

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL



Volunteering Opportunities

January 2017



Southwark Cathedral is a diverse community whose members participate in its mission and ministry in a host of ways. More than 450 volunteers play their part in the day-to-day life of the Cathedral. New volunteers are most welcome and volunteering vacancies are advertised on the cathedral website – cathedral.southwark.anglican.org/community/volunteers – and in the weekly service sheet. The cathedral is a signatory to the London Volunteer Charter.

This leaflet describes the main volunteering opportunities and provides a link to the interest and action groups.

Hospitality Team

This is a good way to start volunteering if you are new to the Cathedral as you will meet many members of the congregation when they come for coffee. The time commitment is one Sunday a month and you will be working in a team of four people. The team starts at 10am making and serving coffee and soft drinks for the choir before the main 11.00am Sunday service and for the congregation after it. Then they clear and wash up and finish at about 1.30pm. Team members are free to take part in the service.

The team is organised by Comfort Omotosho. For more information please speak to Comfort or one of the hospitality team after the 11.00am Sunday service or email gill.walley@btinternet.com

Shop Volunteers

We would love to hear from anybody who would like to volunteer in our busy Cathedral shop. Ideally you would be able to commit three hours a week, or alternate weeks, on a set day. No experience required and full training is provided but you should be confident handling money and be able to learn to use an electronic till system competently. The shop is open seven days a week: Sunday 10.00am to 4.00pm and Monday to Saturday 10.00am to 5.30pm.

For more information contact a member of the shop staff on 020 7367 6710 or Jon Dollin, Shop Manager
jon.dollin@southwark.anglican.org

Office Volunteers

We occasionally have opportunities in the Cathedral offices for volunteers to help with specific projects or to work with the finance or administrative departments. Applicants need to be able to work accurately. IT skills are sometimes necessary.

For more information please contact Matthew Knight, Comptroller:
matthew.knight@southwark.anglican.org
020 7367 6700.

Vergers' Help

The Vergers have a huge job looking after the Cathedral and ensuring the running of services. They welcome help with general duties including cleaning silver and dusting and polishing in the Cathedral.

Contact Paul Timms, Head Verger if you can help: paul.timms@southwark.anglican.org,
020 7367 6701

Flower Arrangers

The flower arrangers provide the flower arrangements for the Cathedral. You will need an appropriate level of skill and be able to work to a large scale. An eye for colour and design are important as is a knowledge of flowers, their conditioning and the mechanics of arrangements. Newcomers will be given help. The team normally works on Friday morning in the Cathedral having previously arranged for the purchase and delivery of flowers.

Contact Pat Ellis for more information.
hupat@talktalk.net

Broderers

The role of the broderers is to maintain, conserve and make vestments and other textiles for the Cathedral. The Guild of Broderers meets on Monday morning from 10.00am to 2.00pm. Many of the broderers are highly skilled.

Contact Mary Howell, Head Broderer for more information (or telephone 020 7367 6700 and your name will be passed on).

Bellringers

The Southwark Cathedral Society of Bellringers ring for the main services at the Cathedral and for weddings, memorial services, and other special occasions. Practices are on a Wednesday evening from 6.30pm until 8.30pm.

The 12 bells are historic, heavy, and hard to ring and only experienced ringers can ring them. Although the Cathedral Bellringers do not teach novices to ring they have links with other towers locally and can offer advice on where to go to learn. The Bellringers compete with other bands at the highest level in the National 12-bell competition.

Contact Hannah Taylor, the Ringing Master
master@southwark-bells.org.uk or visit
southwark-bells.org.uk/

The Guild of Stewards

Stewards help manage the movement of people at the Cathedral during services and special occasions. A team of stewards is on duty for most services.

Stewards should be welcoming and sensitive to the needs of the congregation and visitors. They should attend the Cathedral regularly. They work closely with the clergy and vergers to make sure that everyone is welcomed and that the services run smoothly.

A one-day training course is given and new stewards then shadow in a team to gain experience.

For further information please contact Linda Ridgers-Waite, Chair, Guild of Stewards
linda.ridgers-waite@southwark.anglican.org

Welcomers

Welcomers are part of the public face of the Cathedral. They welcome visitors and look after groups during the times when the Cathedral is open to visitors and there are no services taking place. They work closely with Guides, Day Chaplains and Stewards. Training is given. Welcomers should have a friendly, outgoing personality and be good with the public.

Contact the Volunteers' Officer, Michelle Ford via michelle.ford@southwark.anglican.org or 020 7367 6749 for more information.

Guides

Guides conduct tours of the Cathedral and the surrounding area on weekdays and Saturdays. Guides are required to know the history of the Cathedral, its monuments and artefacts. They must also be aware of its pastoral and religious role. They need also to be aware of the other visitor and tourist attractions in the immediate area. Detailed training is provided. Guides should have a friendly, outgoing personality and be good with the public.

Contact the Visits and Tours Officer, Ruth Miller via ruth.miller@southwark.anglican.org or 020 7367 6734 for more information.

Day Chaplains

Day Chaplains are people with proven pastoral experience that equips them to minister appropriately to visitors who may need a listening ear, or someone to pray with them or may need referral on to a source of further help.

Contact Christine Jenkins
christinemajenkins@gmail.com

The Guild of Servers

The Servers assist with the liturgy at the services on Sundays at 11.00am, the 6:30pm services (on the first and fourth Sundays of the month), principal feasts falling on weekdays and for other special services. Training is given and volunteers become members of the Guild of Servers.

For more information please contact the Head Server, Paul Walker, pa_walker@yahoo.co.uk, or Mark Charlton, mark.charlton@southwark.anglican.org

JuniorXpress 1 & 2 and YouthXpress

On Sunday mornings volunteers support a programme of activities designed to help children and young people to grow in their faith and understanding. Volunteers will be subject to normal child safeguarding checks.

Contact Michael Rawson, Sub Dean
michael.rawson@southwark.anglican.org
or 020 7367 6706

Cathedral School Helpers

A chance to help local children learn the vital skill of reading. Weekdays.

Contact Marion Marples
mm@marionmarples.co.uk

Helping the Elderly

Volunteers visit elderly people in local sheltered housing for tea on Wednesday afternoon. There are developing links with local businesses (gardening, computing) which could also be supported.

Contact Marion Marples
mm@marionmarples.co.uk

Robes Night Shelter Project

Volunteers are needed to help with the Robes project - an ecumenical team of volunteers using church premises to provide food, friendship and shelter for homeless people during the winter months. Help is needed with administration, cooking, hosting and laundry.

Contact Marlene Collins
mcollins16@sky.com

Education Centre

Southwark Cathedral Education Centre uses volunteers to lead a range of exciting and engaging trails and workshops for children and young people during the week. Experience of working with children is ideal but not necessary as full training will be given.

Contact Lisa Bewick, Education Officer
lisa.bewick@southwark.anglican.org
020 7367 6715

Hanging Committee

The Hanging Committee arranges and hangs the cathedral's art exhibitions. It is a small committee, passionate about art. It meets artists, considers their work, and hangs eight or nine exhibitions a year in the Refectory. An important and satisfying part of its work is its support of organisations like Crisis or Help the Aged.

Contact Chris Owens
christopherowens@hotmail.co.uk

Friends of Southwark Cathedral

Volunteers support the work of the Cathedral for example by preparing the Friends' newsletter for mailing, selling books at our book sales, providing hospitality for visiting groups and working as a trustee. If you have the odd day free we may have a volunteering opportunity to suit you.

Contact Kate Dean, Friends Secretary
friends@southwark.anglican.org
or 020 7367 6724

Interest and Action Groups

There is also a range of Interest and action groups. These are groups, mostly led by lay members of the congregation, and based on a shared passion, that offer a further variety of ways for you to participate in the life of the Cathedral community.

Visit the Cathedral website:
www.southwarkcathedral.org.uk

Contact

If you would like to know more about volunteering please contact

Michelle Ford, Volunteers' Officer
michelle.ford@southwark.anglican.org
020 7367 6749

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