



MERTON
COLLEGE
OXFORD
CHAPEL

HILARY TERM 2023

MERTON COLLEGE CHAPEL is open to all as a place of worship and quiet reflection. The Chapel is part of the Church of England but the daily offering of worship is sustained by people from many different traditions. If you would like to read or serve in the Chapel, please contact one of the Chaplains or another member of the Chapel Team.

CHORAL FOUNDATION The College Choir sings on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and our Choristers sing on Mondays and Wednesdays. The Choristers are drawn from a number of local schools across Oxford. This term's music can be found on the Chapel and Choir pages of the College website.

WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS The main service of the week is at **5.45pm** on **Sundays**. Alternating between Choral Evensong and a Choral Eucharist (Holy Communion), the College Choir sings at this candlelit service. The Sunday morning service begins at **9.00am** and lasts about half an hour. This quieter, more reflective service alternates between the Eucharist and Morning Prayer, and is followed by breakfast. Our Chapel collections this term will be given to Young Minds (www.youngminds.org.uk), a mental health charity working with young people.

WEEKDAY SERVICES

8.15am	Morning Prayer	(Monday–Friday)
12.30pm	Eucharist	(Tuesday)
6.00pm	Choral Vespers	(Monday)
6.15pm	Choral Evensong	(Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday)
9.45pm	Night Prayer	(Thursday)

THURSDAY NIGHT PRAYER Gather in chapel at 9.45pm on Thursdays for a short reflective service with candles, incense and chants. A relaxed and beautiful way to end the day.

SHROVE TUESDAY Tuesday 21 February (6th week) is Shrove Tuesday, when we commemorate the College's Founder, Walter de Merton.

12.30pm	Eucharist <i>followed by lunch</i>
6.15pm	Choral Evensong and Commemoration of Benefactors <i>followed by drinks and the finalists' dinner</i>

ASH WEDNESDAY Lent begins on Wednesday 22 February (6th week).

5.45pm	Sung Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes <i>at which the College Choir will sing Allegri's 'Miserere'</i>
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SERVICES AND PREACHERS SUNDAYS AT 5.45PM

15 January <i>Epiphany 2</i>	Epiphany Carol Service	The Revd Lyndon Webb <i>Associate Chaplain</i>
22 January <i>Epiphany 3</i>	Evensong	The Revd Dr Thomas Sharp <i>Succentor, Southwark Cathedral and Minister-in-Charge, St Hugh's, Bermondsey</i>
29 January <i>Presentation of Christ in the Temple</i>	Eucharist	The Revd Canon Dr Victoria Johnson <i>Canon Precentor, York Minster</i>
5 February <i>3 before Lent</i>	Evensong	The Rt Hon Ben Bradshaw MP <i>Member of Parliament for Exeter</i>
12 February <i>2 before Lent</i>	Eucharist	The Rt Revd and Rt Hon the Lord Williams of Oystermouth <i>Honorary Fellow formerly Archbishop of Canterbury and Visitor of the College</i>
19 February <i>Next before Lent</i>	Evensong	The Revd Jarel Robinson-Brown <i>Assistant Curate, St Botolph, Aldgate, London</i>
26 February <i>Lent 1</i>	Eucharist	The Revd Canon Dr Simon Jones <i>Chaplain</i>
5 March <i>Lent 2</i>	Evensong	Rebecca Abrams <i>Author, teacher and journalist</i>

BAPTISM and CONFIRMATION If you would like to discuss the possibility of being baptized and/or confirmed in the Chapel, please have a word with one of the Chaplains.

CHRISTIAN UNION & CATHSOC This term's CU reps are Jonny Rugg (Merton) and Josh Williams (Oriel). Carl Haller is the RC rep. The termly RC Mass is at 6.00pm on Friday 24 February (6th week).

LYNDON'S BOOK GROUP This term we are reading *How Beautiful We Were* by Imbolo Mbue. Billed as one of the top works of fiction to come out in 2022, the novel traces the vexed relationship between a small African community and a large oil corporation as they fight for very different stakes in the land. We will meet in the **Hawkins Room from 3-4pm on Fridays in weeks 1-7**; and yes, there will be cake! For more information, and to order your free copy of the book, contact Lyndon.

FAITH MATTERS Whether you're fully signed-up to the Creeds, a little Bible-curious, or just interested in thinking about faith and contemporary issues, all are welcome to join us for a fortnightly discussion group this term. Led by Lyndon, the group will look at those strange bits of doctrine you never really understood, the voices which speak to us from Scripture, and the big questions facing us today. And following our Good Lord's example, there will of course be plenty of wine (and cheese!) to fuel discussion. We will meet from **8.30-9.45pm** on **Thursdays** in **weeks 1, 3, 5 & 7** in the **Harrison Room**. Email Lyndon for more information or to suggest topics for conversation. All very welcome!

CHAPEL TEAM

Student Chapel Officers

George Adams	Roheena Buckland	Francesca Lovell-Read
Ebube Akojie	Eleanor Clark	Jared Martin
Tom Allen	Marcus Gamble	Kelly McClinton
Antonia Anstatt	Ellie Garrigan Mattar	Camilo Mosquera
Benjamin Atkinson	Hollie Goodwin	Jana Nedelkoska
Susie Barrows	Carl Haller	Lukas Ruediger
Luke Bateman	Elisabeth Ilgner	Audrey Southgate
Alex Brown	Rachel Jung	Michael Zajac

<i>Pastoral Assistant</i>	Josie Godfrey	<i>Livestreaming Technicians</i>	Sebastian Dows-Miller Joseph Clarke Ruby Doran Meira Shiv Mandal Pen Hilder Jarvis
<i>Reed Rubin Organist & Director of Music</i>	Benjamin Nicholas	<i>Organ Scholars</i>	Owen Chan François Cloete
<i>Chapel Office & Choir Manager</i>	Lizzie Casey		
<i>Verger</i>	Jen Crompton		

THE CHAPLAINS

The **College Chaplain**, the Revd Canon Dr **Simon Jones** (Fellows' 3.2, simon.jones@merton.ox.ac.uk), is happy to speak in confidence with any member of College (regardless of religious affiliation) concerning any matter. As well as being responsible for the Chapel, Simon also co-ordinates the welfare provision in College and chairs the Student Support Committee.

The Revd **Lyndon Webb** (Fellows' 3.9, lyndon.webb@merton.ox.ac.uk) is the **Associate Chaplain**. Lyndon has particular responsibility for pastoral care within the Chapel community, for leading the discussion groups, and developing new initiatives.

To join the Chapel email list, send a message to
jennifer.crompton@merton.ox.ac.uk

Cover image: Camilo Mosquera