



CATHEDRAL *of the* INCARNATION

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF LONG ISLAND



Cathedral of the Incarnation Canon Musician and Director of Music – 2025

The Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City, NY, seeks an experienced Organist/Choirmaster to serve as Canon Musician and Director of Music. Located 20 miles east of Manhattan, the Cathedral is a vibrant, welcoming community and the spiritual heart of the Diocese of Long Island, which includes Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau, and Suffolk counties.

The Canon Musician will serve on the Cathedral Staff as a direct report to the Dean, working closely with the Dean, clergy, and lay staff in a fast-paced, healthy, collegial, and fun environment.

About the Cathedral:

Completed in 1885 in French Gothic style, the Cathedral is co-located on a beautiful 22-acre campus with the Mercer School of Theology, the Bishop's and Diocesan offices, and the Cathedral offices (located in See House, the recently-restored historic home of the first bishops of Long Island) and serves as the hub of a robust center of formation and diocesan life. The Cathedral itself has recently completed major accessibility upgrades, including an elevator, new restrooms, and flexible seating configurations for concerts and liturgies.

Our instruments:

Our music suite features:

- A large Casavant IV/103 organ in the French Romantic style (installed 1986, recently refurbished), situated mostly in the chancel; there is also a complete two manual organ in the gallery, along with the Chamade trumpet. The instrument plays a wide variety of music well and is greatly enhanced by the splendid acoustics of the space.
- A Taylor & Boody continuo organ (2020). This magnificent instrument, a gift from a parishioner, consists of 8' principal (middle C up), 8' flute, 4' flute, 3' nasard, and 2' principal. The continuo is regularly for anthem accompaniments or early music, as well as for manuals alone voluntaries.
- A rebuilt 1932 Steinway concert grand, a magnificent instrument used often at the Cathedral for Kids Mass.
- A harpsichord on long-term loan from another parish.

Key Responsibilities:

- Lead weekly choir rehearsals for two choirs: The Cathedral Choir (a blended ensemble of professional and volunteer singers) and The Cathedral Choristers (a dynamic ensemble of boys & girls featured at our 9:15 Cathedral for Kids Mass).

- The Cathedral Choir is currently made up of nine staff singers, most of whom come in from NYC, and a few volunteers whose reading skills allow them to keep up with a very fast pace of music learning. The pro singers are a very committed and friendly group, with a strong sense of collegiality and community/congregational integration. A normal Sunday Mass sees a setting of the Ordinary, an offertory anthem, motet, a Psalm, and other pieces of service music. Fully choral evensong is done once per month, and Holy Week consists of Chrism Mass on Tuesday, Tenebrae on Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Great Vigil.
- The Cathedral Choir rehearsals mostly Sundays after church; there is a lunch break, and then they gather at 1:30 to look at music for following weeks. On Sundays when there is an evensong, rehearsal takes place on the Thursday which follows.
- The Cathedral Choristers have emerged post-Covid in a stronger position than before. The success of our Cathedral for Kids mass each week has significantly boosted chorister enrollment. The Choristers sing two or three times per month; further, older choristers join the adults for Evensongs. The weekly chorister rehearsals typically use both the Director of Music, the associate, plus a voice coach who is one of the staff singers and a public-school music teacher.
- The Choristers rehearse on Tuesdays (junior) and Wednesdays (senior).
- Until Covid, the top line in the main choir was boys & girls, with men ATB's below. We had our first female alto beginning perhaps 10 years ago. Post Covid, the soprano line is adult singers. This change, while having many advantages, has meant that the former urgency of the boys/girls singing every single week, with two weekly rehearsals, is gone. This is certainly something a new director may wish to address.
- Sunday Masses:
 - 8:00 with organ music at Communion only, and a hymn at the end.
 - 9:15 Cathedral for Kids Mass, with either the Choristers or a cantor. This Mass is intended for families with children, though there are many adults who regularly attend; it is sometimes the biggest Mass on Sunday. Music is carefully chosen to be something small children can take at least some part in: Taizé pieces, a few settings of the Sanctus, and a Gospel Acclamation that remains the same for a season. In addition, there is a standard hymn at the Offertory, so that even if children are pre-reading and cannot sing it, they begin to hear the music. The Choristers, when present, sing a piece during Communion, which is normal treble voice repertoire.
 - 11:15 Choral Mass: the choir sings a choral mass setting each week, in addition to an offertory anthem, and a Communion motet, plus all the incidental service music.
 - Evensong once per month, a normal fully sung Cathedral evensong.
- Plan and select repertoire for both choirs, blending Anglican tradition with more recent works representing the global diversity of the Cathedral congregation. A fundamental understanding of love of the Anglican choral tradition is essential. The current repertoire of the choir ranges from renaissance polyphony through recently composed works. Recent years have seen the repertoire

diversify further, with occasional settings of Spirituals as well as a conscious effort to include music of women composers.

- Conduct and accompany services (including voluntaries) and special performances and services, such as Island-wide celebrations, weddings, and funerals (which are all opportunities for extra compensation).
- Oversee music logistics: produce all weekly Cathedral bulletins, manage the music library, organ and piano maintenance, and publicity as well as collaborate with partner institutions on building use (such as Hofstra and Adelphi Universities).
 - Doing the weekly bulletins is a significant responsibility which requires careful attention to detail. There are many seasonal changes in the course of the liturgical year. Every program given out in the Cathedral is produced by the Director of Music.
 - Further, the Director of Music now does the programs for Diocesan services such as Ordinations and Confirmations, as well as playing for them. This is compensated separately.
- Work collaboratively with the Associate Organist/Choirmaster.
- Manage monthly choir payroll. This is done once per month, and submitted to the Assistant Treasurer who approves it for payment and sends it to the payroll department.
- Manage the annual Chorister Summer Camp and the annual Music in the Cathedral series.
- Coordinate music for special events and assist with summer coverage of the 10:15 Holy Eucharist with hymns.

Qualifications:

- Significant experience and a proven track record directing choirs, including work with professional singers and choristers. A candidate needs to have worked with the RSCM training system for choristers.
- Positive personality. There is often a lot happening at the Cathedral, and we count on each other at critical times to both offer help where needed, and to keep a pleasant work environment.
- Strong knowledge of Anglican liturgy identity and choral repertoire.
- Hymn singing at the 11:15 mass is strong. The Hymnal 1982 is our primary resource, while LEVAS II is also used regularly. We also use hymnody from other Anglican resources, especially from the UK.
- Passion for music's role in worship and community building. Music is a very important part of life at the Cathedral and is strongly supported by the staff and membership.

What We Offer:

- Full-time employment with competitive salary and housing.
- Benefits include health insurance (medical, dental, vision), an 18% pension contribution, four weeks' vacation, and support for professional development.
- Join a lively, collaborative, diverse staff in a Cathedral community experiencing growth and community outreach.

Application:

Interested candidates should send a letter of interest, a current resume, links to examples of recent performance (via YouTube, Vimeo, etc.) and references no later than July 1, 2025 to:

The Office of the Dean
Cathedral of the Incarnation
36 Cathedral Avenue
Garden City, NY 11530
dean@incarnationgc.org
(email strongly preferred)

Timeline:

Screening interviews via phone/Zoom will occur in July, with in-person interviews and performances scheduled for August. The appointment will be announced in early September, and the successful candidate will begin serving in mid-January 2026.

Please direct all questions to dean@incarnationgc.org