

THE GUILD OF CHURCH MUSICIANS

*The proprietor of The Guild of Church Musicians is the
Incorporated Guild of Church Musicians. Founded 1888*

FOUNDATION

The Guild was founded in 1888 as the Church Choir Guild under the distinguished patronage of His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr Frederick Temple) and Sir George Elvey (Organist of St George's Chapel, Windsor). The organisation was incorporated in 1905 and became known as the Incorporated Guild of Church Musicians.

AIMS

The Guild is a fellowship of those who sincerely desire to offer the best in music and liturgy to the service of the Church, both amateur and professional church musicians being unified in a common ideal.

By encouraging members to study and enter for the Archbishops' Preliminary Certificate in Church Music, the Archbishops' Award in Church Music, the Archbishops' Certificate in Church Music (ACertCM), the Archbishops' Certificate in Public Worship (ACertPW), and the Fellowship of the Guild of Church Musicians (FGCM), the Guild seeks to raise the general knowledge and technical proficiency of musicians within the Church.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to members of any branch of the Christian Church who have an interest in the music of the Church. The annual subscription is £20.00, payable in January; new members elected on or after 1 October of any year are deemed to have paid their subscription for the following year.

EXAMINATIONS AND AWARDS

The Guild, since 1961, has been charged with the responsibility of administering and examining for the Archbishop of Canterbury's Certificate in Church Music. From 1988, when the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster joined the Archbishop of Canterbury as joint Patron of the Guild, the Certificate was renamed the Archbishops' Certificate in Church Music. This certificate is awarded, after examination, to organists/choirmasters, choristers, cantors, and leaders of worship (instrumentalists). In 1993 the Archbishops' Award in Church Music was instituted. This consists of the practical part of the Archbishops' Certificate. More recently the Preliminary Certificate, the Archbishops' Certificate in Public Worship (ACertPW) and the Fellowship diploma (FGCM), all awarded after examination, have completed the range of qualifications.

Examinations are held at approved centres annually. The Archbishops have authorised that successful candidates for the Certificates and the Fellowship may append the letters ACertCM, ACertPW or FGCM, as appropriate, after their name, and be entitled to wear the approved academic hood. Those who successfully gain the Preliminary Certificate or the Award will be presented with a certificate signed by the Archbishops, and are entitled to wear a badge suspended from a ribbon in the Guild's colours. Successful candidates for all Guild examinations will be presented to one of the Patrons of the Guild at the annual Award Ceremony, normally in the November following successful completion of their examination.

Entry forms, copies of the Syllabus and the Study Guidelines, and other information relating to the *Award and Certificate examinations* may be obtained from the Examinations Secretary (address inside back cover). Entry forms, copies of the Syllabus and Guidelines, and other information relating to the *Fellowship examination* may be obtained from: Edward Scott, LTCL, ARCM, ACertCM, HonFGCM, Fellowship Secretary, 5 Brackenley Grove, Embsay, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 6QW (Telephone: 01756 792136, Email: scottorg.skipton@btpenworld.com).

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

The Guild operates a Correspondence Course in connection with the Archbishops' Certificate in Church Music (ACertCM) and the Archbishops' Certificate in Public Worship (ACertPW). Further information and application forms are available from the Registrar (details on inside back cover).