

## Role of Organist and Choir Director

### Background Information

Thank you for expressing an interest in the role of organist at St Giles, West Bridgford. Here at St Giles we are passionate about sharing the good news of Jesus with every generation and growing life-long disciples. A key part of that is developing the musical life of our church to enable encounter with God through inspiring worship.

### Current worship pattern

We have a 9am service of Holy Communion each week which uses the Common Worship liturgy. We have a choir of approximately 10 people who lead the singing of hymns at this service. They also sing an anthem during the distribution of the elements.

Following on from this we have a 10.30am service at which there are children and young people's groups and the music is led by a band.



We have Evensong twice a month at 4.30pm using the BCP.

Finally, there is a 7pm service with contemporary music led by a band.

Musicians: We have a choir of about 10 members – many of whom have numerous years of experience of singing in choral societies and church choirs.

The choir play a significant role in our festival celebrations including our Carols by Candlelight services, our Christmas Tree festival and at our Holy Week services. They currently rehearse on a Friday evening.

We have a team of worship leaders who lead the band at the 10.30am and 7pm services.

The organ is a 3 Manual Allen Digital organ that was installed in 1993. Some pipes and casework from the previous Willis organ were retained for visual effect.

### Our Team

Joanna Seabourne started as the Rector of St Giles in October 2023. She loves the numerous opportunities that there are for mission here and the joy of being part of an intergenerational community called by God to reach out in many different ways to the people of West Bridgford.

Graham Baker started as the Curate in July 2024 and is serving the church in numerous ways especially through the leading of alpha courses and the launching of a new evening service.

Che Seabourne is an Associate minister serving the church in a part-time voluntary capacity.

Ellen Dann is our full time ordinand currently training at St Mellitus, East Midlands, whilst having a specific role of overseeing our children and families ministry.

Sam Hutchinson is our full time youth worker who runs everything to do with our fantastic young people at St Giles - from Friday youth nights, to midweek discipleship groups, and the youth group on Sundays.

Operations Manager: Claire Sheard is our operations manager extraordinaire who enables things to keep things running smoothly day to day at St Giles.

PCC: We have a fantastic group of 23 people who serve on the PCC helping to discern the way forward in mission, and meeting the challenge of looking after our buildings, finances and team.

Volunteers: St Giles has a huge number of volunteers who serve in different ways across the church.

### **Our context**

With a population of around 50,000, West Bridgford is a bustling and vibrant suburb of Nottingham, around 2 miles south of the city centre. St Giles is on the edge of Central Avenue, which is a destination in itself, home to many shops, cafes, restaurants and bars, as well as numerous independent businesses. By day the Avenue is filled with families visiting the fantastic space of Bridgford Park, the farmers market and gathering for coffee; by night friends meet for meals and drinks. St Giles' is within earshot of the City Ground, home to Nottingham Forest, and Trent Bridge cricket ground, and there's also Notts County just over the river.

St Giles is a medieval church although little remains from that period; most of the building dates from two major extensions around the turn of the last century. The church can seat 400 people, the majority in cushioned chairs that can be moved and stacked to reconfigure the space for different activities, from café style worship nights, to children's workshops and ceilidhs! The George Chapel, at the end of the north aisle, had a kitchen installed to one side about a decade ago, and this is used for serving refreshments on Sundays and at Friday night youth events. We are currently in the middle of a large £150,000 project to renew the electrics of the church and put in new lighting.

