

Christ Church Jazz Choir

Who are we?

Christ Church Jazz Choir is an SATB choir which rehearses and performs on the last Sunday of every month at the Jazz Vespers service at Christ Church, 155 Highbury Vale, London N5 1SA. The choir is directed by Church Church Music Director, Rachel Maby.

Christ Church Jazz Vespers was founded two years ago by Professor of Jazz at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Scott Stroman. Guest artists have included UK jazz icons, such as Norma Winstone, and up-and-coming jazz musicians, such as trumpeter, Sheila Maurice-Grey.

The choir performs alongside a professional jazz piano trio and leads the congregation in worship. The Jazz Choir and band perform approximately three/four songs as performance items and lead three/four congregation worship songs with a community church choir. The music is a mix of secular songs and gospel/spiritual/jazz arrangements of traditional Anglican hymns.

There is an opportunity to perform as a soloist as well as a member of the ensemble.

Who are we looking for?

Christ Church Jazz Choir currently has vacancies for all voice parts. Applicants should be:

- Aged 16 years and over.
- Talented singers with a love of gospel, soul and jazz.
- Amateur/semi-pro singers who would like to gain more performance experience.
- A confident ensemble singer.
- A singer who is committed to the choir's role in improving community engagement and the musical worship experience in our Jazz Vespers.

*You do not have to be able to read music to apply to be a member of the jazz choir, but you must be able to learn music efficiently by ear.

Jazz Choir requirements:

Services and rehearsals take place at Christ Church, 155 Highbury Grove, London N5 1SA.

Each choir member must be able to commit to every **last Sunday of the month**. The 2019 service dates are as follows:

Term 3 of 2019:

Sunday 29th September

Sunday 27th October

Sunday 1st December

Term 1 2020:

Sunday 26th January
Sunday 23rd February
Sunday 29th March

Term 2 2020:

Sunday 26th April
Sunday 31st March
Sunday 28th June

Term 3 2020:

Sunday 27th September
Sunday 25th October
Sunday 6th December - Advent

Timings:

3.30-6.15pm: rehearsal
6.30-7.30pm: service

Music Learning

Each choir member is sent learning tracks and sheet music for each musical item a week in advance of the service. You are expected to learn the music independently prior to the service.

Attendance Policy

Each member is entitled to request absence for one service per term, with the **exception of Advent Sunday on the first Sunday in December.**

To request an absence, the MD must be notified **one month in advance** to help plan the music accordingly.

Late notice of absence and/or missing more than one service per term will result in a review of your choir membership and solo opportunities.

Each choir member agrees to arrive to rehearsals in good time so that rehearsals may begin at the stated time.

2019/2020 featured performing events/services

Friday 13th December 2019: 7.30pm-8.30pm Christmas concert at the V&A

Christ Church Jazz Choir will be performing an hour set of Christmas music in the Gamble Room (the V&A Historical café) accompanied by V&A pianist in residence and events coordinator, [Antimo Magnotta](#) on piano. The event is free admission.

Rehearsal Schedule:

Sunday 10th November: 6.30-8pm

Sunday 17th November: 6.30-8pm

Sunday 24th November: 6.30-8pm

Sunday 8th December: 6.30-8pm

*All singers taking part in the V&A concert must be able to make all rehearsals.

**All rehearsals will take place at Christ Church Highbury.

Sunday 23rd February 2020 Jazz Vespers

Rachel Maby will lead *Christ Church Jazz Choir* and *Guildhall Jazz Singers* in the congregation worship songs, with performance items lead by Scott Stroman and performed by the *Guildhall Jazz Singers*.