

Dear Parent/Guardian,

October 2012

I am writing firstly to officially welcome you and your child to the new Loughborough Children's Choir, hosted by All Saints with Holy Trinity Parish Church. I am pleased with how the choir is progressing and I hope your child is enjoying being a part of the choir.

Aims of the choir

The choir has three main aims:

- to give an opportunity to children from Loughborough and the surrounding areas to sing to a high standard with other enthusiastic children.
- to give quality concert performances which develop a sense of confidence and achievement in the children.
- to sing occasionally in services at All Saints Church in Loughborough (commonly known as the 'Parish Church'—it is on Steeple Row, not far from the station). This is an exciting opportunity for the children to take part in Anglican choral traditions in the beautiful setting of an ancient church. The children will prepare a few songs for inclusion in the service as well as the congregational hymns. The frequency of these services looks to be about half-termly at the moment, and should always be on the first Sunday of the month. This will allow children to continue to be part of another church family if they so wish. Family and friends are, of course, very welcome to come to All Saints to hear the children sing and take part in the services.

First Eucharist

The first of these services will be **Sunday 4th November 2012**. In addition to the hymns during the service, the children will be invited to sing two solo pieces up at the front of the church: the anthem and the blessing. After the service on 4th November, everyone is invited to a bring and share lunch in the church. You are welcome to contribute food if you wish, but if not there should be plenty. It would be lovely to see as many of you there as possible; please let us know by way of the reply slip at the bottom of this letter how many of you would like to attend the lunch. At the lunch, the children will sing some informal songs followed by a short 'grace' before the meal.

The way the children's choir is involved in the service on 4th November will be a new venture for the church. It is envisaged that this involvement will develop in the future. For the moment, however, this development is on hold because Rachel, our rector, is on leave and won't be back until early December.

Moving to our new home at Fearon Hall

Because the choir is hosted by All Saint's Church, we are very excited to announce we will be **moving to Fearon Hall (near to the church), after half term**. Before half term the rehearsals will continue at Emmanuel Church. From **Wednesday 31st**

October they will take place in the big downstairs room at Fearon Hall (please do not go upstairs!). Fearon Hall is on Rectory Road, which is just off Toothill Road. The parking on Rectory Road is for residents only, but permission has been given for you to park in the grounds of All Saints Church—drive through the iron gates and park somewhere on the path. (Please drive and park sensitively as there are gravestones just off the path.) Fearon Hall is diagonally across the grass area to the left of the church (north side).

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 31st October – First rehearsal at Fearon Hall.

Wednesday 5th December - Rainbows Christmas Concert, evening, at Emmanuel.

(Concert shared with other musical groups in aid of the Rainbows charity.)

Saturday 8th December - Christmas Tree Festival, approx 11am, at All Saints.

Saturday 15th December – LCC Christmas Concert, 7pm, at All Saints.

You will soon receive another letter about all of the December events when all the details have been confirmed, but for the moment I would be grateful if you could keep these dates free.

Methods of contact

Please do use the choir website: **loughchoir.co.uk**. This is a useful resource with information about the choir, a calendar of rehearsals and performances for the rest of the term, song words, and recordings of the pieces in the repertoire to help with practice at home. If you have any questions, queries or comments, please do not hesitate to make them known to me via the choir email address, which is **loughchoir@live.com**, or via the contact form on the website.

Yours sincerely,

EL Goddard

Miss Emma Louise Goddard MA

Director of Loughborough Children's Choir

All Saint's Church Lunch – CHOIR REPLY SLIP

Choir member's name.....

We will be attending the service on **Sunday 4th November 2012** and there will be of us staying for lunch (including the choir member).

Please complete and return to Emma by Wednesday 24th October at the latest – thank you.