



From the Director of Music, St Mary's Church, Horse Fair, Banbury, OX16 0AA  
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## Invitation to Banbury Organ Day (15<sup>th</sup> July 2023), Banbury Early Music Day (29<sup>th</sup> July 2023) and 'Be a Chorister Day' (2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023)

To whom it may concern,

My name is Dylan McCaig, and I am the Director of Music at St Mary's Church, Banbury. I am writing to inform you of the many musical events during the summer taking place at St Mary's.

Our first event is Banbury Organ Day which takes place on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The day contains events for keyboardists of all proficiency levels. Our Young Organists' Workshop (10 am till 11 am) is led by two expert organists/pedagogues and is perfect for young pianists interested in a new challenge/learning the organ. There is also an opportunity for young organists, who can sign up to play in a masterclass environment (2pm-4pm) with esteemed Concert Organist, RCO affiliate and Founder of the Oundle International Organ Festival, James Parsons. Further details and our booking forms can be found on our website at: <https://www.banburystmary.org.uk/banbury-organ-day>

Our second event is Banbury Early Music Day which takes place on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The day contains events for singers and instrumentalists of all levels. There is a 'Come and Sing' Motets and Madrigals Event in the morning (10 am till 11:30 am) for more experienced singers, not to mention our BRAND NEW 'Banbury Young Baroque Musician' Competition (4 pm till 5:30 pm), with a judging panel of experienced musicians. ABRSM List A pieces/pieces of music composed before 1750 would be ideal for this event. Entrants can upload their music and ask for an accompanist via the online form on our website. The winner will receive a competition certificate as well as the opportunity to use St Mary's Church (free of charge) for a private concert in front of family and friends. Further details and our booking forms can be found on our website at: <https://www.banburystmary.org.uk/banbury-early-music-day>

Finally, I would like to invite your higher attaining singers to our 'Be a Chorister Day' for the St Mary's Church Choir on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 from 10 am till 5 pm.

From this year, St Mary's Church, Banbury is offering choristerships to a select number of boys and girls from local Banburyshire primary and secondary schools.

A chorister/choral student of St Mary's, Banbury can expect to receive:

- Multiple performance opportunities across each academic year
- The chance to take part in television and radio broadcasts.
- A musical education which is second to none
- A recognisable 'merit mark' on their future CVs when applying for Higher Education/University
- Opportunities to work towards qualifications such as RSCM Voice for Life Awards and Arts Award Gold (UCAS Points for Arts Award Gold)

Be a Chorister Day will begin at 10 am. The day will consist of a briefing from myself and the Rev. Serena Tajima regarding the many opportunities at St Mary's as well as an outline of a chorister's duties, followed by a tour of the church, lunch (pupils will bring their own packed lunch) and the day concluding with pupils singing alongside our own Church Choir and the Festival Singers during an evensong at 4 pm. This service will be open to the general public to attend and will finish at approximately 5 pm.

To register interest in this opportunity, please use our online form:

<https://www.banburystmary.org.uk/event/17724344>

For any questions or queries, please send an email to [dylan@banburystmary.org.uk](mailto:dylan@banburystmary.org.uk)

Many thanks,

Dylan McCaig

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