

St. John's Richmond Church
Job Opportunity: Music Minister
Posted: June, 2026

St. John's Richmond Church, a parish in the Anglican Diocese of Canada, is seeking a new Music Minister, effective September 2026.

The ideal candidate has a Scripturally-informed vision for musical worship in the context of our weekly Sunday Evening gathering, an ability to integrate musical worship with Anglican liturgy, and a love for equipping the body of Christ to worship joyfully.

The Music Minister's primary task is to lead congregational singing by selecting a diverse mix of classic and contemporary hymns and songs which are 'singable' and theologically aligned with the biblical gospel (not simply "praise" but singing which embraces the broad dimensions of life in Christ). This role requires proficiency on the keyboard (primarily piano), and the ability to lead the congregation sensitively with balance and subtlety, so that the congregation can hear themselves sing. Other instrumental skill is welcome, but not necessary, as the congregation has many instrumental gifts.

No area of ministry at SJR stands alone, and therefore the Music Minister, as part of the Staff team, will work with the Rector and other ministry team leaders to support other ministries (such as children's ministry), where applicable.

There is an administrative component to the position, which includes planning service music in connection with the Rector and the preacher, preparing the Power Point slides, assembling ad hoc instrumental groups to play at some services, and rehearsing as required. Extra emphasis is often placed on music during the Christmas and Easter season.

It is our hope that the successful candidate would make SJR their home congregation, and integrate into the community not just musically but as part of the church family.

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Ministry Model

The SJR Music Ministry is modelled on New Testament teaching concerning the centrality of Jesus Christ, the life of the church, and the edification of believers. "Worship" in the New Testament includes the whole of life lived in response to the Gospel of God (Romans 12:1-2). "Worship," then, includes both the goal and activity of the corporate gathering of the church, and the larger way of life of Christians. In the Bible, worship is never reduced simply to the musical element of a gathering, or to the gathering itself.

The New Testament reality is that the people of God gather as earthly participants of the heavenly gathering that is eternal and ongoing (Hebrews 12:18-24; Revelation 4:8-11). In this sense, as we share with the saints in the worship of our Creator, we are involved in something transcendent and beautiful, yet grounded in the Cross of Christ and affecting the spiritual experience of his people. Our gathered worship (and the musical offering in it) must reflect the holiness and wisdom of God. This has numerous practical applications for music ministry leadership at SJR:

- It must be God-centered, and offer praise to him for his kindness to us in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- We seek to worship the risen Lord, rather than elevate or highlight the music leader or musicians.
- Our goal is that every person participates as fully as they are able in song, and that they hear one another, for our gathered worship is fundamentally an occasion of fellowship with God and one another. Virtuoso solo performances are not the main focus.
- Biblically faithful music ministry may not be 'flawless' but must be 'accomplished,' so that the congregation will willingly follow the lead of the music minister, who in their ability is giving glory to God with all they are, using their gifts and training to serve the people of God.
- Ultimately, music ministry must edify the church, helping it to be a place where outsiders "...will declare that God is really among you" (1 Cor. 14:24-25).

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Position Requirements

As Ministry Staff at SJR, the Music Minister will seek, with God's help, to be

1. Faithful, serving the Lord Jesus Christ as a minister of the word, with godly and proven character, communicating God's gospel. Every employee is required to submit to our Parish and Diocesan Safety, Response, and Care policies.
2. Prayerful, operating in conscious dependence upon God and his grace
3. Relational, knowing and loving people as individuals; being present to them. The Music Minister is not simply a 'technician,' (proficient in playing instruments and music), but is pastorally interested in edifying their fellow believers.
4. Ambitious for gospel growth and witness through the congregation and its music ministry.

Position Qualifications

Must be proficient on either guitar or piano and able to sing the lead for the songs while accompanying the congregation. Able to communicate clearly about music in order to lead ensembles - fluent in reading and preparing chord charts.

Process

Applicants will receive a questionnaire which must be filled out in your own words. This will potentially lead to an in-person interview. We will strive to hear and observe short-listed applicants leading musical worship in a real-time setting.

The position is 10 hours per week, with a **starting** hourly rate of \$35.00 per hour, depending on experience. Start date is **September 1, 2026**.

Please contact Ven Sean Love at seanoffice@shaw.ca or contact@stjohnsrichmond.com

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