

Music Director *detailed posting*  
Saint Jude's Anglican Church  
Oakville, Ontario, Canada



**Date Posted:**

Monday, May 3, 2021

**ABOUT THE CHURCH**

Saint Jude's Anglican Church is a vibrant parish in historic Oakville, with three Sunday morning services (two with music), a mid-week Eucharist, and monthly services of Choral Evensong and Jazz Vespers. The parish enjoys liturgy and music of a high standard in both traditional and modern voice. Excellent music is central to the church's mission, and the parish has accumulated a significant music library. Our music program consists of two Sunday morning choirs with two paid section leads and a strong volunteer core of 12 at 9:30 am and 30 at 11:15 am.



St. Jude's Organ

The Phoenix digital organ is being enhanced by the addition of a Casavant organ to create a hybrid instrument, which will be completed this summer. The style of voicing used makes possible the accompaniment of the large body of church music from the Anglican tradition and beyond, in addition to the majority of the solo repertoire. It has 50+ stops over 3 manuals.

**ABOUT THE COMMUNITY**

Located on the shores of Lake Ontario, the parish is known in the town for its beauty, music, and social outreach ministries. There is easy access to musical life in the immediate community and in Toronto, 45 minutes east by car or GO train. There are women's, men's, and mixed fellowship and study groups, regular education series, and a lively social life. The parish reaches out to the broader community through the *Celebration of the Arts*, its Garden Guild, and through an extensive food ministry in association with other community agencies.



The annual Christmas Pageant

**THE ROLE OF MUSIC DIRECTOR**

The Music Director is responsible for directing and further developing a vital music ministry to lead and empower the congregation in embodying the love of Christ through music that contributes to, supports, and enables worship. The ideal candidate will inspire current choristers as well as attracting new members to the choirs. There are two professional section leads and interest in expanding that number. The parish instituted Choral Scholarships to help attract and train young choristers.

In addition, the Director is expected to further the Parish's mission by engaging the broader community through the arts, and by enhancing ministries directed to young families. There is a desire to involve children and youth in our liturgies, and the ideal candidate will help to engage them through music, perhaps by reviving some form of junior choir.

### **OPPORTUNITIES OF THE POSITION**

Building on its strong musical tradition, St Jude's new Director will have the support of enthusiastic and warm choristers and parishioners. The Choirs have participated in tours near and far, including the Mohawk First Nations community at Tyendinaga, St Thomas's Fifth Avenue, Winchester and Ripon Cathedrals, and Romsey Abbey, activities they look forward to resuming. The choir is supportive of one another and enjoys a lively social life.



Tour choir at Romsey Abbey

The church has a good acoustic, in addition to a dedicated choir rehearsal space. The Director has a private office with computer, as well as a volunteer music librarian, and two office staff, who offer support. The Associate Organist offers strong support to the Director, in rehearsals, the liturgies, and by enabling annual holidays to be covered. Within the parish, there are musicians and instrumentalists who can be drawn upon to support the music ministry.

The *Celebration of the Arts* has been a valuable parish initiative that enables an eclectic range of excellent musicians from across North America to perform in the church. There are parishioners interested in enhancing the parish's identity as a centre for the arts in Oakville and will be supportive of ideas to bring music into the mix.

The parish has two grand pianos which, along with the organ, are made available to the Music Director for teaching private lessons.



Carolling in Oakville



Evensong at St. Jude's

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Plan and lead music for Sunday and mid-week services, sensitive to the Anglican tradition and the Liturgical Year.
- Lead and oversee music for special services, including weddings and funerals (for additional compensation).
- Work with the clergy and staff team on programming and service planning, including special services and events as required.
- Direct and develop the choir program as a vital component of our worship life in its differing expressions.
- Coordinate choral scholars and choir section leads.
- Oversee the general administration of the St Jude's music ministry, including budget, instrument maintenance, and music library upkeep and enhancement (working with a volunteer librarian).
- Participation on the Board of the parish's *Celebration of the Arts*, working closely with the Artistic Director.



Socially distanced singing during COVID times

### CORE COMPETENCIES

- Superior musicianship and teaching skills
- Commitment to the Anglican liturgical and musical tradition in both modern and traditional voice
- Outstanding organization and project management skills
- Collaborative colleague
- Excellent leadership, communications, and interpersonal skills

## **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

- B.Mus majoring in Organ Performance and or Choral Music
- ARCCO or equivalent
- Experience conducting and rehearsing amateur and professional singers in choral excellence

**Status:** Part Time (approx. 20 hrs per week)

**Salary:** Negotiated, competitive and commensurate with experience and Royal Canadian College of Organists Table of Recommended Salaries. Additional fees received for weddings and funerals. The organ and pianos may be used for teaching private lessons.

## **APPLYING FOR THE POSITION**

Please send **Resume, Cover Letter, and a List of Three References** to the Rector. Please tell us how you fulfil the criteria, and the ways in which you can contribute to the life of the choir and serve the broader parish's mission. Please provide details of your qualifications, training, and experience. Your references should be able to comment on your musicianship, your work with choristers, and should include one member of the clergy.

Selected candidates will be invited to an in-person interview, if Covid guidelines permit, which will include working with a small audition choir. Candidates will be asked to rehearse the choir to sing a hymn and a short anthem. During the singing of the hymn, candidates will be asked to demonstrate their improvisation skills, and afterward play an organ voluntary.

## **PLEASE SEND RESUME, COVER LETTER AND NAMES OF THREE REFEREES TO:**

The Rev. Mark Andrews  
Rector, Saint Jude's Anglican Church  
160 William Street, Oakville, Ontario, Canada, L6J 1C5

Or by email: [rectorsaintjudes@gmail.com](mailto:rectorsaintjudes@gmail.com)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** June 15, 2021, at midnight



Members of the 9:15 choir outside St. Jude's Church