



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

**SERVICES AND MUSIC
DECEMBER 2025**

THE CHORAL FOUNDATION OF CHRIST CHURCH:

THE CATHEDRAL CHOIR

When Henry VIII founded Christ Church in 1546 he made provision for the education of a number of boy choristers and a schoolmaster. From these historic roots has grown the current Christ Church Cathedral School, of about 150 pupils aged three to 13, housed in premises built by Dean Liddell (father of Lewis Carroll's 'Alice.') The cathedral choristers are dedicated to their daily music-making, & to the transformational experience that singing in one of the world's most famous choirs brings.

The Lay and Academical Clerks, as part of the choral foundation at Christ Church, sing with the boy choristers, and with Frideswide Voices, at services throughout the year. The Lay Clerks are professional singers, whilst the Academical Clerks are undergraduates reading for a degree at the University of Oxford. The Organist, Peter Holder, and Christ Church Cathedral School welcome enquiries at any time about being a chorister at Christ Church. Please contact the School Registrar on 01865 242561 or email registrar@cccs.org.uk : they will be pleased to arrange a tour of the School and Boarding House or an informal voice trial. www.cccs.org.uk

FRIDESWIDE VOICES

Frideswide Voices was the first Anglican choir created specifically for girls of chorister age in Oxford, and was originally formed in October 2014. While they have always had significant links with Christ Church, they became part of the Foundation in September 2019. The girls are drawn from more than 25 different schools across the city and county. They sing Evensong in the Cathedral on most Wednesdays during term-time, as well as singing other services throughout the year.

The choir's manager, Valentyna Dmytriieva, welcomes enquiries about choristerships at any time. Please email valentyna.dmytriieva@chch.ox.ac.uk for further information. chch.ox.ac.uk/frideswidevoices

Unless stated otherwise, all choral services will be sung by members of the Choral Foundation

OTHER CHOIRS AT CHRIST CHURCH:

THE CATHEDRAL SINGERS OF CHRIST CHURCH

The Cathedral Singers is the Cathedral's adult mixed-voice choir, singing when the other choirs are away or on holiday. Under its own professional director and organist, the choir operates a squad system in order to provide choral music for up to 100 services a year. We welcome new singers, who should be confident readers of music. For more information, please email simon.hogan@chch.ox.ac.uk.

www.cathedralsingers.org.uk

THE COLLEGE CHOIR OF CHRIST CHURCH

The College Choir is composed of Junior Members of Christ Church and colleagues from across the University. As such, it is the only student-run choir at Oxford to sing in Christ Church Cathedral regularly. In addition to regular services of choral Evensong, Compline, and Eucharist in the Cathedral, the College Choir also sings in local churches and the Oxfordshire community.

The ensemble prides itself on maintaining a high standard of singing in a relaxed, non-auditioned, and friendly atmosphere. If you are an Oxford University student interested in singing with us, please feel free to be in touch at chchcollegechoir@gmail.com.

www.chch.ox.ac.uk/choirs/college-choir

VISITING CHOIRS

When our own choirs are not in residence, it is a delight to welcome visitors from around the country and beyond. This may be school or university choirs, amateur or professional groups, and they may be with us for a single service, a few days or a whole week. If your choir would like to organise a residency at Christ Church, please get in touch with us at visitingchoirs@chch.ox.ac.uk

1–7 DECEMBER

CANON IN RESIDENCE CANON PROFESSOR CAROL HARRISON *Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity*

MONDAY 1 DECEMBER

ANDREW THE APOSTLE

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist

in the Latin Chapel

6:05pm Evening Prayer

said at the West end

Psalms 87, 96

TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist

in the Lady Chapel

6:05pm Choral Evensong

Psalms 14

Grier Responses

Purcell *in G minor*

Handel *And the glory of the Lord*

WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist

in the Bell Chapel

1:05pm BCP Communion

6:05pm Choral Evensong

Psalms 18.1–15

Ebdon Responses

Gibbons *Second Service*

Wise *Prepare ye the way of the Lord*

THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist

in the Chapel of Remembrance

6:05pm Choral Evensong

Psalms 22.1–11

Grier Responses

Byrd *Second Service*

Gibbons *O thou, the central orb*

FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist
in the Lucy Chapel

6:05pm Choral Evensong

Psalm 27

Tallis Responses

Victoria *Magnificat septimi toni*

plainsong Nunc Dimittis

Palestrina *Canite tuba in Sion*

SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER

8:15am Morning Prayer

8:35am Said Eucharist
in the Lady Chapel

6:05pm Choral Evensong

Hymn 20

Psalm 32

Tallis Responses

Sheppard *First Service*

Byrd *Domine praestolamur*

SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER

7:35am Said Matins (BCP)

8:05am BCP Communion

11:05am Choral Eucharist

Preacher

Canon Professor Carol Harrison
*Lady Margaret Professor of
Divinity*

Hymns 15, AM 497, 19

Psalm 72.1–7, 18–19

Stravinsky *Mass*

Rogg *Toccata sopra 'Nun freut
euch'*

The Second Sunday of Advent

6:05pm Choral Evensong

Hymn 8

Psalm 11

Grier Responses

Wallen *Magnificat*

plainsong Nunc Dimittis

MacMillan *O radiant dawn*

Vierne *Allegro (Deuxieme
Symphonie)*

8-14 DECEMBER

CANON IN RESIDENCE
THE REVD CANON PROFESSOR LUKE BRETHERTON
Regius Professor of Moral and Pastoral Theology

MONDAY 8 DECEMBER

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist
in the Latin Chapel

6:05pm Evening Prayer
said at the West end
Psalms 42

TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist
in the Lady Chapel

6:05pm Choral Evensong
Psalms 47, 48
Martin Responses
Jackson *in G*
Britten *A Hymn of St Columba*

**WEDNESDAY 10
DECEMBER**

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist
in the Bell Chapel

1:05pm BCP Communion

6:05pm Choral Evensong
Psalms 53, 54
Leighton Responses
Aston *in F*
Manz *E'en so, Lord Jesus*

THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist
in the Chapel of Remembrance

6:05pm Choral Evensong
Psalms 60, 61
Martin Responses
Batten *Fourth Service*
Weelkes *Hosanna to the Son of David*

FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist
in the Lucy Chapel

6:05pm Choral Evensong

Psalm 67
Martin Responses
Weelkes *Short Service*
Byrd *Vigilate*

SATURDAY 13 DECEMBER

8:15am Morning Prayer

8:35am Said Eucharist
in the Lady Chapel

6:05pm Choral Evensong

Hymn 25
Psalm 69. 1–14
Tallis Responses
Mundy *Magnificat secundi toni*
Tye *Nunc dimittis*
Mundy *Sive vigilem*

SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER

7:35am Said Matins (BCP)

8:05am BCP Communion

11:05am Choral Eucharist

Preacher
The Revd Catherine Cleghorn
Succentor

Hymns AM 327 (t. ii), 226 (t. 575),
3 (t. i)
Psalm 146.4–10

Byrd *Mass for three voices*
Sheppard *Rejoice in the Lord*
Bach *Fugue in e (BWV 548)*

The Third Sunday of Advent

**2:05pm Holy Communion
in British Sign Language**

6:05pm Choral Evensong

Hymn 6
Psalm 12
Tallis Responses
Parsons *First Service*
Tallis *Audivi vocem de caelo*
De Grigny *Tierce en taille*

15–21 DECEMBER

CANON IN RESIDENCE
THE VENERABLE JONATHAN CHAFFEY
Archdeacon of Oxford

MONDAY 15 DECEMBER

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist

in the Latin Chapel

6:05pm Evening Prayer

said at the West end

Psalm 78.1–17

TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist

in the Lady Chapel

6:05pm Friends' Carol Service

**WEDNESDAY 17
DECEMBER**

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist

in the Bell Chapel

1:05pm BCP Communion

6:05pm Choral Evensong
sung by the Cathedral Singers

Psalm 89.1–19

Ebdon Responses

Batten *Fourth Service*

Wise Prepare ye the way of the Lord

**THURSDAY 18
DECEMBER**

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist

in the Chapel of Remembrance

6:05pm Advent Organ Meditation

*played by Richard Moore,
George Balfour, and Michael
Chesters*

Messiaen *La Nativité du Seigneur*

FRIDAY 19 DECEMBER

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist
in the Lucy Chapel

6:05pm Choral Evensong
sung by the Cathedral Singers

Psalm 98

Ebdon Responses

Whitlock *Fauxbourdons*

Bruckner *Virga Jesse*

SATURDAY 20 DECEMBER

8:15am Morning Prayer

8:35am Said Eucharist
in the Lady Chapel

6:05pm Choral Evensong

Hymn 26 (t. ii)

Psalm 104.1–23

Martin Responses

Stanford *in G*

Taverner *Mater Christi
sanctissima*

SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER

7:35am Said Matins (BCP)

8:05am BCP Communion

11:05am Choral Eucharist

Preacher

The Venerable Jonathan
Chaffey

Archdeacon of Oxford

Hymns 216 (t. 322 ii), AM 75, 14

Psalm 80.1–8, 18–20

Taverner *Western Wynde Mass*

Bach *Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist*
(BWV 671)

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

**6:05pm A Service of Nine
Lessons and Carols for
Christmas**

Booking is essential for this
service. For more details, please
see the Cathedral website.

22–27 DECEMBER

CANON IN RESIDENCE **THE REVD CANON PETER MOGER** *Sub Dean*

MONDAY 22 DECEMBER

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist
in the Latin Chapel

6:05pm A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas

Booking is essential for this service. For more details, please see the Cathedral website.

TUESDAY 23 DECEMBER

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist
in the Lady Chapel

6:05pm A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas

Booking is essential for this service. For more details, please see the Cathedral website.

WEDNESDAY 24 DECEMBER CHRISTMAS EVE

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist
in the Bell Chapel

10:35am Journey to Bethlehem

a service for families

3:05pm A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas

Booking is essential for this service. For more details, please see the Cathedral website.

11:35pm Midnight Mass
*sung by the Frideswide Voices
Consort and Clerks*

Preacher

The Revd Canon Professor
Luke Bretherton
*Regius Professor of Moral and
Pastoral Theology*

Hymns 248, 46, 40

Haydn *St Nicholas Mass*
Grüber arr. Darlington *Silent night*
Rutter *Nativity carol*
Dupré *Prelude and Fugue in B*

**THURSDAY 25
DECEMBER
CHRISTMAS DAY**

8:05am BCP Communion

**9:35am Choral Matins for
Christmas Day**

Preacher

The Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft
Bishop of Oxford

Hymn 35

Psalms 110, 117

Martin Responses

Walton *Jubilate Deo*

Walton *Make we joy now in this fest*

Moore *A Fugal Flourish on*

'Personent Hodie'

**11:05am Choral Eucharist of
Christmas Day**

Preacher

The Very Revd Professor

Sarah Foot

Dean of Christ Church

Hymns 33, 40, 37

Psalms 96

Mozart *Coronation Mass (K.317)*

arr. Pearsall *In dulci jubilo*

Edmundson *Toccata 'Vom*

Himmel Hoch'

6:05pm Evening Prayer

said at the West end

Psalms 8

**FRIDAY 26 DECEMBER
STEPHEN, DEACON, FIRST
MARTYR**

8:15am Morning Prayer

8:35am Said Eucharist

in the Lucy Chapel

6:05pm Evening Prayer

said at the West end

Psalms 86

**SATURDAY 27
DECEMBER
JOHN, APOSTLE AND
EVANGELIST**

8:15am Morning Prayer

8:35am Said Eucharist

in the Lady Chapel

6:05pm Solemn Evensong
sung by the Cathedral Singers

Hymn 267

Psalms 97

Martin Responses

Whitlock *in D*

Darke *In the bleak midwinter*

**28 DECEMBER –
4 JANUARY**

CANON IN RESIDENCE
THE REVD CHARLIE KERR
Priest Vicar for Education and Pilgrimage

SUNDAY 28 DECEMBER

The Holy Innocents

7:35am Said Matins (BCP)

8:05am BCP Communion

11:05am Choral Eucharist
sung by the Cathedral Singers

Preacher

The Revd Canon Peter Moger
Sub Dean

Hymns 51, AM 69 (t. ii), 268
Psalm 124

Victoria Missa *O magnum
mysterium*

Anon. *Coventry Carol*

6:05pm Choral Evensong

*sung by the Cathedral Singers,
with the Valediction of the
Organist and Interim Director
of the Cathedral Singers*

Hymn 39

Psalm 128

Martin Responses

Murrill *in E*

Leighton *Lully, lulla*

MONDAY 29 DECEMBER

8:15am Morning Prayer

8:35am Said Eucharist
in the Latin Chapel

6:05pm Evening Prayer

said at the West end

Psalms 142

TUESDAY 30 DECEMBER

8:15am Morning Prayer

8:35am Said Eucharist
in the Lady Chapel

6:05pm Choral Evensong

sung by the Cathedral Singers

Psalm 147

Ayleward Responses

Purcell *in G minor*

Tallis *O nata lux*

**WEDNESDAY 31
DECEMBER**

8:15am Morning Prayer

8:35am Said Eucharist
in the Bell Chapel

1:05pm BCP Communion

6:05pm Choral Evensong

sung by the Cathedral Singers

Psalm 150

Ayleward Responses

Dyson *in F*

Kelly *This lovely lady*

THURSDAY 1 JANUARY

THE NAMING AND CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS

8:15am Morning Prayer

8:35am Said Eucharist
in the Chapel of Remembrance

6:05pm Choral Evensong
sung by the Cathedral Singers

Hymn 484

Psalm 8

Ayleward Responses

Weelkes *Short Service*

arr. Pearsall *In dulci jubilo*

FRIDAY 2 JANUARY

7:15am Morning Prayer

7:35am Said Eucharist
in the Lucy Chapel

6:05pm Choral Evensong
sung by the Cathedral Singers

Psalm 12

Ayleward Responses

Gibbons *Short Service*

Byrd *O magnum mysterium*

SATURDAY 3 JANUARY

8:15am Morning Prayer

8:35am Said Eucharist
in the Lady Chapel

6:05pm Choral Evensong
sung by the Cathedral Singers

Hymn 31

Psalm 18

Clucas Responses

Watson *in E*

I. Holst *Out of your sleep*

SUNDAY 4 JANUARY

7:35am Said Matins (BCP)

8:05am BCP Communion

11:05am Choral Eucharist

Preacher

The Revd Charlie Kerr

*Priest Vicar for Education and
Pilgrimage*

Hymns AM 101, 28 (t. ii), 529

Psalm 147.13–end

Darke *in F*

Edwards *No small wonder*

The Second Sunday of Christmas

6:05pm Choral Evensong

Hymn 49

Psalm 135.1–14

Clucas Responses

Howells *Gloucester Service*

Mathias *A babe is born*

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE CATHEDRAL

Please visit www.chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedral-christmas-events to book

Christmas with the Clerks of Christ Church Cathedral Choir, Friday 12 December, 8.00 pm

Come and join the Clerks of Christ Church Cathedral for our third annual Christmas Concert, in this our 500th year! From contemporary works, to beloved Christmas classics, to kitschy new arrangements, Christmas with the Clerks is the perfect chance to get your festive fix of Christmas past and present (though perhaps not quite the future) in our beautiful cathedral, with a complementary glass of mulled wine to accompany your evening.

Cathedral Singers of Christ Church - Britten: A Ceremony of Carols, Saturday 13 December, 8.00 pm

The Cathedral Singers is Christ Church's auditioned choir of volunteers which sings for around 100 Cathedral services a year. They present Benjamin Britten's 1943 full choir arrangement of his enduringly popular A Ceremony of Carols, alongside a selection of Christmas favourites - including a chance for you to join with them in singing carols.

Five Lessons and Carols: Friends of Christ Church Cathedral Carol Service and Supper, Tuesday 16 December, 6.05 pm

This service of Five Lessons and Carols sung by the Cathedral Choir is presented by the Friends of Christ Church Cathedral, whose generosity in support of our mission and ministry is recognised during the service. All are warmly invited to join us - the service is open to the public and no booking is required.

Music at Oxford: Christmas at Christ Church, Wednesday 18 December & Friday 20 December, 8.00 pm

A popular mix of festive cheer and nostalgia, audiences flock to Music at Oxford's annual celebration of Christmas music and carols each year. Revel in the glorious sounds of the Cathedral Choir, and enjoy seasonal readings and the chance for everyone to join in with the audience carols under the expert direction of Christ Church's Organist Peter Holder. These concerts sell out in advance, so book early!

NEWS

Join our Team: Volunteer and Visitor Assistant

We are looking for a new Volunteer and Visitor Assistant to join our friendly Cathedral Staff team. The successful applicant will be responsible for assisting our Volunteer and Visitor Coordinator in the management of both our community of over 450 volunteers, as well as over 300,000 Cathedral visitors a year.

If you'd like to find out more and apply, please visit www.chch.ox.ac.uk/vacancies/volunteer-and-visitor-assistant-0.

Applications close on December 8th.

Christ Church Christmas Tree Festival

Available to visitors from December 1st

Discover Christ Church in a brand new way this Christmas with our sparkling Christmas Tree Festival. Starting on 1 December, you can follow our trail of Christmas trees spread around the Christ Church site. From our monastic past to Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland, each tree is carefully designed by different members of our community to both tell a part of Christ Church's story and share the joy of Christmas with you. Access to the festival is included with a visitor ticket, and both self-led multimedia guide tours and guided tours, including our lantern-led festive tours are available. To book your tickets now, visit www.chch.ox.ac.uk/visit/tickets-and-information.

Family Christmas Tree Decoration Craft Workshops, Cathedral Chapter House, 13th and 20th December

Join us for a festive morning of creativity at one of our Christmas tree decoration workshops! Dive into a world of stars, angels, glitter, and glue to create your own magical Christmas tree decorations to take home with you. All materials provided — just bring your imagination! While the children craft away, adults can relax with a cup of tea or coffee and a fresh pastry. The two sessions take place from 10:30-12:45 in the Cathedral Chapter House on Saturday 13th and 20th of December. The sessions are offered free of charge, but a ticket is required to attend. Spaces are limited — book your place online now! For further information, visit our website.



For more news and information about upcoming events, you can sign up to our regular newsletter by scanning the QR code, or using the link below

*[chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedral/about/
subscribe-cathedral-email-newsletter](http://chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedral/about/subscribe-cathedral-email-newsletter)*

VOLUNTEERING

The Cathedral wouldn't be able to function without its 400 or so volunteers. We are always looking for people to join many of our teams, including Guides, Stewards, Servers, Schools and Children, Refreshments, etc. If you'd like to join a friendly community, share your skills, or learn something new, please get in touch with:

HEARING LOOP

The Cathedral has a hearing loop. The system is most effective in the centre and away from the pillars.



SAFEGUARDING

If you have any concerns about the safety of a child or vulnerable adult in or around Christ Church Cathedral, please let us know immediately. Please speak to any member of the clergy or vergers team on duty, or contact the safeguarding team at:

/ 07746 046009

Matthew Dickins (Associate Cathedral Safeguarding Officer)
/ 01865 610935

The Revd Charlie Kerr (Associate Cathedral Safeguarding Officer)
/ 01865 610935

If you believe that a child or adult is in immediate danger of significant or serious harm, you should contact the police on 999

EVACUATION PROCEDURE

In the unlikely event of an emergency, please follow the instructions of the Vergers, and calmly make your way out through the West (Main) door – or alternative exit if necessary – and move away from the building.