

St Stephen's Cathedral Choir Fact Sheet:

Altos, Tenors and Basses

Introduction The Cathedral Choir is a “men and boy’s” choir in the tradition of the Cathedral choirs of England and Europe. The members range in age from about 10 years old for the younger boys to near retirement age for some of the men, and every place in between. The choir sings much music in four choral parts – treble (the soprano part sung by boys), alto, tenor and bass – and its repertoire is formed from the Classical repertoire from the sixteenth century to the present.

Basic Commitment Friday 5.30 – 6.45 pm
Sunday 9.00 – 11.00 am (includes rehearsal and mass)

The choir does not sing during school vacation (excluding Christmas when it sings up to and including Christmas Eve). It does have commitments over the Easter weekend.

We expect choristers to make a strong commitment to the choir, though there is some flexibility to allow for important family occasions, business trips etc. etc.

Extra Commitment The choir will sing for two or three extra events per year and there may be a few extra rehearsals for these.

Participation in extra musical or social commitments is optional.

Miscellaneous Choristers are not required to be Catholic to be members of the choir.

Parking is available free of charge for rehearsals and masses in the Cathedral Car Park

Dress For Friday rehearsal altos, tenors and basses dress is a function of other activities on the day. Some adolescents wear school uniform, university students may wear casual clothes, and some men will wear business dress. Sunday dress is white shirt (long sleeves), black trousers and black shoes. The choir supplies a robe, tie and medallion.

Remuneration Altos, tenors and basses receive \$100 per year for expenses.

There is also the opportunity to apply for scholarships to take singing lessons.

Tryout

No matter how much information you receive, it is still sometimes difficult to make decisions about the choir. Will you like it? Will it fit into your schedule? Often these questions simply cannot be answered by thinking about things. We strongly recommend in the beginning that you do not “join the choir” but “join for a tryout”. Only after a few weeks of participation will you know if it is going to work. At the end of the tryout you are in a better position to make the decision “for” or “against”.

Where Now?

If you are interested, call the choir director, Ralph Morton 3336 9104 w. A call does not commit you to the choir, but it does allow you to discuss issues if necessary and also make a time for a try-out.