



St Marylebone  
Parish Church



St Marylebone Parish Church is a place of active and engaged Christian witness (ER 523), set at the very heart of central London. With history stretching back more than 900 years, we seek to offer God worship that has long been renowned for its musical and liturgical excellence. For more than 40 years, St Marylebone, just a few metres from Harley Street, has pioneered the work of Christian wholeness and wellbeing. In addition to being home to the internationally respected *St Marylebone HCC Psychotherapy*, which offers heavily subsidised psychotherapy, spiritual direction and psychological assessment, the Crypt at St Marylebone has also housed an innovative 11,000+ patient *NHS* primary care surgery, the St Marylebone Health Centre. Our work is enhanced by close links with some of medicine's Royal Colleges and chaplaincy at The London Clinic and King Edward VII's Hospital.

St Marylebone has a flourishing Young Church (120+ on roll) which complements our two schools: The St Marylebone Church of England School, an Outstanding Academy, Maths' Hub, World Class School and the Creative Collaborative lead school for London, and The St Marylebone Church of England Bridge School, the UK's only Church Special School working with secondary school age students who have speech, language and communication developmental conditions. Both schools are affiliated to the Woodard Corporation, a family of public, maintained and Academy schools. St Marylebone works closely with its neighbours, the Royal Academy of Music, the University of Westminster, Regent's University and other local and national institutions.

As a parish church in the Diocese of London, we share a vision of a Church for this great world city that is Christ-centred and outward-looking. We seek to be more confident in speaking and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ, more compassionate in serving others with the love of God the Father and more creative in reaching new people and places in the power of the Spirit.

**St Marylebone Parish Church** wishes to appoint an **Assistant Director of Music** in succession to William Fairbairn, MA (Cantab), FRCO, who has been appointed Assistant Director of Music and Head of Choral Music at Clifton College.

The successful candidate will work alongside the Director of Music, Organ Scholar, and 10-voice professional choir; they will take a leading role in the musical life of the parish church and will be afforded many opportunities to further their musical development. The principal duties will be to accompany and occasionally direct the parish church's choir, as well as recruit and lead the youth choir. It is hoped the appointment will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024.

The post is intended for a highly-skilled professional organist of FRCO standard or equivalent, with significant experience in choral accompaniment and liturgical playing. The choir's repertoire includes music from the 15<sup>th</sup> century to newly commissioned works, and the Assistant Director of Music will have sound technique and quickly be able to develop an effective musical rapport in the demanding range of repertoire sung by the choir (from Viennese Mass settings to the Duruflé *Requiem*, for example).

The successful candidate will have at least some expertise as a choir trainer, and an interest in developing this further. It is likely that the post will be held in conjunction with a freelance portfolio career, and there is flexibility for the demands of the post to be tailored to suit the needs and interests of the successful candidate.

## **Music at St Marylebone**

The Parish of St Marylebone enjoys a vibrant musical life and has a fine four-manual Rieger organ (1987), a five-stop two-manual and pedal board Škrabl chamber organ (2021), a Blüthner grand piano, a Yamaha upright practice piano in the choir vestry, a 10-voice professional adult choir, and a youth choir made up of children aged 8–15. The Assistant Director of Music will work as a member of the St Marylebone Music Department with the Organist and Director of Music and the Organ Scholar.

The Assistant Director of Music will be expected to play organ voluntaries showing a high level of musical resource, to accompany the choirs and to take choir rehearsals. There will be extensive access to the Rieger and Škrabl organs for practice.

## **Assistant Director of Music Duties**

The Assistant Director of Music shall be responsible to the Organist and Director of Music of St Marylebone Parish Church in all the duties pertaining to the parish church:

- To accompany all choral services under the direction of the Organist and Director of Music, including the Sunday morning Choral Eucharist, the monthly evening (first Sunday of each month – attendance expected at minimum of five per year), Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday (including Sir John Stainer's *The Crucifixion* [written for St Marylebone]), the Advent, Christmas (IX Lessons), and Epiphany Carol services, Christmas Eve Midnight Mass, and Christmas Day.

- To conduct the professional choir in the absence of the Organist and Director of Music (extra opportunities may be afforded to a candidate with a particular interest in conducting).
- To act as director of the Youth Choir. The Organ Scholar will assist in these rehearsals, and will occasionally be available to deputise, in case of absence.
- To attend and to assist with the promotion of concerts presented by the St Marylebone Music Department (recent projects have included a full performance with orchestra of Bach's *St John Passion*). The Assistant Director of Music will be afforded opportunities to give concerts at St Marylebone.
- To run the monthly organ recital series.
- Extra fees (currently £236 per occasion) for a significant number of occasional offices and special services (weddings, funerals and memorials) are payable.

## Weekly Routine

### Sunday

9.30–10am	Youth Choir rehearsal
10–10.45am	Parish Church Choir rehearsal
11–c.12.15pm	Choral Eucharist

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month

4pm	Organ recital (the Assistant Director of Music invites guest organists to perform, and will themselves give one recital per year)
5.15–5.45pm	Rehearsal with cantor
6–7pm	Choral Healing Service

## The Rieger Organ

The Rieger organ of St Marylebone Parish Church is a fine four-manual, tracker action instrument built in 1987 by the Austrian firm, Rieger Orgelbau. It is the product of a unique collaboration between the Royal Academy of Music and the parish church; it is used by the Royal Academy of Music's organ department for practice and teaching on weekdays between 9am and 6pm during term time. The Organ Scholar and Assistant Director of Music will have extensive access outside these hours to the instrument for practice, by arrangement with the Organist and Director of Music. The instrument is undergoing a full restoration by Rieger in the late summer of 2024, including the fitting of a new combination and camera system. See below for a specification of the instrument.

## The Škrabl Organ

The Škrabl chamber organ was commissioned in 2021 and is a substantial two-manual instrument with a detachable pedal board. This versatile instrument is used during services to accompany renaissance and Restoration music, and is also suitable for concerts (recently as a continuo instrument in the *St John Passion*).

## **Further information**

The annual stipend is **£10,500.00** per annum, payable in monthly instalments. The appointment will be subject to satisfactory completion of a 3-month probationary period and the successful candidate must be willing to undergo Safeguarding/DBS screening and training appropriate to the post, including enhanced checks with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

As this is an employed post, there is a holiday entitlement of six (6) Sundays per annum (to be taken at times agreed with the Organist and Director of Music) and there may be additional flexibility to allow the successful applicant to pursue and develop their musical career outside St Marylebone.

## **Auditions and interviews**

Short-listed candidates will audition and be interviewed at the parish church on 1st June 2024. Candidates must be available for this date.

The selection process will include:

- 1) A short rehearsal, accompanying the professional choir
- 2) A short rehearsal, conducting the professional choir
- 3) Organ playing, consisting of:
  - i) performance of a piece by J S Bach or one of his contemporaries (maximum 6 minutes)
  - ii) performance of a piece of your choice (maximum 6 minutes)
  - iii) sight-reading of a choral accompaniment
  - iv) playing a hymn
  - v) improvisation
  - vi) transposition
  - vii) vocal score-reading
- 4) An interview

Practice time on the parish church's instruments will be available on the day, and full details of repertoire to be prepared will be sent to short-listed candidates beforehand.

## **Applications**

Applications should include a covering letter outlining the reasons for applying for this post and how you would hope to benefit from the position, a full Curriculum Vitae, and the names of two referees.

For further information, or to apply for this post (email is the preferred method of communication) please contact the Parish Office.

St Marylebone Parish Church  
Marylebone Road  
London  
NW1 5LT  
020 7563 1383

[parishoffice@stmarylebone.org](mailto:parishoffice@stmarylebone.org)

**Applications should arrive no later than 12 noon on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

## The 1987 Rieger Organ of St Marylebone Parish Church

<b>Hauptwerk</b> (II. Man. 55 mm WS)			<b>Positif</b> (I. Man. 45 mm WS)		
Quintatön		16'	Gedackt'		8'
Principal		8'	Principal		4'
Gedackt		8'	Rohrflöte		4'
Octav		4'	Nazard		2 2/3'
Flöte		4'	Octav		2'
Superoctav		2'	Waldflöte		2'
Block/lote		2'	Tierce		1 3/5'
Mixtur	VI-VIII	2'	Larigot		1 1/3'
Cymbale	IV	2/3'	Scharff		IV 1'
Fagott		16'	Cymbale	III	1/3'
Trompete		8'	Cromorne		8'
			Tremulant		
<b>Schwellwerk</b> (III. Man. 60 mm WS)			<b>Solo</b> (IV. Man. 55 mm WS)		
Bourdon		16'	Trompette		8'
Montre		8'	Clairon		4'
Flûte		8'	Cornet	V t.f	
Viola		8'			
Celeste	t.c.	8'			
Prestant		4'			
Flûte		4'			
Nazard		2 2/3'	<b>Pedal</b> (65 mm WS)		
Doublette		2	Principal		16'
Tierce		1 3/5	Subbass		16'
Sifflet		1	Prncipal		8
Mixtur	VI	11/3'	Flöte		8'
Haut-bois		8	Octav		4'
Voix humalne		8	Flöte		4'
Bombarde		16	Mixtur VI		2 2/3'
Trompette harmnique		8	Posaune		16'
Clairon		4	Trompete		8'
Tremulant			Cornett		4'

**Couplers:** 1/11, 111/11, 111/1 , 1/P, II/P, III/P, IV/P

**Compass:** Manuals C - c'

Pedal C-g'

Mechanical key and electric stop action	Mechanical couplers
96 x 8 General combinations	16 levels of divisional pistons
6 pistons per division	Card-reader memory storage
Great and Pedal pistons coupled	Crescendo pedal
Tutti	General Cancel

**Tuning:** equal temperament 880 at 16°

### **The 2021 Škrabl Organ of St Marylebone Parish Church**

I. manual:

C–g

Gedackt 8

Open Flute 4

Octave 2

II. manual:

C–g

Rohr Flute 8

Sesquialtera 22/3 +13/5

Pedal:

C–f

Coupled pedal

Couplers: II-I, (II-P, I-P)