



SOUTHWARK  
CATHEDRAL

# Volunteering Opportunities

January 2018





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 under [southwarkcathedral.org.uk/community/volunteers](http://southwarkcathedral.org.uk/community/volunteers) and in the weekly notice sheet. The cathedral is a signatory to the London Volunteer Charter.

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If you would like to know more about  
volunteering with us, please contact

Michelle Ford, Volunteers' Officer  
[michelle.ford@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:michelle.ford@southwark.anglican.org)  
020 7367 6739

# Tours and Visitors

## Welcome Desk Volunteer

The Welcome Desk is the point where all visitors who enter the Cathedral are greeted within the context of the Cathedral Chapter's "Ministry of Welcome". We are looking for volunteers to provide a warm and friendly welcome to every person visiting the Cathedral, demonstrating sensitivity to the variety of visitor needs. While no formal skills and qualifications are needed for this role, we do ask that volunteers are able to offer a warm, friendly welcome to all visitors and maintain a calm and professional disposition even in stressful situations. This opportunity would suit someone who wishes to volunteer in a setting that supports a historic London landmark, has or wants to gain experience of volunteering in tourism.

We are looking for a team of volunteers to help throughout the week, committing to either a half-day or whole day, weekly or fortnightly on a set day.

### More information and contact

Michelle Ford, Volunteers' Officer  
michelle.ford@southwark.anglican.org  
020 7367 6739

## 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.

### More information and contact

Michelle Ford, Volunteers' Officer  
michelle.ford@southwark.anglican.org  
020 7367 6739

## 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.

### More information and contact

Ruth Miller, Visits and Tours Officer  
ruth.miller@southwark.anglican.org  
020 7367 6734

## 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.

### More information and contact

Jon Dollin, Shop Manager.

[jon.dollin@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:jon.dollin@southwark.anglican.org)

020 7367 6710

# Behind the scenes

## 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.

### More information and contact

Paul Timms, Head Verger  
paul.timms@southwark.anglican.org  
020 7367 6701

## 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.

### More information and contact

Mary Howell, Head Broderer  
020 7367 6700 (This is the Cathedral switchboard. Please ring and your name will be passed on.)

## 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.

### More information and contact

Pat Ellis  
hupat@talktalk.net

## 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*.

### More information and contact

Chris Owens  
christopherowens@hotmail.co.uk

## 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.

### More information and contact

Matthew Knight, Comptroller  
[matthew.knight@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:matthew.knight@southwark.anglican.org)  
020 7367 6700

# Children and young people

## Education Centre

Learning can be brought to life with a visit to Southwark Cathedral!

Southwark Cathedral Education Centre is looking for volunteers to lead a range of exciting, engaging and experiential trails and workshops for children and young people.

This role is ideal for those who enjoy working with children or who would like to work with children.

Experience of working with children is ideal but not necessary as full training will be given.

Volunteers will be required to:

- Undertake relevant training
- Engage in an annual appraisal
- Attend termly staff meetings
- Be in sympathy with the Christian ethos of the Education Centre

The Education Centre is a popular and over-subscribed resource. If you think you might be interested in joining our friendly and supportive team, phone or email for an informal chat or to arrange a visit.

More information and contact

Lisa Bewick, Education Officer  
edcentre@southwark.anglican.org.uk  
020 7367 6715

## Choir chaperones

Choir chaperones are needed to support the music staff in their work with the children in the boys' and girls' choirs. Tasks included attending weekly rehearsals helping to supervise the choristers on their arrival, departure and during breaks. We need people who are able to communicate with young people between the ages of 7 and 17 with a genuine interest in the Cathedrals choir and their work.

More information and contact

Peter Wright, Director of Music  
peter.wright@southwark.anglican.org  
020 7367 6703

Susanna Bloomfield, Pastoral and Music Administrator  
susanna.bloomfield@southwark.anglican.org  
020 7367 6732

## Cathedral School Helpers

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

More information and contact

Marion Marples  
mm@marionmarples.co.uk



## 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.

### More information and contact

Michael Rawson, Sub Dean and Pastor  
[michael.rawson@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:michael.rawson@southwark.anglican.org)  
020 7367 6706

# In and around our services

## 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 10.00am 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.

### More information and contact

Comfort Omotosho, Team Leader  
Speak to her or one of the hospitality team after the 11.00am Sunday service or email [gill.walley@btinternet.com](mailto:gill.walley@btinternet.com)

## 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.

### More information and contact

Hannah Taylor, Ringing Master  
[master@southwark-bells.org.uk](mailto:master@southwark-bells.org.uk)  
[southwark-bells.org.uk](http://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.

### More information and contact

Linda Ridgers-Waite, Chair,  
Guild of Stewards  
[linda.ridgers-waite@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:linda.ridgers-waite@southwark.anglican.org)

## The Guild of Servers

The Servers assist with the liturgy at the services on Sundays at 11.00am, the 6.00pm 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.

### More information and contact

Paul Walker, Head Server  
[pa\\_walker@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pa_walker@yahoo.co.uk)

Mark Charlton  
[mark.charlton@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:mark.charlton@southwark.anglican.org)

# Community

## 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.

### More information and contact

Christine Jenkins  
christinemajenkins@gmail.com

## 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.

### More information and 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.

### More information and contact

Marlene Collins  
mcollins16@sky.com

# More ways to get involved

## 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.

### More information and contact

Kate Dean, Friends' Secretary  
friends@southwark.anglican.org  
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.

### More information and contact

[southwarkcathedral.org.uk](http://southwarkcathedral.org.uk)





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