



# SAINT PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL DUBLIN

## The Choir of Saint Patrick's Cathedral

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The Choir consists of eight Lay Vicars, plus a number of men (commonly called 'Sunday Men') who augment the Choir on Sundays and other special occasions, Choral Scholars and Choristers. The Choristers are educated in the Cathedral School (founded 1432) in the Close. Services are sung twice a day except Saturdays. Weekday morning services are sung by the boys alone. Saint Patrick's is the National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland and many of the major national Church of Ireland events take place here. It is a fine medieval gothic building, and contains a glorious Willis Organ.

Daily practices are at 17.00 with evensong at 17.30. In addition, there are rehearsals on Fridays after evensong and Sundays at 10.30 and 14.30. Sunday Services are at 11.15 and 15.15. Saturdays are free. The stipend is €11,467.68 per annum. There are many opportunities for solo singing in Dublin as well as broadcasting for RTÉ. In the city there are three universities, three Cathedrals, two full-time orchestras, scores of choirs and the National Concert Hall.

Application should be made to the Master of the Music, and should include the names and addresses of two referees, as well as a brief account of solo and choral experience. Overleaf you will find further background information on the Cathedral Choir. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information – [music@stpatrickscathedral.ie](mailto:music@stpatrickscathedral.ie).

Stuart Nicholson  
Master of the Music

## Timetable

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### **Monday – Thursday**

17.00-18.10 rehearsal and Evensong

### **Fridays**

17.00-18.10 rehearsal and Evensong

18.10-19.00 LVC rehearsal

### **Sundays**

10.30-12.30 rehearsal and Eucharist/Matins

14.30-16.15 rehearsal and Evensong

[No regular duties on Saturdays]

## Music at Saint Patrick's Cathedral

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Music has played an integral part of the daily life of Saint Patrick's cathedral since its foundation in the thirteenth century. Henri de Londres (consecrated archbishop of Dublin in 1213) created a college of sixteen vicars choral who lived within the precincts of the cathedral.

Archbishop Richard Talbot (archbishop of Dublin from 1418-49) endowed a college of six minor canons and six boy choristers in 1431. His purpose was to ensure the provision of polyphonic choral music in the cathedral. The choir remains one of the few choirs of men and boys in Ireland.

The main function of the choir is similar to that of other Anglican cathedral choirs: to adorn the daily offices with hymns, psalms, canticles and anthems. It sings two services daily during school terms – the only cathedral choir to do so in these islands. No longer restricted to

music of the Anglican tradition, it is not unusual to hear classical or Tudor Latin masses, plainchant and continental languages included in the liturgy.

Saint Patrick's Cathedral Girls' Choir was founded in September 2000 with the intention of providing girls with an opportunity to benefit from the experience of singing in a cathedral choir, an opportunity available to boys for many centuries. Since the first service at which the girls sang in November 2000 they have taken an increasing role in the musical and liturgical life of the cathedral. They now sing evensong with the gentlemen of the choir on every Monday and on every second Thursday during term time, as well as a number of Sunday services. In 2016, the girls choir was split in two to form a senior girls' choir (Schola Patricii) and junior girls' choir (Girl Choristers).

Touring has become an increasingly important aspect of the choir's activities outside the regular service commitments. Over the years the choir have toured extensively throughout Ireland and the UK, there have also been visits to Paris, Roskilde (Denmark) and this year the choir is making its first visit to Sweden.

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### **Saint Patrick's Cathedral**

Saint Patrick's Close

Dublin, D08 H6X3

[music@stpatrickscathedral.ie](mailto:music@stpatrickscathedral.ie)

[www.stpatrickscathedral.ie](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie)