

Choral Scholarships

In recognition of the stature of the Choir and its place in the life of the Parish, the Music Programme offers up to four or five Choral Scholarships each year.

The Choral Scholarship Programme is a way of supporting students in their music studies. Scholarships are currently set at a value of \$2,000 for the choir season (approx. \$200 per month). Scholarships are available to university students and/or advanced high school students (age 16 or older) who wish to study voice.

Scholars are expected to exhibit strong commitment and loyalty to the choir duties (weekly rehearsals and services) and to play a positive and enthusiastic role in the work of the choir. Each scholar should have previous choral experience, good sight-reading skills and a voice that blends. The scholarship is valid for one year but may be renewed in subsequent years.

Each candidate must pass an audition, which consists of tests to determine vocal range and character, the performance of a prepared piece of the candidate's choice, and some sight singing. There will be a four-week probation period for successful candidates to determine suitability, for both parties.

To arrange an audition, please contact Organist and Choirmaster: Wesley R. Warren by telephone at 613-726-6341 (home) or 613-232-6992 (church office), by e-mail at wwarren@sympatico.ca, or by speaking to him after service.

Organist and Choirmaster

Wesley R. Warren, M Mus, FRCO (Chm), ARCT has been Organist and Choirmaster at St. Barnabas since 1987. An honours graduate in music from the University of Toronto (B Mus, organ) and the University of Michigan (M Mus, organ), he is a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists (FRCO) and an Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto (ARCT, piano). In addition to his duties at St. Barnabas, he is Instructor in Organ at Carleton University, a member of the Examination Committee of the Royal Canadian College of Organists, and performs with the National Arts Centre Orchestra.

Mr. Warren has been broadcast frequently on CBC Radio and has performed extensively as a recitalist throughout Canada, the United States, Britain and Europe. He has studied choral conducting at university and at the Royal School of Church Music, London under Stephen Cleobury, John Rutter and David Hill. A recipient of many honours and awards, he has guest-conducted various choral groups and has given workshops on a wide range of topics in the choral arts. He has been a Travelling Clinician for the Royal Canadian College of Organists, presenting recitals and masterclasses across the country, and the National Examiner for the RCCO.



Music Programme

Choral Scholarships

at the
Church of St. Barnabas
Apostle and Martyr

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The Anglican Church of Canada

Music Programme at St. Barnabas

Introduction

Centrally located in downtown Ottawa, the Church of St. Barnabas, Apostle and Martyr was formed in 1889, and the first building erected in 1890. Completed in 1931, the current building is of modified Byzantine style with excellent acoustics. The parish maintains a high quality of worship and sacred choral music in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. The very fine organ (rebuilt by Casavant in 1982 and revoiced by Sylvain Brisson in 1998) is featured in regular recitals.

The Choir

The Choir at St. Barnabas is a mixed (SATB) ensemble of 18 to 20 singers, who are highly motivated with excellent music skills, and is composed almost entirely of volunteers from several denominations who are, necessarily, sympathetic to the Anglican tradition. They maintain a large repertoire drawn from the rich treasury of liturgical choral music, including Gregorian chant, Renaissance polyphony (mass and motet settings by Palestrina, Byrd, Victoria, Lassus, et al.) and contemporary works (by Howells, Rutter, Gjeilo, et al.). The Choir was pleased to win first prize in the Liturgical Choir category of the National Choral Competition, 2010, co-sponsored by the Association of Canadian Choral Communities (ACCC) and CBC/Radio Canada, and they released their latest CD, *Exsultate Deo*, in November, 2012.



A limited number of spaces become available from time to time for extra singers. Strong sight-reading skills and the ability to blend with other voices are essential. If you are interested in joining the Choir, please contact the Organist and Choirmaster to arrange an interview. Financial assistance for voice lessons is available.



Choir Duties

The Choir sings at the Solemn High Mass each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. during the choir season (from the mid-September to mid-June), and at Solemn Evensong and Benediction at 7:00 p.m. on the second Sunday (months of October, November, and February through May). In December, there is the Advent Carol Service instead of Solemn Evensong. The Choir also sings at a limited number of feast days on weeknights throughout the year (Christmas Eve and Ash Wednesday), and at the principal liturgies of Holy Week (Tenebrae, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday). There are several Sundays during the season when there is no choir. Occasional visits to other churches, concerts and recordings round out the schedule.

Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., and an hour before each service.