

Job Title: Organist (part-time)

Classification: Salaried, exempt

Reports to: Director of Music

The Chapel of the Cross Episcopal Church is a constituent member of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi and is a part of the world-wide Anglican Communion. Work began on the Chapel of the Cross in 1848 by Margaret Johnstone in memory of her late husband, John

Johnstone, and was completed in 1852, and subsequently consecrated on September 19, 1852, by the Right Reverend William Mercer Green, the first Bishop of Mississippi. Over the course of its 172 years, the Chapel of the Cross has grown from an abandoned building in Madison County that was once used to store hay, into a growing, vibrant parish that is one of the largest in the Diocese of Mississippi. A new nave was completed in February 2021, named the Chapel of the Resurrection, to accommodate the growth of the church. The Chapel of the Cross welcomes all people to gather around the table on Sundays in hopes they may encounter the risen Lord. Please visit chapelofthecrossms.org for more information about the Chapel of the Cross.

The Chapel of the Cross has four instruments which includes two organs (a two manual twenty-two stop Noack in the Chapel of the Resurrection and a two manual six rank Holtkamp in the Chapel of the Cross) and two pianos (a 6'4" Knabe in the Chapel of the Resurrection and a 4'10" Howard in the Choir Room). The organ in the Chapel of the Resurrection was built by Noack Organ and installed in February 2022.

Position Description

Under the supervision of the Director of Music, the organist performs at liturgies, including the 10:30a service in the Chapel of the Resurrection on Sunday mornings, Evensongs, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services, Easter & Holy Week services, and select special liturgies on a 12-month basis. The Organist accompanies the choir in said liturgies and choral rehearsals on Wednesday evenings and any extra rehearsals as assigned. The Organist independently selects all voluntaries and other musical offerings on the organ.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Assist the Director of Music in the musical training of the St. Cecilia's Choir (grades 3-6) on Wednesday evenings; St. Cecilia's Choir rehearsals are immediately preceding adult choir rehearsal.
- Ensure excellent organ music at the Chapel of the Cross liturgies.
- Accompany the adult choir rehearsals: one weekday rehearsal on Wednesday evening, and warm-up prior to services, and other adult choir rehearsals as assigned.
- Submit voluntaries to the Parish Communicator for the 10:30a Sunday service bulletin in a timely manner.

- Provide organ music for weddings held at the Chapel of the Cross in collaboration with the Rector, Director of Music, and/or associate priests. (Pay for weddings is compensated additionally, based on an established fee schedule.)
- Study and perform organ and service music and accompanied choral music.
- Complete all safe church trainings as requested by the Diocese of Mississippi.
- Other tasks as requested by the Rector or the Director of Music.

Special Skills

- Superlative organ skills, including the accompaniment of choirs in anthems and sensitive, creative playing of hymns.
- Facility with persons of all ages.
- Commitment to preservation and promotion of sacred music at the Chapel of the Cross.
- Good written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to communicate effectively with all staff and parishioners.
- Excellent discretion and collaboration.
- Excellent organization skills and the ability to complete work on time, independently, and with minimal supervision.
- Must be willing to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.
- The additional physical requirements of the job include the ability to climb stairs.

Salary

This is a 12-month, part-time position estimated at 15 hours/week. Salary is commensurate with education and experience.

Benefits

Vacation days: Four Sundays per year, with related rehearsals; schedule to be arranged with the Director of Music.

Application Process

Send résumé and cover letter to eddacus@gmail.com. Selected applicants may be invited for a live audition and interview at the Chapel of the Cross.