

DRAFT V1

Benefice of Thornhill Parish Church & Whitley Parish Church

www.thornhillparishchurch.org.uk

Job Description & Person Specification

Job Title:	Director of Music/Organist
Reporting to:	The Rector. A formal contract will be offered that incorporates an annual performance review after a 12-month probationary period.
Job summary:	To play the organ at both benefice churches of Thornhill and Whitley, and be responsible at Thornhill for the Choir (currently weekly practices) and the Band (who play at the monthly All Age Service).
Person specification:	<p>We are seeking a self-motivated, enthusiastic individual who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• is an experienced organist and pianist accustomed to playing for church services. RSCM rates apply.• is comfortable in playing a diverse range of both traditional music and contemporary worship songs.• has the ability to work in partnership with clergy members, is a team player and good communicator.• can to inspire others and encourage participation in music.
General Context:	The benefice churches are situated in a semi-rural location between Dewsbury and Horbury. Both churches have a fine Binns Organ with a wealth of stop combinations. At Thornhill, the organ was fully refurbished in 2014, with the console on a movable plinth. At Whitley, the organ has been tuned and maintained, and while available for recitals is now in need of some renovation. Both congregations enjoy singing and are very supportive. Each church has a Yamaha Clavinova.
Duties & Responsibilities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• to play the organ at Sunday services: 09.30 at Thornhill and 11.15 at Whitley. The duties include the usual Easter and Christmas services plus special events such as Harvest and Remembrance Day.• accustomed to leading and conducting choirs (<i>or willing to undertake training if lacking experience in this element</i>)• to continue the development of the Band: currently guitars and piano (<i>or willing to undertake training if lacking experience in this element</i>)• to work with the Ministry Team to encourage the inclusion of children and young people in the music of the church, for which an Enhanced DBS check is required.• to attend meetings of the Music Team to plan for major services and the selection of hymns/worship songs.

Additional Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• to meet the Rector on a regular basis.• to ensure the pipe organs/pianos at both churches are well maintained.• to assist the Chair of the Outreach Committee (i) to develop the current successful community project at Thornhill of music partnerships with schools and encourage children and visitors to learn more about the refurbished organ as a historical resource (ii) to establish a programme of organ recitals at both churches.• to arrange for organist cover when absent for church services (a Deputy Organist is available to help). The postholder is entitled to six Sundays (and weekday rehearsals) off per calendar year. Holidays are not usually taken at Christmas or during Holy Week, unless agreed in advance with the Rector.• to provide (or arrange for organist cover) for organ and piano music for weddings (approx. 8 per year) and funerals (approx. 15 per year). The current fee is £100 for both weddings and funerals.• to help the Rector with other duties that may be reasonably required, which are commensurate with the position of the post.
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