



ROLE PROFILE

Volunteer Steward

Canterbury
Cathedral



Charity No. 1206913

Welcome from the Dean

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at Canterbury Cathedral.

It is an exciting time to join our Cathedral community. We recently became a formally registered charity with the Charity Commission; our new Strategic Plan to see the Cathedral's mission and ministry expand and develop over the next ten years has just launched; and we work with a new understanding of human connectedness and the need for kindness and care, particularly in the face of climate emergency and social and political instability.

We want Canterbury Cathedral to be a fully inclusive, accessible and safe place for all; offering a warm hospitality to everyone we encounter. We are committed to respectful pastoral ministry to all, and to the robust safeguarding and protection of children, young people, and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is a core priority, and something that all of us are responsible for.

Today, our Cathedral community is drawn from local people and Christians from across the Diocese of Canterbury and the worldwide Anglican Communion, from visitors and tourists, from refugees and those cut off from society through exclusion, as well as thousands who join us online for worship. Here we are drawn together in faith and wonder. Like medieval pilgrims to Canterbury, we find the Cathedral to be a place of miracle and transformation where we encounter the presence of Jesus Christ.

It is a truly special opportunity and a rare privilege to be a part of our Cathedral community; sharing its history with others, supporting our ministry, and contributing to the ongoing story of this place. We hope that, like us, you will be inspired by both the heritage and the extraordinarily rich contemporary life of this place and will want to fully participate.



*The Very Reverend Dr David Monteith,
Dean of Canterbury*





Our Story

Founded by St Augustine in 597 AD, Canterbury Cathedral is a unique place of worship, a major pilgrimage destination, a masterpiece of art and architecture, and one of the UK's most-visited historic sites. Often referred to as 'England in stone', the Cathedral has been at the centre of momentous events and upheavals. It is the Mother Church of the worldwide Anglican Communion, seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury, UNESCO World Heritage Site, and resting place of royalty and saints.

Our vision is to welcome everyone, to inspire and support them on their journey of faith, and to create a Cathedral community that is a sanctuary for all. Faithful to Christ the Good Shepherd, we aspire to embody the following behaviours in our community culture: Compassion, Collaboration, Commitment and Curiosity.

If you would like to be part of our community and volunteer with us, please consider the volunteering role below.

Volunteer Role: Volunteer Steward

Role Description:

The Steward team welcome the Congregation to services of worship, and ensure the smooth running of around 500 Cathedral services/events across the year.

Volunteer Stewards are involved in supporting services of worship at the Cathedral, so a good understanding of the Anglican faith is important.

You will be asked to steward at least two of any of the regular services monthly (Saturday 17:30, Sunday 11:00 and 17:30 and weekdays 17:30), as well as offer to steward on special services throughout the year.



Key Responsibilities

This role will involve:

- Helping with setting up before a service.
- Arriving at least 45 minutes before the service starts to help set up/attend a briefing.
- Following the provided briefing notes for each service.
- Greeting the congregation at the entrance, and handing out orders of service.
- Seating the congregation and helping latecomers to find a seat.
- Answering any questions from the congregation and general visitors.
- Guiding members of the congregation to where they can receive communion.
- Carrying out the Offertory Collection when required.
- Facilitating the departure of the congregation and tidying after services.
- Being part of a diverse team.
- Adhering to the Cathedral Behaviour Framework and Code of Conduct.
- Supporting creating a diverse and inclusive Cathedral, where everyone is welcome.
- Supporting and embodying the mission and values of the Cathedral.
- Following the dress code.
- Attending training sessions, as required.
- Complying with the Church of England Safeguarding and GDPR policies.



Skills

If you have the following skills, then this role is for you.

- Able to follow instructions.
- Attend regular services at Canterbury Cathedral.
- Enjoy interaction with people.
- Have a desire to support the vision and mission of the Cathedral.
- Able to stay calm in challenging situations.

Training and Support

The Cathedral will provide:

- Full training for the role; incl. GDPR, Health and Safety, fire evacuation, and Safeguarding.
- Regular contact with your volunteer manager.
- A welcome pack; incl. the Cathedral's Strategic Plan, Volunteer Handbook, and other information.
- A safe environment to volunteer in.

Volunteer Benefits

- Making an important contribution to the Cathedral; the Mother Church of the worldwide Anglican Communion, seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- The opportunity to develop new and existing skills and gain experience volunteering.
- A chance to meet new people and share your passion and skills with staff and other volunteers.
- The satisfaction of knowing you are making an important contribution to the work of the Cathedral and supporting the Cathedral's strategy and mission.
- An employment reference.
- 20% discount in the Cathedral Shop, and 10% discount in the Cathedral Lodge Hotel.
- All volunteers can enjoy free Cathedral entry for themselves and immediate family (this applies to sightseeing entry only, and does not include ticketed/paid events).

Dress Code

For members of the congregation to recognise our Stewards, you are expected to wear the following: a dark blue/grey/black suit of matching material, paired with a smart shirt with tie/top and black sensible shoes (the Cathedral is uneven, so flat shoes are recommended).

If the weather is cold, those near an open door are free to wear a smart black coat or may borrow one of the black Steward team cloaks.

On special occasions, Stewards may be expected to wear a white shirt/top under their suit.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Time Commitment / Duration

You will be required to be on duty for at least two services a month, one of which should be Evensong. You will also be required to support special services for example, Easter and Christmas services, ordinations, funerals etc.

Training

Training needs are assessed continuously, and appropriate on-the-job training is provided. Please note that some training may take place at a different time than normal volunteering hours, and you must attend all required training sessions.

Travel Expenses

We are grateful to volunteers for giving their time. We will cover travel expenses, subject to Cathedral terms and conditions. Please ask your Volunteer Manager for more information.

Equality Statement

The Chapter of Canterbury recognises that discrimination and victimisation is unacceptable. It is the aim of the organisation to ensure that no volunteer applicant receives less favourable facilities or treatment (either directly or indirectly) in recruitment on grounds of age, disability, gender / gender reassignment, marriage / civil partnership, pregnancy / maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

Personal Data

The Chapter of Canterbury Cathedral needs to keep and process information about you for normal volunteering purposes. The information we hold will be used for management and administrative use only. To comply with the General Data Protection Regulations, your acceptance of these terms and conditions gives your consent for your data to be processed.

This role profile is provided to assist the post holder to know their principal duties.

It may be amended from time to time by, or on behalf of, the Head of the Department.

If you have any questions, please speak with your Volunteer Manager.