

ORGANIST / CHOIR LEADER Holburn West Church Aberdeen

Job description and outline of expectations

The organist:

1. Will seek to meet the worshipping and musical needs of the congregation in liaison with the minister and others leading worship.
2. Will meet with the choir for rehearsals (presently held on a Thursday evening) to prepare them for leading the singing of the hymns or sung responses and in preparing anthems. Time may also be given for preparing the choir to sing on special occasions e.g. a Christmas carol evening service, Holy Week services.
3. While playing often as the sole musician the organist will see him/herself as part of a musical team, working collaboratively when appropriate.
4. Will play both traditional and contemporary music from a variety of sources, employing both the church organ and piano.
5. Will play worship hymns and songs as chosen by the minister or others leading worship. The organist may give advice on tunes and possible alternative hymns which may be used in context.

Weekly worship and other events

The norm is for morning worship to commence at 10.30am, lasting usually 1 hour. However, it is acknowledged that there will be variations to this both in practice and by resolution of the Kirk Session. Once a month there is an after service Communion in which the organist accompanies a hymn.

The organist will play at one service per Sunday as outlined above, the Christmas Eve Watchnight Service (normally commencing around 11.00pm), and the Christmas Day Morning Service at 10.00am, if required. Additional services and events by negotiation. Note: It is normally required that the organist plays at all major services in the Church calendar year (e.g. Christmas & Easter).

Holburn West Church Choir is an enthusiastic group of people (nine women and four men) singing S.A.T.B. and S.A.B. anthems both traditional and modern. They are experienced, capable and enjoy adding to their repertoire.

The organ in Holburn West Church is a very well maintained two manual pipe organ with a detached console. Built in 1922 by Abbot and Smith from Leeds it has subsequently been rebuilt by Rushworth and Dreaper in 1964 and N.P. Mander in 1974. Extensive work was carried out in 2017.

Salary and Holiday Entitlement

The salary paid will be in the (C) scale as outlined by the Scottish Federation of Organists. Holiday entitlement is six weeks per annum

Enquiries to:

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Applications with CV and names of two referees to be submitted to Rev Duncan Eddie (contact details as above) by Friday 7th December 2018