Your Cathedral

Oxford is unique in having a Cathedral that is both the ‘mother church’ for the Diocese of Oxford and also a College Chapel within the University of Oxford.

The Cathedral is part of the joint foundation of Christ Church. The Christ Church site – which includes the beautiful Christ Church Meadow – extends over 175 acres in the heart of the busy city of Oxford. Our small Cathedral is set in the imposing setting of Tom Quad, the largest quadrangle in the University.

This beautiful building has its origins in the monastery church built by Augustinian monks at the end of the 12th century, in the name of St Frideswide, Patron Saint of both the city and University of Oxford.

Today’s Cathedral is home to a community whose worship is enhanced by a world-famous choral tradition. Alongside our daily offering of worship, the Cathedral hosts a wide range of concerts, exhibitions and diocesan events such as the annual St Frideswide Pilgrimage. We also welcome large numbers of pilgrims and visitors from all around the world.

Like every other church and cathedral, we had to make radical changes during the pandemic. We are now, God willing, moving into a new chapter with fewer restrictions.

Do come and see us. We very much look forward to welcoming you back to this sanctuary in the city.

Canon Richard Peers,
Sub Dean

Parishioner Pass

To apply for a Parishioner Pass please complete the form below. You can also apply online at chch.ox.ac.uk/yourcathedral. See overleaf for more details.

Title: ......................................................................................
First Name: ..........................................................................
Surname: .............................................................................
Address: .............................................................................
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Postcode: ............................................................................
The parish church I attend is ...........................................
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I declare that I am a member of the Church of England and live in the Diocese of Oxford and am eligible for a free Parishioner Pass.

Signature: ...........................................................................

Please send this form with a passport sized picture and a SAE to Parishioner Pass, Christ Church Cathedral, St Aldate’s, Oxford OX1 1DP.

Please allow ten days to process your application.

If you need help, please contact Miranda Hockliffe (miranda.hockliffe@chch.ox.ac.uk) or 01865 286165.

Worship

The daily offering of worship to God is at the heart of Christ Church Cathedral. Everyone is welcome to join us, whether for a single service or more regularly.

Sundays

8am  Holy Communion (1662)
10am  Said Matins (1662)
11am  Choral Eucharist (CW)
6pm  Choral Evensong (1662)

Weekdays

7.30am  Morning Prayer (CW)
7.30am  Holy Communion (CW)
1pm  Holy Communion (Wednesdays only) (1662)
6pm  Evening Prayer or Choral Evensong (1662)

Some of our services are livestreamed. For more information, including livestream links and our music list, see chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedral

Please note that our services begin five minutes later than normal ‘time, because the Cathedral keeps the old ‘Oxford Time’ (i.e. five minutes west of Greenwich). This means 6pm Oxford Time is 6.05pm GMT or BST.

Music

Choral music is at the heart of Cathedral worship. We are lucky to have no fewer than four choirs: the Cathedral Choir, made up of boy choristers from our Cathedral School and adults known as Clerks; Frideswide Voices, our girls’ choir whose members come from a variety of local schools; the Cathedral Singers; and the College Choir, drawn from students and staff.

During August and occasionally at other times of year we welcome visiting choirs from around the world. The Cathedral also hosts concerts throughout the year.

Pilgrimage

The Shrine of St Frideswide has been an important destination for pilgrims since medieval times. Today, people remain drawn to the Latin Chapel and the Shrine it houses because they sense this is a place that has been soaked in prayer over the centuries.

We hold an annual diocesan pilgrimage during October, which is part of a season of thanksgiving for our Patron Saint known as Frideswidetide.