

The **Choir of St John's, Shaughnessy**, maintains cathedral-style liturgical worship in the Anglican tradition by supporting congregational hymns, leading sung responses, and singing anthems, canticles, and mass ordinaries on behalf of the gathered people. Music helps us to express what words alone cannot, and draws us up toward God's heavenly kingdom that is beyond reach during our mortal sojourn on earth.

Music lists are drawn from a wide breadth of church history, including Gregorian chant, from the earliest days of the church; Renaissance polyphony, as exemplified by Palestrina and Victoria; modern compositions by Duruflé and Willan; contemporary works by Bédard and Lauridsen; and English church music from all periods, including Sarum plainsong, Byrd, Tomkins, Stanford, Wood, Bairstow, Howells, Rutter, and more. In 2025, the music of Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625) is featured, as well as a commission by David McGregor to celebrate the centenary of St John's, Shaughnessy.

To this end, the Choir comprises several types of singers.

Vicars Choral (also known as Section Leads) are professional musicians lending their expertise to the community at large. They are the core of the ensemble, often engaging in one-on-a-part work and collaborating with both the Director of Music and Principal Organist to guide the rest of the choir. Remuneration is \$60–75 per call.

Choral Scholars are emerging student artists, honing their craft and learning the tricks of the trade. They are well-positioned to put into practice what they have already learned while growing as musicians and gaining experience in a fast-paced environment. Remuneration is \$30–40 per call.

Volunteer Choristers are community members who love to sing sacred music and are thrilled to continue the tradition of over the 400 years of Anglican church music.

All choristers are required to learn their music outside of rehearsal, while rehearsal time is instead devoted to ensemble-work (both within the choir and with the organ) and interpretation. This involves a serious commitment of time, as music is different nearly every week!

In addition to weekly Choir Rehearsals (Thursdays @ 7pm) and Sung Eucharist (Sundays @ 10am), the Choir also sings for:

- monthly Choral Evensong, 1st Sundays @ 4pm
- Remembrance Day
- Advent Lessons & Carols, 1st Sunday of Advent
- Christmas Eve
- Ash Wednesday
- Holy Week (Spy Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil)

Applications to the choir can be made year-round by **emailing David Poon (Director of Music) at david.poon@sjs.net**. Positions will remain open until they are filled, and a deputy (substitute) list of singers is maintained.