



MERTON
COLLEGE
OXFORD

CHAPEL

SERVICES and MUSIC
MICHAELMAS TERM 2025

Merton College Chapel

For more than seven centuries, worship has been offered in this place. Merton College was founded by Walter de Merton in 1264, and work on the Church of St Mary and St John was begun in the late 1280s. Today, the Chapel stands as part of the Church of England, itself part of the worldwide Anglican Communion. The Archbishop of Canterbury is the College's Visitor. Here the sacraments are celebrated, the daily offices are offered, and the praises of God are sustained by the College Choirs. A lively and diverse community, drawn from within the College and beyond, continues this faithful offering of worship with daily services during term, to which all visitors are warmly invited.

The Choral Foundation was established at Merton in 2008. The College Choir sings on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, while the Girl Choristers, added to the Foundation in 2016 and with members drawn from local schools, normally sing Vespers on Mondays and Evensong on Wednesdays. The Dobson pipe organ, installed in 2013, supports this rich musical tradition. Recordings by the College Choir, the Girl Choristers, and organ recitalists are available from the Porters' Lodge and through the College website.

The Chapel supports a number of charitable causes. This term, collections will be given to the Wolvercote Young People's Club, a long-standing partner of the College. Based in North Oxford, the Club provides dynamic and creative youth work, engaging and supporting young people in the local community.

MICHAELMAS TERM 2025

SEPTEMBER

24 Wednesday

6.00pm

Choral Evensong

sung by the Girl Choristers of Merton College
at Magdalen College

Introit Let him who seeks *Shephard*

Responses *Plainsong*

Canticles *Dyson* in C minor

Anthem Ubi caritas *Panufnik*

Voluntary Church Bells Beyond the Stars *McDowall*

27 Saturday

6.00pm

Choral Evensong

for the College Gaudy

Prelude Organ Concerto Op.4, No.1 *Handel*

Introit Beati quorum via *Stanford*

Responses *Clucas*

Psalm 25

Canticles Gloucester Service *Howells*

Anthem How lovely are thy dwellings fair *Brahms*

Hymns 604, 481

Voluntary Prelude and Fugue in G Major BWV 541 *JS Bach*

28 Sunday

9.00am

College Eucharist

OCTOBER

6 Monday

6.00pm Choral Vespers

Prelude	Magnificat Primi Toni <i>Scheidemann</i>
Responses	Plainsong
Hymn	570
Psalm	47
Magnificat	Tone i
Anthem	Let him who seeks <i>Shephard</i>
Voluntary	Magnificat BuxWV 204 <i>Buxtehude</i>

8 Wednesday

6.15pm Choral Evensong

Prelude	Voluntary III in B flat major <i>Cecil</i>
Responses	Clucas
Psalms	67
Canticles	<i>Noble</i> in B minor
Anthem	Be thou my vision <i>Chilcott</i>
Hymn	478
Voluntary	Andante, Organ Concerto Op. 4, 1 <i>Handel</i>

12 The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity (1st week)

9.00am College Eucharist

5.45pm Choral Evensong

Prelude	Air (Suite for Organ) <i>Price</i>
Introit	O nata lux <i>Tallis</i>
Responses	<i>Smith</i>
Psalm	144
Canticles	<i>Dyson</i> in D
Anthem	A new song <i>Macmillan</i>
Hymns	430, 530, 522
Preacher	The Revd Justin White <i>College Chaplain</i>
Voluntary	Toccato (Suite for Organ) <i>Price</i>

14 Tuesday

8.15am	Morning Prayer
12.30pm	Eucharist
6.15pm	Choral Evensong
Prelude	Galliardo Mistris Marye Brownlo (Parthenia) <i>Byrd</i>
Responses	<i>Smith</i>
Psalm	74
Canticles	Second service <i>Byrd</i>
Anthem	Come, my joy <i>Rutter after Gibbons</i>
Hymn	581
Voluntary	Fantasia in C <i>Byrd</i>
9.00pm	Compline

15 Wednesday

<i>Teresa of</i>	8.15am	Morning Prayer
<i>Avila</i>	6.15pm	Choral Evensong
	Prelude	Eventide. <i>Brewer</i>
	Responses	<i>Byrd</i>
	Psalm	119.81-104
	Canticles	<i>Wood</i> in D
	Anthem	Holy is the true light <i>Harris</i>
	Hymn	453
	Voluntary	Chanson de Nuit <i>Elgar (transcr. Brewer)</i>

16 Thursday

<i>Nicholas</i>	8.15am	Morning Prayer
<i>Ridley &</i>	1.15pm	Organ Recital by Anthony Gritten
<i>Hugh</i>	6.15pm	Choral Evensong
<i>Latimer</i>	Prelude	A Verse <i>Tomkins</i>
	Responses	<i>Smith</i>
	Psalm	78.40-end
	Canticles	Fifth Service <i>Tomkins</i>
	Anthem	O sing unto the Lord <i>Tomkins</i>
	Hymn	521
	Voluntary	A Fancy <i>Tomkins</i>

- 17 Friday
 8.15am Morning Prayer
- 19 **The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity (2nd week)**
 9.00am Morning Prayer
 5.45pm Choral Eucharist
 Prelude Annum per Annum *Pärt*
 Setting Berliner Mass *Pärt*
 Psalm 121
 Motet O salutaris hostia *Esenvalds*
 Hymns 604, 384, 464
 Preacher The Revd Lyndon Webb
 Associate Chaplain
 Voluntary Impromptu No.1 *Coleridge-Taylor*
- 20 Monday
 8.15am Morning Prayer
 6.00pm Choral Vespers
 Prelude Selections from *Tabulaturbuch on Vater Unser*
 Steigleder
 Responses Plainsong
 Hymn 354
 Psalm 85
 Magnificat Second Service *Moore*
 Anthem Vater Unser *Pärt*
 Voluntary Toccata on Vater Unser (the 40th Variation)
 Steigleder

- 21 Tuesday
- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
| 12.30pm | Eucharist |
| 6.15pm | Choral Evensong |
| Prelude | Lamento from Triptych <i>M. Martin</i> |
| Responses | <i>Clucas</i> |
| Psalm | 89.19–end |
| Canticles | <i>Stanford</i> in C |
| Anthem | Cantique de Jean Racine <i>Fauré</i> |
| Hymn | 530 |
| Voluntary | Fanfare with dances & Fuga capricciosa
from Triptych <i>M. Martin</i> |
| 9.00pm | Compline |
- 22 Wednesday
- | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
| 6.15pm | Choral Evensong |
| Prelude | Harmonies du soir <i>Karg-Elert</i> |
| Responses | <i>Clucas</i> |
| Psalms | 91 |
| Canticles | <i>Sumsion</i> in A |
| Anthem | Save us, O Lord <i>Bairstow</i> |
| Hymn | 340 |
| Voluntary | Jubilate <i>Sowande</i> |
- 23 Thursday
- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
| 1.15pm | Organ Recital by Damin Spritzer |
| 6.15pm | Choral Evensong |
| Prelude | Tiento de falsas <i>Bruna</i> |
| Responses | <i>Clucas</i> |
| Psalm | 94 |
| Canticles | Short Service <i>Gibbons</i> |
| Anthem | Ave Maris Stella <i>Hazrati</i> |
| Hymn | 593 |
| Voluntary | Tiento sobre la letania de la Virgen <i>Bruna</i> |

- 24 Friday
 8.15am Morning Prayer
- 25 Saturday
 4.30pm **Durufle Requiem** as part of the
 Oxford International Song Festival
 Merton Chapel
- 26 **The Last Sunday after Trinity (3rd week)**
 9.00am College Eucharist
 5.45pm Choral Evensong and
 Commemoration of Benefactors
- Prelude Invocation *Walker*
 Introit Beati quorum via *Stanford*
 Responses *Clucas*
 Psalm 119.1–16
 Canticles Merton Service *Panufnik* (World Premiere)
 Anthem How lovely are thy dwellings fair *Brahms*
 Hymns 272, 528, 490
 Address Dr Ted Tregear
 Fellow & Tutor in English, Merton College
 Voluntary Piece d'Orgue BWV 572 *JS Bach*
- 27 Monday
 8.15am Morning Prayer
 5.00pm Evening Prayer

28 Tuesday

<i>Simon &</i>	8.15am	Morning Prayer
<i>Jude</i>	12.30pm	Eucharist
	6.15pm	Choral Evensong
	Prelude	<i>Sinfonia Duarte</i>
	Responses	<i>Byrd</i>
	Psalm	119.1-16
	Canticles	Short Service <i>Byrd</i>
	Anthem	<i>Iustorum animae Byrd</i>
	Hymn	252
	Voluntary	<i>Susanne un jour</i> <i>(from the Susanne van Soldt MS) after Lassus</i>
	9.00pm	Compline

29 Wednesday

8.15am	Morning Prayer
5.00pm	Evening Prayer

30 Thursday

8.15am	Morning Prayer
1.15pm	Organ Recital by Daniel Hyde
6.15pm	Choral Evensong
Prelude	<i>Prelude & fugue in B flat major C. Schumann</i>
Responses	<i>Byrd</i>
Psalms	116
Canticles	<i>Collegium Sancti Johannis Cantabrigiense</i> <i>Howells</i>
Anthem	<i>Geistliches Lied Brahms</i>
Hymn	561 (Eve of Martin Luther)
Voluntary	<i>Wir glauben al' an einen Gott BWV 680</i> <i>JS Bach</i>

31 Friday

8.15am	Morning Prayer
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NOVEMBER

2 All Saints' Day (Sunday of 4th week)

9.00am	Morning Prayer
5.30pm	Requiem Eucharist
Prelude	Larghetto (Serenade for Strings) <i>Elgar</i>
Setting	Requiem Mass <i>Mozart</i>
Motet	Sospiri <i>Elgar</i>
Hymns	'Be still my soul', 'Abide with me'

3 Monday

8.15am	Morning Prayer
6.00pm	Choral Vespers
Prelude	Aftonfrid <i>Hägg</i>
Responses	Plainsong
Hymn	461
Psalm	96
Magnificat	Short Service <i>Weelkes</i>
Anthem	Lux Aeterna <i>Boulanger</i>
Voluntary	Cantilena <i>Andrée</i>

4 Tuesday

8.15am	Morning Prayer
12.30pm	Eucharist
6.15pm	Choral Evensong
Prelude	Paduana lagrima <i>Schildt (after Dowland)</i>
Responses	<i>Byrd</i>
Hymn	574 (Brother James' Air)
Psalms	98, 99
Canticles	Short service <i>Inglott</i>
Anthem	Miserere <i>MacMillan</i>
Voluntary	Verses on Was kann uns kommen an für Not <i>J. Praetorius</i>
9.00pm	Compline

- 5 Wednesday
- | | | |
|--|---------------|--|
| | 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
| | 6.15pm | Choral Evensong |
| | Prelude | Prelude in G major, Op. 87 <i>Laurin</i> |
| | Responses | <i>Byrd</i> |
| | Hymn | 575 |
| | Psalm | 136 |
| | Canticles | Collegium Regale <i>Howells</i> |
| | Anthem | The souls of the righteous <i>Lewis</i> |
| | Voluntary | Fugue in G major, Op. 87 <i>Laurin</i> |
-
- 6 Thursday
- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|--|
| <i>Feast of</i> | 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
| <i>Dedication</i> | 1.15pm | Organ Recital by James Thomas |
| | 6.00pm | Choral Eucharist |
| | Prelude | Rhosymedre <i>Vaughan Williams</i> |
| | Setting | Missa Brevis <i>Dove</i> |
| | | Berliner Mass <i>Pärt</i> |
| | Psalm | 122 |
| | Motet | O salutaris hostia <i>Tallis</i> |
| | Hymn | 272 |
| | Voluntary | Prelude, Fugue & Chaconne, BuxWV 137
<i>Buxtehude</i> |
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- 7 Friday
- | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|----------------|
| <i>St Willibrord of York</i> | 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
|------------------------------|--------|----------------|
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- 8 Saturday
- | | | |
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| | 2.00pm | Requiem Eucharist for former Chaplain
the Revd Mark Everitt |
|--|--------|--|

9 Remembrance Sunday (5th week)

9.00am	College Eucharist
10.50am	Act of Remembrance
5.45pm	Choral Evensong
Prelude	In Paradisum <i>Reece-Trapp</i>
Introit	Hear my prayer <i>Purcell</i>
Responses	<i>Shephard</i>
Psalm	40
Canticles	Magnificat in G <i>Jackson</i> Nunc Dimittis in B flat <i>Wood</i>
Anthem	Song for Athene <i>Tavener</i>
Hymns	533, 503, 'I vow to thee my country'
Preacher	Fred Thomas MP <i>Member of Parliament for Plymouth Moor View</i>
Voluntary	Passacaglia in C minor BWV 582 <i>JS Bach</i>

10 Monday

<i>Leo the</i>	8.15am	Morning Prayer
<i>Great</i>	6.00pm	Choral Vespers
	Prelude	Elevation <i>Walker</i>
	Responses	Plainsong
	Hymn	505
	Psalm	4
	Magnificat	Second Service <i>Moore</i>
	Anthem	Vater Unser <i>Pärt</i>
	Voluntary	Andante, from Trio Sonata in E minor BWV 528, ii <i>JS Bach</i>

11 Tuesday

8.15am	Morning Prayer
12.30pm	Eucharist
6.00pm	Evening Prayer
7.30pm	Concert: 90 Years of Arvo Pärt at the Sheldonian Theatre with Merton College Choir, Merton College Girl Choristers, and the Britten Sinfonia

- 12 Wednesday
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|---------------|--|
| 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
| 6.15pm | Choral Evensong |
| Prelude | In Paradisum (from Triptyque Gregorien)
<i>Langlais</i> |
| Responses | <i>Byrd</i> |
| Psalms | 12, 13 |
| Canticles | Short Service <i>Weelkes</i> |
| Anthem | In paradisium <i>Fauré</i> |
| Hymn | 513 |
| Voluntary | Prelude and fugue in E minor, BWV 533 <i>JS Bach</i> |
- 13 Thursday
- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
| 1.15pm | Organ Recital by George Balfour |
| 6.15pm | Choral Evensong |
| Prelude | Folk Tune <i>Whitlock</i> |
| Responses | <i>Shephard</i> |
| Psalms | 42, 43 |
| Canticles | <i>Walmisley</i> in D minor |
| Anthem | Bring us, O Lord <i>Harris</i> |
| Hymn | 100 |
| Voluntary | Herzlich thut mich verlangen <i>Brahms</i> |
- 14 Friday
- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
| 6.00pm | Roman Catholic Mass |

16 The Second Sunday before Advent (6th week)

9.00am	College Eucharist
5.45pm	Choral Evensong
Prelude	Te Lucis ante terminum <i>Rutter</i>
Introit	Come, my joy <i>Rutter after Gibbons</i>
Responses	<i>Shephard</i>
Psalms	97
Canticles	Gloucester Service <i>Howells</i>
Anthem	Hymn to the Creator of Light <i>Rutter</i>
Hymns	359, 521, 428
Preacher	The Revd Lucy Winkett <i>Rector of St James's Church, Piccadilly</i>
Voluntary	Finale from Symphony II <i>Widor</i>

17 Monday

8.15am	Morning Prayer
6.00pm	Choral Vespers
Prelude	Ubi Caritas <i>Demessieux</i>
Responses	Plainsong
Hymn	591
Psalms	28
Canticles	Magnificat in F <i>Watson</i>
Anthem	Ubi caritas et amor <i>Panufnik</i>
Voluntary	Allegro moderato (Organ Sonata II) <i>CPE Bach</i>

18 Tuesday

<i>Elizabeth,</i>	8.15am	Morning Prayer
<i>princess,</i>	12.30pm	Eucharist
<i>philanthropist</i>	6.15pm	Choral Evensong
	Prelude	Verses from Magnificat quarti toni <i>Titelouze</i>
	Responses	<i>Leighton</i>
	Hymn	484
	Psalms	33
	Canticles	Collegium Sancti Johannis Cantabrigiense <i>Howells</i>
	Anthem	Geistliches Lied <i>Brahms</i>
	Voluntary	Magnificat quarti toni, Gloria Patri <i>Titelouze</i>
	9.00pm	Compline

19 Wednesday

*Hilda,
abbess*

8.15am

Morning Prayer

6.15pm

Choral Evensong

Prelude

Solemn March to the Holy Grail *Wagner arr. Liszt*

Responses

Clucas

Psalms

73

Canticles

Stanford in B flat

Anthem

I sing of a maiden *Berkeley*

Hymn

502

Voluntary

Fugue on the Magnificat *JS Bach*

20 Thursday

*Edmund,
King &
martyr*

8.15am

Morning Prayer

1.15pm

Organ Recital by Rakhat-Bi Abdyssagin

6.15pm

Choral Evensong

Prelude

Fantasia *van Noordt*

Responses

Leighton

Psalm

40

Canticles

Purcell in G minor

Anthem

Lobet den Herrn *JS Bach*

Hymn

557

Voluntary

Vivace, from Trio Sonata in G major, BWV 530, i
JS Bach

21 Friday

8.15am

Morning Prayer

23 Christ the King (7th week)

9.00am Morning Prayer

5.45pm Choral Eucharist

Prelude Church Sonata in D major, KV245 *Mozart*

Setting Coronation Mass *Mozart*

Psalm 46

Hymns 200, 199, 560

Motet Ave verum corpus *Mozart*

Preacher The Very Revd Professor Sarah Foot
Dean of Christ Church

Voluntary Te Deum *Demessieux*

24 Monday

8.15am Morning Prayer

6.00pm Choral Vespers

Prelude Christe qui lux es et dies *Sweelinck*

Responses Plainsong

Hymn 572

Psalm 47

Magnificat Berkshire Service *Archer*

Anthem Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace *Boyle*

Voluntary Tree of Peace *Weir*

25 Tuesday

Catherine of 8.15am Morning Prayer

Alexandria, **12.30pm Eucharist**

Isaac **6.15pm Choral Evensong**

Watts 1748 Prelude Ricercare primo tono *A. Gabrieli*

Responses *Ayleward*

Psalms 99, 101

Canticles Magnificat Primi Toni *Palestrina*

Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Wood*

Anthem Ave Maria *Victoria*

Hymn 498

Voluntary Capriccio sopra re fa mi sol *de Macque*

9.00pm Compline

- 26 Wednesday
- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
| 6.15pm | Choral Evensong |
| Prelude | Sarabande and Interlude <i>Sumsion</i> |
| Responses | Plainsong |
| Psalms | 121, 122 |
| Canticles | <i>Sumsion</i> in G |
| Anthem | A Song of Peace <i>Stanford</i> |
| Hymn | 530 |
| Voluntary | Postlude in D minor <i>Stanford</i> |
- 27 Thursday
- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
| 1.15pm | Organ Recital by Benjamin Nicholas |
| 6.15pm | Choral Evensong |
| Prelude | Prelude (Parthenia) <i>Gibbons</i> |
| Responses | <i>Ayleward</i> |
| Psalms | 131, 132, 133 |
| Canticles | Second Service <i>Gibbons</i> |
| Anthem | O thou, the central orb <i>Gibbons</i> |
| Hymn | 504 |
| Voluntary | Fantazia of foure parts (Parthenia) <i>Gibbons</i> |
- 28 Friday
- | | |
|--------|----------------|
| 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
|--------|----------------|
- 29 Saturday
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|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 4.00pm | Advent Carol Service I |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
- 30 **First Sunday of Advent (8th week)**
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|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 9.00am | College Eucharist |
| 5.30pm | Advent Carol Service II |

DECEMBER

1 Monday

8.15am	Morning Prayer
6.00pm	Choral Vespers
Prelude	Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen <i>Brahms</i>
Responses	Plainsong
Hymn	264
Psalm	96
Magnificat	Tone viii
Anthem	How beautiful are the feet <i>Handel</i>
Voluntary	Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645 <i>JS Bach</i>

2 Tuesday

8.15am	Morning Prayer
12.30pm	Eucharist
6.15pm	Choral Evensong
Prelude	Rorate caeli <i>Dunphy</i>
Responses	<i>Byrd</i>
Psalms	74, 75
Canticles	Second Service <i>Byrd</i>
Anthem	Rorate caeli de super <i>Byrd</i>
Hymn	593
Voluntary	Noels pour le temps de l'Avent <i>Guilmant</i>
9.00pm	Compline

3 Wednesday

8.15am	Morning Prayer
6.15pm	Choral Evensong
Prelude	In dulci jubilo Buxtehude
Responses	<i>Byrd</i>
Psalms	76
Canticles	<i>Sumsion</i> in A
Anthem	Adam lay y-bounden <i>Ord</i>
Hymn	613
Voluntary	A solis ortus cardine <i>M. Praetorius</i>

4 Thursday

8.15am Morning Prayer
1.15pm **Organ Recital by Anna Stepler**
8.30pm **Christmas Carol Service**
sung by Merton College Choir

5 Friday

8.15am Morning Prayer
6.00pm **Christmas Carol Service**
sung by the Merton College Girl Choristers & Lower Voices

CHRISTMAS VACATION

*The first Choral Service of the Hilary Term
will be the Epiphany Carol Service at 5.45pm on Sunday 18 January
sung by the College Choir and Choristers.*

CHAPEL SERVICES

Sundays

9.00am College Eucharist / Morning Prayer
followed by breakfast in Hall
5.45pm Choral Evensong / Choral Eucharist
followed by drinks in the Ante-Chapel

Weekdays

8.15am Morning Prayer (Monday to Friday)
12.30pm Eucharist (Tuesday) *followed by lunch*
6.00pm Choral Vespers (Monday)
6.15pm Choral Evensong (Tuesday, Wednesday
and Thursday)
9.00pm Compline (Tuesday)

CHAPEL TEAM

College Chaplain

The Revd Canon Justin White

Associate Chaplain

The Revd Lyndon Webb

Reed Rubin Organist and Director of Music

Benjamin Nicholas

Assistant Organist

Anna Stepler

Verger

Jen Crompton

Chapel & Choir Manager

Lizzie Casey

Livestreamers

Hope Clarke, Elizabeth Cullinane, Harmony Matheson,
Taisiia Sazonova, Mattie Sutton

Chapel Officers

Eleanor Clark, Rohan Crowe, Sacha Fairweather, Lilli Ganzer,
Alexandre Guilloteau, Georgia Hall, Asha Levy, Cecilia Loughney,
Harmony Matheson, Ella McLoughlin, Sophie Plant,
Taisiia Sazonova, Milly Starky, Cara Treacy, Dylan Turner,
Sarah Ware, Zoe Wilkinson