



# CANON FOR WORSHIP AND MUSIC AT CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL

## Chelmsford

Chelmsford is one of the newest cities in the UK and is a great place to live - a vibrant city centre with easy access to London (35 minutes to Liverpool Street Station) to the west and the Essex countryside and coast to the east.

The region covered by the diocese is the whole of the ancient county of Essex, made up of the current county, the unitary authorities of Southend and Thurrock and the five boroughs of east London. The diocese stretches from Clacton on Sea to Canning Town and from Southend to Saffron Waldon. It has some of the wealthiest communities in the region and the single most deprived community in the UK. The population of the region continues to expand rapidly because of the ease of access to London. The populations continue to become more and more diverse - the diocese now has congregations who worship in Spanish, Portuguese, Malayalam, French and Bulgarian.

The Cathedral is at the geographical centre of the diocese and with excellent communications by road, rail and bus. There are three airports within easy reach. The Cathedral is home to thriving congregations which continue to develop but the wider challenge for the Cathedral is how a small cathedral, punching above its weight and seeking to make a difference, can serve a large and complex region.

## Mission and ministry

The mission and ministry of the Cathedral are rooted in John 20.21: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you" and is expressed in the four themes of the Strategic Plan - the Cathedral as:

- a thriving, outward facing community
- the church of the Bishop
- a community shaped by worship
- public space for everyone

The Cathedral - as the national church's free gift to the diocese - seeks to use its resources in the service of the networks of the city, diocese and region, delivering much of its ministry through the strength of its partnerships.

## Worship

Worship is foundational to the mission and ministry of the Cathedral.

Here is the normal pattern of Sunday worship and daily prayer:

### *Sunday worship:*

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| 8.00 am  | Holy Communion ( <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> , c 30 people)   |
| 8.30 am  | Breakfast with the Bible (c 25 people)   |
| 9.30 am  | Parish Eucharist ( <i>Common Worship Order 1</i> in contemporary language with a mix of musical resources and thriving children's work; up to 250 adults and 60 children)            |
| 11.15 am | Choral Eucharist ( <i>Common Worship Order 1</i> in contemporary language with traditional music sung by one of the Cathedral choirs; c 100 adults and 15 children).                 |
| 3.30 pm  | Choral Evensong ( <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> sung by one of the Cathedral choirs). This service has a small regular congregation but 3.30 pm on Sundays is the regular time for an |

increasing number of diocesan, civic celebrations and choral offerings. There is a desire to develop the opportunities offered by Sunday afternoon further.

*Daily Prayer:*

7.45 am Morning Prayer (*Common Worship Daily Prayer*)  
8.15 am Eucharist (*Common Worship Order 1* in contemporary language)  
5.15 pm Evensong (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in term time) or Evening Prayer (Wednesday and Saturday and in choir holidays)

The Eucharist is also celebrated at 12.35 pm on Wednesdays and 10.00 am on Thursdays.

### **Being a Residentiary Canon at Chelmsford Cathedral**

The Residentiary Canons work with the Dean, a small committed lay staff and a large number of volunteers in taking forward the core mission of the Cathedral. This mission, founded on John 20.21, is the dynamic at the heart of the Cathedral's life. It is expressed in worship, teaching, hospitality, social outreach, and – as the church of the Bishop – shares in the Bishop's ministry as evangelist and teacher across the diocese.

The core work of the Dean and Residentiary Canons is the daily prayer. They commit to pray Morning and Evening Prayer together daily and normally share in the daily Eucharist. This common obligation is central to the ministry of the cathedral and by custom the Canons need the Dean's permission if they are to be absent from Morning or Evening Prayer.

The Canons with the Dean share a range of governance and executive functions. All of them are *ex officio* members of the Cathedral Chapter, the Cathedral's governing body, which meets nine times a year, normally on Tuesdays. The Dean and Canons normally meet weekly with the wider ministry team for *lectio divina* and reflection. A working week for the Dean and each of the Canons, including prayer and preparation, is typically 60 hours.

### **Canon for Worship and Music**

The Canon for Liturgy and Worship has general responsibility for the development of the Cathedral's worship and music, its management and direction. The specific purpose of the post is to deliver outstanding worship and music at Chelmsford Cathedral, developing the range, depth and scope of the Cathedral's offer in Sunday worship, daily prayer and major diocesan and civic celebrations.

The person appointed to fulfil this significant brief will be energetic, imaginative and resilient; a priest who has been in full time ordained ministry for at least six years, with a flair for worship and music and exemplary organisational skills; someone who thrives in a complex, demanding environment and enjoys working in multidisciplinary teams; who will be sustained by the Cathedral's pattern of daily prayer and Sunday worship and take a leadership role in developing the worship life of the Cathedral and the music that serves it.

### ***Tasks for which the Canon for Worship and Music is responsible in delivering this purpose:***

- Forward planning throughout the year
- Producing the following documents: the weekly service booklets; the monthly rotas; the three month Sunday rotas; the annual calendar and lectionary;
- General pastoral responsibility for the boys and girls of the choir, and the lower voices, choral scholars

### ***The post holder will be:***

- *ex officio* member of Chapter, the Cathedral's Governing Body (9 meetings a year)
- Chair of the Worship Advisory Committee (3-4 meetings a year)
- Budget holder for worship and music - the largest budget in the Cathedral's accounts

- Line management responsibilities, including regular supervision and annual appraisal, for the Organist & Master of the Choristers, the Assistant Organist, the Head Verger and the Liturgy Assistant.

**Key relationships:**

- Staff - lay and ordained - work closely together across the whole team in the delivery of the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. The Canon for Worship and Music has key staff relationships with the Dean, the Organist & Master of the Choristers, the Communications and Services Manager and the Head Verger; and key volunteer relationships with the lead warden and the head server.
- In the development of services and events with external partners the Canon for Liturgy and Music also works closely with the Cathedral's Events Manager.

The desk of the Canon for Worship and Music is in the Cathedral Office alongside those of the Organist & Master of the Choristers, the Assistant Organist, the Liturgy Assistant and the Organ Scholar.

Accountability: The role will be jointly line managed, for St Mellitus by the Director of the Chelmsford centre, and for the Cathedral, by the Dean, with regular supervision and annual appraisal / Ministerial Development Review. The post-holder is ultimately jointly responsible to the Dean of St Mellitus College and to the Dean of Chelmsford Cathedral.

**Person specification:**

- a creative and innovative liturgist with a clear track record of being able to craft and deliver worship and music across a wide spectrum of traditions and contexts
- six complete years in holy orders at the time of installation
- naturally collaborative with clear positive experience of working well with lay and ordained colleagues - equally able to take responsibility and share responsibility
- clear experience of handling a complex role with a significant workload, with excellent organisational and administrative skills
- experience of preparing and monitoring budgets
- experience of managing paid staff through regular supervision and appraisal

**Expectations:**

The Canon Precentor element of this role will equate to 0.6 FTE (the St Mellitus College element of this role will equate to 0.4 FTE). This will require ongoing monitoring and oversight to ensure an appropriate balance between the two parts of the role and provide the post-holder with the opportunity to flourish across both organisations.