



encouraging choral music in worship

August 2025

Festival of Church Music at Coventry Cathedral

Saturday 11th October 2025 at 6pm

Dear Friends

It's not long now until our Festival of Church Music. The committee would like to thank everyone who has bought anthem books, we hope you are enjoying learning the anthems and hymns. By mid-September we would like to know the numbers of singers in the choir and any special requirements to provide the correct seating. Please would you therefore complete and return the enclosed form to me by **12th September at the latest**. I am also attaching an updated poster for the festival, please feel free to print or share this electronically.

Timings for the day

Singers arrive to be seated 13.15

Rehearsal (including AGM) 13.45 - 16.15

Festival tea 16.30

Festival service 18:00

Please use the main entrance to enter the cathedral.

The agenda for the General Meeting will be available shortly on the website and some copies will be available on the day of the festival.

Festival books and CDs from past festivals will be available for sale, please note it will be cash only.

Dress and Changing Rooms

Ladies – White blouses/tops/cardigans and black skirts or trousers

Gentlemen – Lounge suits, white shirts and ordinary ties (not bow ties)

The John Laing Centre within the cathedral will be available to leave coats, etc but please keep any valuables with you.

Festival tea

The local caterer, Baxter Baristas will be providing afternoon tea which will be served in the cathedral following the rehearsal meaning that you won't need to leave the cathedral. It will consist of sandwiches, tray bakes, scones, etc plus tea or coffee. We have managed to keep the cost down and is only 25p more than the last festival in St Albans, the cost will be £12.75 per head and you can now buy tickets from:

Adrian Prisk, 15 Parklands, Great Linford MK14 5DZ Tel: 01908 605815

Email aprisk@doctors.org.uk

For those attending the rehearsals in Ickenham, tickets will be on sale for cash on 25th September.

Stewards

We will require several stewards for the afternoon rehearsal and assisting the Cathedral Stewards with the offertory during the festival. If you know of any non-singers who would be willing to assist with these important duties, please would you indicate on the form mentioned above.

Parking and disabled parking spaces

There is no parking permitted in the grounds of the Cathedral, dropping off for cars and coaches is only allowed at the main entrance in Priory Street, University Square. There are several public car parks within walking distance, the best one to aim for is Salt Lane Car park.

There are a few parking spaces available in Cuckoo Lane (close to the cathedral) for blue badge holders but these are not bookable.

Rehearsal schedule

I am attaching an updated list of the local rehearsals that Peter Williams will be taking over the next few weeks.

Practice Music

As previously mentioned, this year audio files for each part (Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass), along with accompaniments are available free of charge on the FCC website. Peter is encouraging everyone to use this facility; here is the link which can be found on the website under Latest Updates/song parts
<https://www.freechurchchoirs.org.uk/index.html>

The festival will be professionally recorded and available in MP3 format for purchase in due course.

Best regards



April Gear, Secretary aprilgear@gmail.com

www.freechurchchoirs.org.uk

Chair: Revd Janet Wootton MA PhD

Musical Director: Peter J Williams GLCM FLCM LLCM(TD) MBA NPQH

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