ABRSM and serves on the Grant Assessment Panel of the Cathedral Music Trust.

The successful candidate will succeed Neil Page MA FTCL LRAM ARCO. Neil was Director of Music at the Cathedral between 2003 and 2014; in 2020 he returned to become Cathedral Organist, and in November 2025 took on the role of Organist Emeritus.



Choirs

Nottingham Cathedral Choir combines auditioned volunteers with four choral scholars from the city's two universities and four paid Lay Clerks. The choir rehearses on Wednesday evening (7.15 - 8.45pm) and on Sunday mornings (10.15 - 11am) before singing the 11.15am Solemn Mass. As a cathedral church, there are regular additional services and Diocesan events through the year particularly, of course, around the Easter Triduum and Christmas. Plainchant remains at the core of our liturgy, complemented by a wide-ranging choral repertoire from works by the early renaissance masters to composers of the present day.

Our offer for young singers is currently provided by a single Children's Choir (boys and girls aged 8-16), but this will develop into a more comprehensive suite of choirs on the successful appointment of the Assistant Director of Music position. The present Children's Choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 4.30pm - 5.45pm, singing a range of music in regular performances each term. Our aspiration is to provide:

- A Junior Choir of boys and girls in Years 3-8
 - o *led principally by the ADoM, rehearsing on an afternoon to be confirmed*
- A Senior Girls Choir (Years 9-13)
 - o *led principally by the DoM and rehearsing on a Wednesday afternoon*
- A Senior Boys / Cambiata Choir (Years 9-13)
 - o *led principally by the ADoM, rehearsing on an afternoon to be confirmed*

There is also a Diocesan Choir which meets once or twice a term, drawing singers from across the parishes.

The current weekly schedule

Wednesday

4.30 - 5.45pm Children's Choir rehearsal
7.15 - 8.45pm Cathedral Choir rehearsal

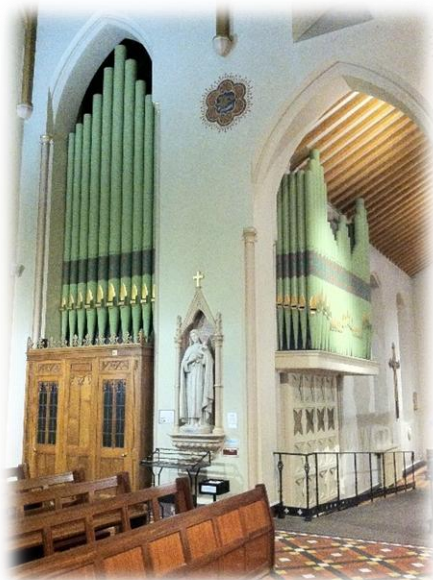
Saturday

6.30pm Vigil Mass (hymns, played by volunteer organist)

Sunday

10am Family Mass (with cantor, accompanied by the Organist Emeritus)
10.15am Cathedral Choir rehearsal in Cathedral Hall
11.15am Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)
5.15pm Rehearsal (when applicable)
6pm Mass (choral scholar cantor during term-time)

With a new Director of Music and Assistant Director of Music in post, music at the Cathedral is at an exciting point of development. Though the provision and schedules listed above represent the current routine, we fully expect (and welcome) further development and evolution over the coming years.



Organ

The organ, a large three-manual 1913 Norman and Beard, has been well maintained and is in mostly good order (though slightly under pitch). The Assistant Director of Music will have free access to the organ at suitable times for practice and teaching purposes (if required).

1995 Henry Groves & Son
1989 Hill, Norman & Beard
1980 Henry Willis
1913 Norman & Beard

Pedal

Open Diapason 16
Violone 16
Bourdon 16
Principal 8
Violoncello 8
Bass Flute 8
Fifteenth 4
Octave Flute 4
Contra Trombone 32*
Trombone 16*
Tromba 8
Clarion 4

Choir

Claribel Flute 8
Viola da Gamba 8
Flute 4
Harmonic Piccolo 2
Tierce 1 3/5
Quartane II
Clarinet 8
Tromba 8
Clarion 4
Tremulant

Great

Double Diapason 16
Open Diapason (Large) 8
Open Diapason (Small) 8
Hohl Flute 8
Kleinflöte 8
Principal 4
Spindle Flute 4
Twelfth 2 2/3
Fifteenth 2
Mixture III
Tromba 8
Clarion 4

Swell

Lieblich Bourdon 16
Open Diapason 8
Rohr Flute 8
Viol d'Orchestre 8
Viol Celeste 8
Principal 4
Fifteenth 2
Mixture III
Bassoon 16
Cornopean 8
Tremulant

Couplers

Swell to Pedal
Swell to Great
Swell to Choir
Swell octave to Great
Swell sub-octave to Great
Swell octave
Swell sub-octave
Swell unison off
Choir to Great
Choir to Pedal
Choir octave
Choir sub-octave
Choir unison off
Great to Pedal
Swell Octave to Pedal
Choir Octave to Pedal
Choir Octave to Great
Choir Sub Octave to Great

Accessories

Ten general pistons
Six pistons to the Swell, Great and Choir Organs
Six foot pistons to the Swell and Pedal Organs
Reversible foot pistons to: Great to Pedal, Swell to Great
Reversible pistons to Great to Pedal, Swell to Great, Swell to Choir
Setter pistons; General cancel
Illuminated push buttons: Swell foot pistons to Generals 1-6 transfer
Pedal coupler pistons
Two electrically controlled swell pedals to the Swell and Choir
Organs Multiplex transmission system
64 channel piston memory system
Digital memory player



Contract

This is a permanent position, starting as soon as possible after Easter 2026.

The contract is initially offered for a fixed-term of three years, with the intention to renew.

The successful applicant will be subject to a probationary period of six months.

This is a part-time (0.23 FTE) role with a salary of **£7,700** per annum (FTE £33,333), payable monthly in arrears. This is subject to normal annual diocesan cost of living review (where applicable).

Additional fees will be available for weddings and funerals, the playing of which is shared with colleagues, as coordinated by the Director of Music.

The Cathedral cannot provide accommodation for this position.

How to apply

We do not accept CVs. To apply for this position, please send a completed Application Form, including details of referees (at least one of which must be a professional musician).

All applications should be sent to office@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Closing date for applications: Friday 27 February 2026 at 9am.

Interviews and auditions: Wednesday 11 March (afternoon and evening).

This role involves working with children. The Cathedral is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

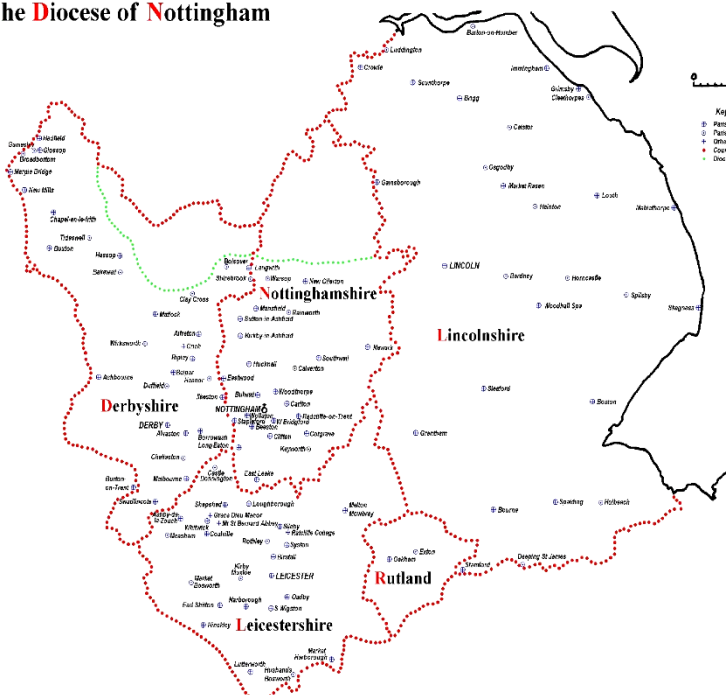
An enhanced DBS check will be required for this role.

We welcome applications from all suitably qualified candidates regardless of age, disability, sex, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

Informal discussions about the role are welcome at any stage; please email the Director of Music at cathedralmusic@dioceseofnottingham.uk



The Diocese of Nottingham



The Diocese of Nottingham covers a large geographical area covering Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, most of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire and parts of Cheshire and Staffordshire, making it the largest in the country. It is varied in its demography as it encompasses one of the most ethnically diverse cities in the country, Leicester, and some of the most rural territory, Lincolnshire, with its villages and market towns. Consequently, the people of the diocese come from all backgrounds imaginable, giving the diocese a rich and varied life.

We are led by Bishop Patrick McKinney and have 122 priests and 57 deacons, including those who are in active ministry, retired, working here or elsewhere. They serve 107 parishes and 87 primary and secondary schools. Over any given weekend, there are approximately 30,000 people attending Mass in the diocese.