



The Choir is fun and we always have a laugh, yet we learn loads and sing some amazing pieces. It is a brilliant way to make friends and to both enjoy and learn about singing.



The thorough musical training I received during seven formative years as a chorister of St Giles' set me in excellent stead for my subsequent musical activities... but, perhaps more importantly, it is the experience of teamwork, common purpose and shared endeavour amongst friends that has really stuck with me, leaving me with an enduring love of ensemble singing. For anyone who thinks they might enjoy singing, I encourage them to try it out.

MATTHEW O DONOVAN
Head of Academic Music, Eton College
Founder member of Stile Antico

NEW! ORGAN AND CHORAL SCHOLARSHIPS AT ST GILES'

CHORAL SCHOLARSHIPS
Junior Choral Scholarships are available to students under the age of nineteen. These training awards are especially suitable for singers considering a scholarship at Oxford or Cambridge. **Senior Choral Scholarships** are available to graduates and undergraduates

studying in Oxford.

ORGAN SCHOLARS
Junior Organ Scholarships are offered to young organists and are particularly helpful to those wanting to gain an award at Oxford or Cambridge. **Senior Organ Scholars** are normally resident at one of the colleges in



COMMITMENT

The choir sing a combination of morning or evening services on a Sunday (in school term) according to a schedule issued in advance.
Thursday **17:00-18:50**
Friday **18:30-20:30**
Individual singing tuition arranged with vocal tutor.

SUPPORTERS*

- The Broadley Trust
- The Lynn Foundation
- Mr and Mrs J A Pye's Charitable Settlement
- Mrs Jean Darke
- John and Ruth Buckley
- Numerous anonymous donors

*The Academy is dependent on donations in order to promote choral music, give children an excellent musical education, and provide St Giles' with worthy music. If you would like to make a contribution please contact Nicholas Prozzillo. We are very grateful to our supporters.

ST GILES'
CHURCH, OXFORD 10 Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 6HA

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ST. GILES' CHOIR

AN ENRICHING MUSICAL EDUCATION'



There is real joy in watching your child develop musical and life skills that you know will last him a lifetime.
Parent of chorister

✠ ST GILES' CHOIR



ST GILES' CONTRIBUTES TO THE HERITAGE OF THE ENGLISH CHORAL TRADITION TO THE HIGHEST OF STANDARDS. THE CHURCH DATES BACK TO THE TWELFTH CENTURY, AND THE PRESENT CHOIR OF BOYS AND MEN IS SAID TO DATE FROM 1857 WHEN MR PICKARD HALL TRAINED THIRTEEN BOYS AND TWELVE MEN.

Since that time the church has been served by some eminent musicians: Sir Walter Parratt, later appointed Master of the Queen's Musick, was organist here. Peter Ward Jones, a past Music Librarian at the Bodleian Library, gave many years of distinguished service to the church. The church now has three flourishing choirs: the St Giles' Choir, a choir for boys and men, a new choir for girl choristers and the St Giles' Singers', which is a SATB choir. The choirs pride themselves on their friendly atmosphere which fosters musical excellence through rigorous and lively training.



“ Better concentration, higher academic achievement at school, and a happy child – thank you St Giles Choir! ”



COUNTERTENORS, TENORS & BASSES

We are always delighted to hear from singers of all ages. We are keen to support students and those under the age of nineteen.

TREBLES

A choir is one of the few organisations where children work to a professional standard alongside adults. The skills acquired last a lifetime! In joining the Choir, parents/guardians and choristers make a significant commitment to themselves, to their fellow team players, and to the church: the achievement of goals is dependent on regular rehearsals. In return, a chorister will learn the importance of commitment, team work and self-discipline, and will receive an enriching musical education. Whatever they do later on, the skills they will have gained from the choir will always be in them.



ST GILES' ACADEMY

St Giles' Academy provides the necessary support for boys to sing in the various liturgies at church services, and to offer them a stimulating musical training within a lively and friendly environment. In addition to weekly rehearsals, boys receive individual singing lessons, and benefit from Alexander Technique, musicianship classes, theory, and coaching from guest conductors.

Boys are prepared for singing, theory and RSCM examinations. It is not unusual for a chorister to have achieved Grade 5 Music Theory by the time they finish Key Stage 2. Organ and Piano tuition is also available.

The choir undertakes cathedral visits and tours, having been to Rome and Sicily. Professional recording

opportunities ensure that boys have further experience of working towards goals through dedication and commitment. It is also fun!

St Giles' central location within Oxford's wonderful learning environment means that we are able to develop links with the University. Every term the boys join a College Chapel Choir for a joint Evensong.

It's not all work! We encourage choristers to have fun too! Social activities are regularly organized ranging from hearing the Vienna Boys' Choir in the Sheldonian, to seeing 'panto' at the Oxford Playhouse!

STAFF MEMBERS

Nicholas Prozzillo	Choir Director
Andrew Patterson	Organist
Maria Thompson	Vocal Tutor
Alastair Thompson	Vocal Tutor



ENTRY

Boys normally audition for a place when aged between 6-10, but we are always delighted to hear from older boys, particularly those who have completed their time at one of choral foundations in Oxford. The Choir Director is looking for boys with an ability to concentrate and an interest in singing; not necessarily an excellent voice – this will develop with our support.

PAY

Boys are paid monthly according to the stage they have reached in the RSCM Chorister Training Scheme.

GET IN TOUCH

We would be delighted to hear from you! Please contact **Dr Nicholas Prozzillo**, the Choir Director, if you wish to have an informal meeting to discuss choristership. Email:

choirdirector@st-giles-church.org