



St Marylebone  
Parish Church

## Organ Scholarship 2025–26

St Marylebone Parish Church and The St Marylebone CE School wish to offer an organ scholarship for the academic year 2025–26. The successful candidate will take a full part in the musical life of the parish church and school, and will be afforded many opportunities to further their musical development. The scholarship will be tenable from 1 September 2025, and will run for the duration of the academic year, until 31 August 2026. It may be possible to renew the scholarship for a further year.

The St Marylebone Organ Scholarship is intended for an organ student wishing to further his/her experience in choral accompaniment, choir training, and organ playing. Previous holders have combined the scholarship with a course of postgraduate (or occasionally undergraduate) study, but the demands of the post will be tailored to suit the successful candidate; it is expected that the successful applicant will be a fluent player, with some experience of choral accompaniment and liturgical playing. The benefits of the scholarship are wide, and include:

- a stipend of £5000 (reviewed annually)
- the opportunity to work closely with a professional choir as accompanist and conductor
- mentoring from the Organist and Director of Music
- the opportunity to participate in high level concerts
- ideal preparation for RCO diplomas
- experience of working in a thriving school music department
- additional opportunities for paid piano tuition (for an appropriate candidate)

### Music at St Marylebone

The Parish of St Marylebone enjoys a vibrant musical life. The Church has a fine Rieger organ, a 10-voice professional adult choir, and a junior choir made up of children aged 8–14. The Organ Scholar will work as a member of the St Marylebone music department and will receive tuition and guidance from the Assistant Director of Music and the Organist and Director of Music. There will be opportunities to play organ voluntaries, accompany the choirs, and to take choir rehearsals as well as access to the Rieger organ for practice. Beyond the liturgy, the church holds regular large-scale concerts involving the choir and music department (in 2024 the *St John Passion* and *Messiah*), holds a series of lunchtime concerts, as well as monthly organ recitals.

The St Marylebone CE School (designated a specialist arts college for music, drama and dance) has a busy music department (Director of Music, Mr Daniel Daly), housed in a fine new building. It provides extensive and varied opportunities for its pupils, including the Chapel Choir which sings at the weekly school service and at other services during the year.

## Duties

The Organ Scholar will be guided the Organist and Director of Music of St Marylebone Parish Church in all the duties pertaining to the Parish Church, and subject to the direction of the School's Director of Music in the duties pertaining to St Marylebone School:

### St Marylebone Parish Church

- To play a full and active part in the musical life of St Marylebone Parish Church, including attendance at the Sunday morning Choral Eucharist, monthly Choral Healing Service, Advent, Christmas and Epiphany Carol Services, and other special services by arrangement. Occasional absence will be permissible, by prior agreement with the Director of Music.
- To assist in the running of the Junior Choir for their weekly Sunday rehearsal (term-time only) and once a month during the Sunday morning service.
- To attend and to assist with the promotion of concerts presented by the St Marylebone music department. The Organ Scholar will be afforded an opportunity to give a concert at St Marylebone.
- To assist with the care and maintenance of the music library.
- To assist with other tasks that may from time to time be necessary.
- Extra fees for occasional offices may be available for a suitable candidate.

### The St Marylebone CE School (no commitment out of term-time)

- Be present at the 8–8.30am Monday choir rehearsal each week to accompany or take the rehearsal and then play for assembly (8.40–c. 9.30am, usually 12 times per term).
- Play for School Eucharists (currently seven per year).
- Accompany School Chapel Choir rehearsals on Wednesday, 3.30–4.30pm.
- Accompany concerts and exams for an average of seven additional hours per term.
- Piano teaching may be available for a suitable candidate, paid at an additional hourly rate.

During term-time, the typical weekly routine is as follows:

<b>Monday</b>	8–9.30am	St Marylebone School rehearsal and service
<b>Wednesday</b>	3.30–4.30pm	St Marylebone School Chapel Choir rehearsal
<b>Sunday</b>	9.30–10.10am	St Marylebone Parish Church Junior Choir rehearsal
	10.10–10.45am	St Marylebone Parish Church Choir rehearsal
	11am–12.15pm	St Marylebone Parish Church Choral Eucharist
<b>First Sunday of each month</b>	4–4.45pm	Organ recital
	5.15–6pm	Cantor and organist rehearsal
	6–7pm	Choral Healing Service

Organ recitals are given by external invited performers. The Organ Scholar will be given the opportunity to give a recital as part of the series; for the other recitals the Organ Scholar acts as page-turner and registrant.

The music department shares duties for the Choral Healing Services, and the Organ Scholar will normally be required to play for three Healing Services each year.

### **The Organs**

The organ of St Marylebone Parish Church is a spectacular four-manual, tracker action instrument built in 1987 by the Austrian firm Rieger (see below for a specification of the instrument), that was completely overhauled in the summer of 2024. It is the product of a unique collaboration between the Royal Academy of Music and St Marylebone, and is used by the Academy's organ department for practice and teaching on weekdays between 9am and 6pm during term. The Organ Scholar will have extensive access outside these hours to the instrument for practice, and will be given his/her own key to the church to enable this. The church also houses a five-stop, two-manual (with detachable pedalboard) Skrabl chamber organ that was commissioned and built in 2021.

### **Further information**

The scholarship stipend is £5000 per annum, payable in monthly instalments. The appointment will be subject to satisfactory completion of a three-month probationary period and the successful candidate must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

There is a holiday entitlement of six Sundays per annum, and there may be additional flexibility to allow the successful applicant to pursue and develop their musical career outside St Marylebone.

### **Auditions and interviews**

We will audition and interview shortlisted candidates on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025**. The selection process will include an interview, the accompaniment (from the piano) of a short school choir rehearsal, and an organ playing audition. The organ playing audition will comprise:

- i) performance of a piece by J. S. Bach (free choice, but five minutes maximum)
- ii) sight-reading of a simple choral accompaniment
- iii) playing a selection of hymns in various styles
- iv) improvisation
- v) vocal score-reading

Full details will be made available to shortlisted candidates.

## **Applications**

Applications should include a covering letter outlining the reasons for applying for this post and how you would hope to benefit from the scholarship, a 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 Organist and Director of Music, Bertie Baigent:

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

St Marylebone Parish Church, Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5LT

**Applications should arrive no later than 5pm, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**

## The 1987 Rieger Organ of St Marylebone Parish Church

### Hauptwerk II. Man. 55 mm WS

Quintatön	16'
Principal	8'
Gedackt	8'
Octav	4'
Flöte	4'
Superoctav	2'
Block/lote	2'
Mixtur	VI-VIII 2'
Cymbale	IV 2/3'
Fagott	16'
Trompete	8'

### Positif I. Man. 45 mm WS.

Gedackt'	8'
Principal	4'
Rohrflöte	4'
Nazard	2 2/3'
Octav	2'
Waldflöte	2'
Tierce	1 3/5'
Larigot	1 1/3'
Scharff	IV 1'
Cymbale	III 1/3'
Cromorne	8'
Tremulant	

### Schwellwerk 111. Man. 60 mm WS

Bourdon	16'
Montre	8'
Flûte	8'
Viola	8'
Celeste	t.c. 8'
Prestant	4'
Flûte	4'
Nazard	2 2/3'
Doublette	2'
Tierce	1 3/5'
Sifflet	1'
Mixtur	VI 11/3'
Haut-bois	8'
Voix humalne	8'
Bombarde	16'
Trompette harmnique	8'
Clairon	4'
Tremulant	

### Solo IV. Man. 55 mm WS

Trompette	8'
Clairon	4'
Cornet	V t.f

### Pedal 65 mm WS

Principal	16'
Subbass	16'
Prlnicipal	8'
Flöte	8'
Octav	4'
Flöte	4'
Mixtur VI	2 2/3'
Posaune	16'
Trompete	8'
Cornett	4'

### Couplers: I/II, III/II, III/I

I/P, II/P, III/P, IV/P

### Compass: Manuals C - c<sup>'''</sup>

Pedal C-g'

Mechanical key and electric stop action

3000 x 10 general combinations

6 pistons per division

Great and Pedal pistons coupled

Tutti

Mechanical couplers

16 levels of divisional pistons

Card-reader memory storage

Crescendo pedal

General cancel

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