The Church of All Saints, Youlgreave, Derbyshire



ORGANIST AND DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Following the announcement from the Royal School of Church Music that 2025 will be 'Play the organ year', the church of All Saints, Youlgreave is delighted to announce that it wishes to appoint an organist and director of music.

The role will include playing at up to three Sunday services per month plus special services (eg Christmas carol services), with a brief to build and lead a choir of local adults and children. We hope thereby to support the next generation of church musicians.

The basic skills required are:

- to be able to accompany congregational singing of hymns on the organ;
- to be able to play preludes and postludes before and after services, neither of which need be complex pieces;
- to be a highly competent keyboard player, though there is no requirement to have passed formal exams; and
- to have the knowledge and skills necessary to develop and lead a church choir.

The village of Youlgreave and the wider community includes plenty of able singers. It is not expected that the choir would sing every Sunday. Examples of what a choir leader could do include:

- leading a choir to sing evensong, possibly in unison, starting with the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis and developing to sing other parts of the service;
- leading a choir to sing an anthem (in two or four parts) during a service of Holy Communion;
- teaching the congregation to sing a setting of the Gloria during a service of Holy Communion; and
- liaising with the church primary school to ensure the musical training and inclusion of local children in church singing.

The church has a Kirkland and Jardine two-manual organ, which is maintained in good order. The National Pipe Organ Register specification for it is here: https://npor.org.uk/survey/N05369. There is also a clavinova, which can be used for smaller congregations and playing more modern pieces; we are open to working with a pianist who is keen to develop organ skills. Our church is central and inclusive. Music during services includes traditional hymns and more modern worship songs. We aim to provide a broad spectrum of services through the month.

Fees for regular services up to £6,000 per year, depending on experience and amount of time to be committed each month, plus fees from weddings and funerals at customary rates.

The position is for a self employed person, with funding for up to 3 years initially and would suit:

- a student;
- a person who has other work during the week, whether music teaching or something completely different;
- a retired person; or
- a person who falls into all or none of the categories above we are very open minded!

For further information or to apply, please contact:

Dan Cocker, Churchwarden at dan.churchwarden@gamil.com

Lucy Barnwell, Treasurer at youlgreavechurch@gmail.com