



# Easthampstead Parish Church

## **RESIDENT ORGANIST** **Are you our next organist?**

**Salary:** £6,000 per annum

Located in Bracknell, Easthampstead Parish Church has been a welcoming, community-focused, and faithful Christian presence in the community for over 900 years. We are rooted in our catholic Anglican tradition as a inclusive, collaborative, and mission-driven church. We are a growing church with a regular congregation of about 110 that attends. We have a high number of children attend services.

Music is an important part of our life together as a church. We sing traditional hymns (predominantly from our hymn books Ancient and Modern), and occasionally anthems. Our organ was constructed in 1869 by J W Walker of London. Further details of the Organ are attached.

The successful candidate will be passionate about helping lead Christian music at Easthampstead Parish Church. They must also be able to help develop and implement a music strategy for the future as we would like to see our choir grow in numbers and ability.

- Have sympathy with the Christian faith and the ethos of the Church of England, as well as the purpose, vision, values, and mission of Easthampstead Parish Church.
- Play the organ on Sunday morning at 9:30am.
- Play the organ on the first Sunday of the month in the evening at 6pm.
- Play the organ at major festivals in the life of the church.
- Once a year to participate in our wedding open day where you will be asked to play the organ for prospective wedding couples.
- Play at life events in the church (Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals) as requested. For which you will receive an additional fee.
- Accompany and rehearse with the choir before services as required.

**If this describes you, then we look forward to meeting you!**  
**We are very proud of our church – do come and visit.**

## Safer Recruitment

Easthampstead Parish Church is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults. Our church has an equal opportunities policy for selection and recruitment in accordance with its safeguarding policy, the successful candidate will be required to have an enhanced DBS check along with a check against the DBS children's barred list.

## Equal Opportunities

We are an equal opportunities employer and are committed to providing equality of opportunity to all. Our aim is to treat all employees and prospective employees with integrity, respect and consideration. We aim to ensure that individuals are recruited, selected, trained and promoted based on their ability, job requirements, skills, aptitudes and other objective criteria. In this respect we will ensure that no job applicant or employee receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion or belief, age, marital status or disability, or is disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which are not covered by legislation or existing codes of practice.



## Letter from the Rector

Dear applicant,

Thank you for your interest in this role.

The vacancy has arisen due to our previous organist moving away from the area. There has been a period of transition with musical provision following the departure of a musical director due to the distance involved and commute.

Easthampstead Parish Church has a caring and welcoming ethos. We have developed a family atmosphere to our 9:30am service. We are also developing our evening prayer service at 6pm. We have a large and diverse congregation of all ages.

Working alongside the rector, the successful candidate will have the enthusiasm to help us grow our musical repertoire in the church using the full range of hymns in our hymn book. The successful candidate will be approachable and foster an open and inclusive approach, especially with the choir.

I look forward to working in partnership with the successful candidate and I am committed to supporting them by prioritising their wellbeing and work-life balance.

If you share our passion for music and have the experience to lead us into the next chapter, then we would be delighted to hear from you.

In addition to this applicant pack I suggest you visit our website and our YouTube page ([www.easthampstead.org.uk](http://www.easthampstead.org.uk)). We also warmly invite you to visit the church as we believe this is the best way to get a sense of our community and ethos.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'G. Morley'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping 'G' and a long, horizontal flourish at the end.

Revd Gareth Morley  
Rector

## **Further information**

### **Sunday Services**

Our average 9:30am Sunday attendance is 120 approximately (we have reached the heights of 180 recently). The service is liturgical, traditional and lasts approximately 1 hour. This service is live streamed.

Our average 6pm Sunday evening prayer service is 12 people. It is again liturgical, traditional, and lasts approximately half an hour.

### **Life Events**

The role includes the opportunity to provide music for occasional offices, in line with rates set by the Musicians' Union and reviewed annually by the PCC. Currently for life events the fee you would receive is £91, if there is a choir this is £136 to account for rehearsal time. The organist will be offered first refusal for these services and may liaise with families as appropriate regarding musical preferences. On average, the parish hosts:

- 12 funerals a year,
- 6 weddings,
- 40-50 baptisms, and
- 3 or 4 wedding renewals.

We have not, until recently, offered baptism families the opportunity for an organist but we are keen to implement this. We have also had a large take up in organist requests for funerals and weddings. Wedding renewals either form part of our regular Thursday service (as there is no charge for the service then) or as a standalone service if requested. We get requests for organists at the same life event fee for these services.

Our policy is the encouragement of our organist over recorded music in life events.

### **Special Services**

The organist is expected to play at key seasonal and civic services throughout the year, including (but not limited to):

- Confirmation Service
- Maundy Thursday
- Good Friday
- Easter Morning (sunrise)
- Remembrance Sunday
- All Souls service (Saturday evening)
- Advent Carols
- Nine Lessons and Carols
- Crib Service
- Christmas Midnight Service
- Light up a Life

The organist will work closely with clergy to plan musical contributions for these and other services as needed.

## Job Description

The organist will play a key role in supporting the musical life of Easthampstead Parish Church, enriching our worship through skilled and sensitive accompaniment. Working within the Christian ethos, you will work to maintain and improve our current musical provision.

### Key objectives

- 1.1. Play the organ at the weekly 9.30am Parish Eucharist, once a month at our 6pm evening prayer service, as well as at any other special services throughout the Church year.
- 1.2. Accompany the choir before services and during rehearsals, as requested by the Rector and Musical Director.
- 1.3. Attend planning meetings or rehearsals as required, especially for seasonal services or special liturgies.
- 1.4. Organise and oversee maintenance of the organ, liaising with technicians for tuning and repairs.
- 1.5. Assist in managing the music library, ensuring easy access to scores as needed.
- 1.6. Where absent due to holiday arrange an organist to provide cover for services.
- 1.7. Contribute to the selection of hymns and liturgical music in collaboration with the clergy and music team.

### Ethics and professional conduct

- 2.1. Abide by Church of England safeguarding requirements and abide by our safeguarding policy.
- 2.2. To represent the needs and views of vulnerable people to the PCC, Rector, or, where appropriate, to enable them to do this for themselves.
- 2.3. Abide by Easthampstead Parish Church policies and procedures.

## Person specification

### Essential experience and skills:

- Experience in organ performance within a church setting.
- Strong technical proficiency as an accompanist in both traditional and modern styles.
- Ability to improvise sensitively during liturgy (e.g. communion, waiting moments).
- Good organisational and time management skills.
- Clear and effective communication skills.

### Leadership:

- A sympathetic understanding of the Church of England's mission and liturgical life.
- Collaborative and relational in approach to your work.
- Able to listen well, foster welcome, and bring others with you when change is needed.

**Please contact Revd. Gareth Morley at Easthampstead Parish Church  
for an application form via email at:**

[rector@easthampstead.org.uk](mailto:rector@easthampstead.org.uk)





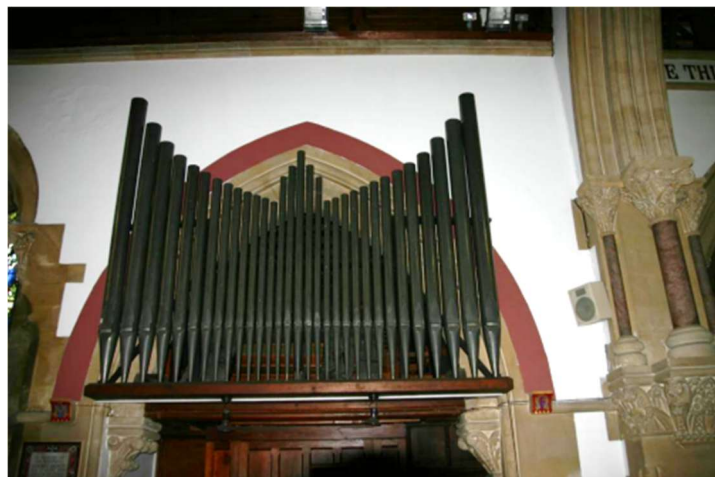
Easthampstead Parish Church, Crowthorne Road, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 7ER

01344 425205

[www.stmichaelseasthampstead.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelseasthampstead.org.uk)

## Appendix

### Organ Specifications



A pipe tower of thirty-one pipes of crackle-finished grey metal is supported on a platform extending into the sacristy. There are 13 wooden pipes, on a slight convex curve, above the screen on the Downshire Chapel side.

A two manual keyboard with four and a half octaves from CC to G (56 notes). There is an ivory pull attached to a cord that passes through a hole on the fascia above the keyboard via pulleys to the lid of the wind reservoir.

Stops are arranged in four columns, with two columns on each jamb on either side of the keyboard. The three Couplers, Swell to Pedal, Great to Pedal and Swell to Great are operated by draw stop knobs on the bottom of the left-hand jamb.

#### Stop List: Great Organ:

Double Open Diapason	16'
Open Diapason	8'
Stopped Diapason	8'
Dulciana	8'
Principal	4'
Harmonic Flute	4'

Fifteenth	2′
Mixture IV 19-22-26-29	
Trumpet (reed)	8′
Cremona (reed)	8′

**Stop List: Swell Organ:**

Horn Diapason	8′
Stopped Diapason	8′
Principal	4′
Mixture III 15-19-22 Cornopean (reed)	8′
Oboe(reed)	8′
Stop List: Pedal Organ: Bourdon	16′
Open Diapason	16′
Flute	8′

**Pedal keyboard:**

Two and a quarter octave's from CC to E.