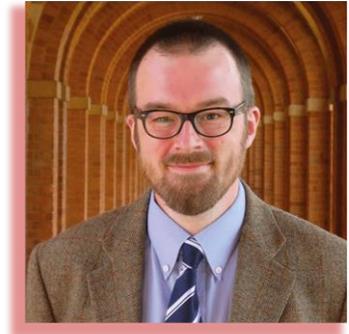


ST. JOHN'S OF LATTINGTOWN WELCOMES

RUARAIKH SUTHERLAND *Director of Music Ministry*

The Rector, Wardens, and Vestry are delighted to announce the appointment of **Ruaraidh** (*pronounced: rur-ee Sutherland*) as the new Organist & Director of Music Ministry at St. John's of Lattingtoun Episcopal Church. He comes to St. John's after serving as organist at the Parish of St Barnabas with Christ's Chapel, Dulwich, England (south London), and was a full-time music faculty member and school organist at Christ's Hospital, West Sussex (founded 1552 by Edward VI, son of Henry VIII). Previously, Ruaraidh was Director of Music at Christ's (Episcopal) Church in Rye, New York from 2011-2019. Ruaraidh will live on campus at the Gatehouse, however the exact starting date has not been finalized – possibly early December. Until then, we are thankful to our St. John's Choral Scholars along organists Dr. Hosun Moon and others who will assist in our worship.



St. John's Rector, Fr. Mark Fitzhugh: *"We are thrilled Ruaraidh is now set to join our wonderful ministry team here at St. John's. I want to sincerely thank Mother Catherine Wieczorek and the entire music advisory committee who have served the church so faithfully throughout this process. Each member has given me and the vestry tremendous guidance. Additionally, I am delighted to say this was a unanimous decision made by both the vestry and committee to offer Ruaraidh Sutherland this exciting opportunity to serve God's people here in the Diocese of Long Island. Congratulations and a warm welcome to both Ruaraidh and his fiancé Manny Carbajal!"*

Under the direction of such well respected church musicians as Eric Milnes and Christopher Brayne, St. John's has enjoyed a long tradition of inspiring choral music in this beautiful historic church. We extend our deepest appreciation to Chris Brayne for his successful five-year ministry here as organist. Chris made an extraordinary impact on the entire music life of this community, and we are grateful. And so, now we begin a new chapter with Ruaraidh as our leader.



Ruaraidh received his early musical education at Wellington School in Ayr, Scotland, and the Junior Academy of the RSAMD in Glasgow. He read music at the University of Edinburgh, graduating in 2006, and won the major academic and performance prizes. While a student, Ruaraidh was organ scholar at St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral (where he also spent a period of time as acting-Assistant Organist) and here he made his initial forays

into choral direction by bringing friends together to sing late-night concerts during the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Following a spell on the staff of Sherborne School, Ruaraidh moved to Warwick as Assistant Director of Music at the Collegiate Church of St Mary and instrumental teacher at Warwick School.

In 2011, Ruaraidh was called 'across the pond' to be Director of Music at Christ's Church, Rye, New York, a congregation with a long tradition of excellent choral music. The choir of choristers and adults was well-regarded: they sang at the Cathedral of St John the Divine for Sunday and Diocesan services, and in 2018 the choir also undertook their second tour to the UK singing services at St George's, Windsor, St Mary's, Rye, and Truro Cathedral. Ruaraidh sang with several groups in the NYC area, including the New Choral Society in Scarsdale.

Ruaraidh returned to the UK in 2019 as Organist at Christ's Hospital where he was fortunate to preside over five historic pipe organs. A Fellow of the Royal College of Organists, his teachers have included Margaret Phillips and Andrew Fletcher and he enjoys giving recitals when time permits.

[St. John's Director of Music Ministry, Ruaraidh Sutherland:](#)

"At Christ's Church, Rye, I directed the parish's traditional Episcopal music program, growing the various choirs in both discipleship and musicianship, and assisting in leading large, innovative fundraising events (including Cabaret evenings, a sponsored Hymnathon, and a chili cook-off followed by a silent movie). Highlights of my tenure there included visits by Katherine Dienes-Williams of Guildford Cathedral (UK) to work with the choir, the commissioning of music from David Hurd and David Briggs, and in 2018 when the choir undertook their second pilgrimage of the UK in August.

I'm an organist at heart (nothing thrills me quite as much as accompanying a psalm or leading rousing congregational singing) and I'm also looking forward to getting to know the special Glück instrument at St John's. Thank you for extending me this wonderful opportunity for ministry and I look forward to joining you shortly."

Clearly, Ruaraidh enjoys working with all ages, and his role as Director of Music Ministry will extend well beyond the organ bench and rehearsal hall. He plans to be an active member of the Diocese of Long Island's church music community, and has a special interest in music outreach ministry. Once again, congratulations to Ruaraidh and we look forward to a long partnership with him.