MERTON COLLEGE CHAPEL is open to all members of the College community 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 Christians 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 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, which will finish in time for Formal Hall. 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 donated to Daybreak, an Oxford based charity providing care and support to help people live well with dementia.

WEEKDAY SERVICES
- 8.15am  Morning Prayer (Monday–Friday)
- 6.15pm  Choral Evensong (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday)
- 6.30pm  Evening Prayer (Monday)

Members of the congregation are encouraged to wear face coverings at choral services on Sundays and weekdays. Apart from the All Souls’ Requiem and the Advent Carol Services, we will not be using a booking system this term.

LIVESTREAMING All of our choral services and the Thursday lunchtime organ recital will be livestreamed on the College Choir’s YouTube channel.

ALL SOULS’ At 5.30pm on Sunday 31 October (4th week) the College Choir will sing the Mozart Requiem as we commemorate the departed. Please email the Chaplain with the names of anyone you would like to be remembered.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY In addition to the 9.00am and 5.45pm services on 14 November (6th week), there will be a short Act of Remembrance at 10.50am at the College War Memorial under the Fitzjames Arch. This will include the laying of wreaths and two minutes’ silence.

BAPTISM and CONFIRMATION If you would like to discuss the possibility of being baptized and / or confirmed in the Chapel, have a word with one of the Chaplains.
SERVICES AND PREACHERS
SUNDAYS AT 5.45PM

10 October
Trinity 19
Freshers’ Service
The Revd Canon Dr Simon Jones
Chaplain

17 October
Trinity 20
Eucharist
Oliver Wright
Pastoral Assistant

24 October
Last Sunday after Trinity
Evensong
Fra’ John Eidinow
Fellow, Dean and
Keeper of the Statutes and Bylaws
Commemoration of Benefactors

31 October
4 before Advent
Eucharist (5.30pm)
Mozart Requiem

7 November
3 before Advent
Evensong
The Revd Dr Michael Brierley
Director of Formation
Ripon College, Cuddesdon

14 November
Remembrance Sunday
Evensong
The Revd Prof William Whyte
Professor of Social and Architectural History
St John’s College

21 November
Christ the King
Corporate
Communion
The Revd Dr Melanie Marshall
Associate Chaplain

28 November
Advent Sunday
Advent Carol Service (5.30pm)

CAROL SERVICES This year’s candlelit Advent Carol Services will take place at 5.30pm on Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 November. There will also be a traditional Christmas Carol Service at 8.30pm on Thursday 2 December.

CHRISTIAN UNION & CATHSOC This term’s CU reps are Joseph Rhee (Merton) and Charlie Reeder and Rebeccah Williams (St Hilda’s). Carl Haller is this term’s RC rep. The termly RC Mass is at 6.00pm on Friday 19 November (6th week).

MEL’S BOOK GROUP This term’s book group will meet from 3.30pm–4.30pm on Fridays in the Chestnut Hall. This term we will be reading Fake Law: the truth about justice in an age of lies. Free copies are available for anyone who would like to take part. Contact Mel for more information.
PLATO READING GROUP  You could sit down and read one of Plato’s dialogues on your own, but why not do it in company? Email Mel to join in with this relaxed and sociable opportunity to get to know the great philosopher a little better. Selected Wednesday evenings, 8pm-10pm in the Hawkins Room.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS  Held in the MCR on alternate Thursdays from 12.30pm-1.30pm. Join Mel in weeks 2, 4, 6, and 8 for discussions about how social and political questions are best played out in our life as a college. A sandwich lunch will be provided, and all members of Merton are warmly encouraged to join in.

CHAPEL TEAM

Student Chapel Officers

George Adams  Pax Butchart  Rachel Jung
Antonia Anstatt  Lizzy Down  Francesca Lovell-Read
Kabir Bakshi  Ellie Garrigan Mattar  Jared Martin
Susie Barrows  Hollie Goodwin  Jana Nedelkoska
Luke Bateman  Carl Haller  Audrey Southgate
Alex Brown  Lachlan Hughes  Silvia Trinczek
Roheena Buckland  Liv Jenkins  Michael Zajac

Pastoral Assistant  Oliver Wright
Livestreaming Technicians  Sebastian Dows-Miller  Lizzy Down

Reed Rubin Organist  Benjamin Nicholas  Organ Scholars  Kentaro Machida
and Director of Music  Lizzie Casey  Owen Chan
Chapel Administrator  Verger  Leah Collins

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 Dr Melanie Marshall (Fellows’ 3.9, melanie.marshall@merton.ox.ac.uk) is the Associate Chaplain. Mel 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 leah.collins@merton.ox.ac.uk

Cover photograph: Ian Wallman