Welcome

Of all the seasons of the Church’s year, Advent is most full of promise.

As we wait and prepare for the coming of Christ, we also look forward to the promise of his return: when all the pain of human experience will come to an end, and we will all be caught up in the full knowledge and love of God. With this focus, we read Biblical texts of hope and we light the four candles of the Advent wreath, one by one, bringing a gradual dawning until the light of Christmas finally breaks into the world.

Starting as a flicker, and spreading through our Cathedral as Advent progresses, the light finally blazes into the darkness of the night: at our Midnight Choral Eucharist, when we worship Jesus – the baby of Bethlehem, the Son of God who rises with healing in his wings, the light that came into the darkness that continues to enlighten all the world. That focus on light continues into the season of Epiphany, when we explore the revealing of the light of God in the beginning of Jesus’s ministry.

As we approach Christmas, we pray that the light of Christ will dawn into the hearts and homes of all people and shine out from this cathedral church into our city, county and diocese.

Revd Philippa White, Succentor

Cathedral Advent Service
Saturday 30 November 2019 • 6pm
FREE event, no tickets required

The Cathedral Choir sings a selection of Advent music old and new. The choir will process around the building as the Cathedral is gradually illuminated, representing the journey from darkness into light. Alongside the choral music, the congregation will be invited to join in Advent carols.

Frideswide Voices Advent Carol Service
Wednesday 4 December • 6pm

Our newest choir, Frideswide Voices of Christ Church conducted by Helen Smee, will sing a special service for Advent on Wednesday 4 December.

Advent Sleepout
Thursday 5 December

A group of Christ Church students, canons and staff will be once again sleeping overnight in the Cathedral to raise money for the Church Urban Fund, a charity which supports homeless projects around the country.

To donate, see www.sleepoutchallenge.org.uk.

Revd Philippa White, Succentor
Chapter Charity Concert:
Citizens Christmas
Thursday 12 December • 8pm

Our Chapter Charity Concert for 2019 is in aid of Citizens Advice Oxford and features special guest Rowan Atkinson as well as the choirs Out of the Blue and Frideswide Voices.

Come and enjoy the first ever Citizens Christmas - an original and unforgettable night of seasonal entertainment with the chance to sing along to your favourite carols, while helping to raise money for Oxford’s most well used charity, Citizens Advice Oxford. The evening will feature a new musical set from Oxford’s all-male a cappella choir Out of the Blue and the Cathedral’s newest choir, Frideswide Voices of Christ Church.

Tickets from www.ticketsoxford.com 01865 305305

Macmillan Charity Concert:
A Celebration of Christmas
Friday 6 December • 8pm

Now in its 23rd year, this popular Carol Concert has become Macmillan’s biggest single fundraising event in Oxfordshire. Join us for a memorable evening of seasonal choral music, favourite carols and festive readings from celebrities including Roger Allam, Shaun Evans, Patricia Hodge and Sally Phillips. Our conductor, Tom Hammond-Davies, will conduct the Oxford Bach Soloists and Steven Grahl, Organist of Christ Church, will play the organ. Entertainment in the Quad will be provided by the Magdalen College School Brass Ensemble.

Early booking recommended. Tickets from ticketsoxford.com 01865 305305

Family Carol Concert
In aid of Christ Church Cathedral Music Trust
Saturday 7 December • 2.30pm

We welcome audiences of all ages to enjoy a host of Christmas music in this informal daytime event. Expect angelic singing from Christ Church’s boy choristers and thunderous music from the organ, along with plenty of well-known carols for the audience to sing. This is the ideal concert to help get your family into the spirit of the season and raise money for the Christ Church Cathedral Music Trust.

Please note: There will be a buggy park inside the Cathedral, as there is no space next to seats.

Tickets from www.musicatoxford.com 01865 244806
Royal School of Church Music

Epiphany Carol Service
Saturday 18 January • 6pm
Church choirs from Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire join with the Cathedral Choir for a rich musical celebration of Epiphany.

Candlemas Carols
Sunday 2 February • 6pm
This seasonal celebration focuses on the work of the Anna Chaplaincy for Older People, which is part of BRF, and marks its tenth birthday this year.

Organ Meditations: La Nativité du Seigneur by Messiaen
Monday 16 December • 6pm (replaces Evening Prayer) • Free
Our Organ Scholar Ben Collyer performs Messiaen’s iconic meditations on the birth of Jesus on the Cathedral’s famous Rieger organ. Inspired by theology, the mountains of the French Alps, and the stained glass windows of medieval cathedrals, Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992) composed La Nativité du Seigneur in 1935. The work is in nine movements, each depicting an image or concept from the birth of Jesus.

Friends of Christ Church Cathedral: Christmas Carol Service
Thursday 19 December • 6pm • Free
A special Friends service sung by the Cathedral Choir. The service is open to the public and all are welcome.

Music at Oxford’s Christmas at Christ Church
Friday 13 December and Wednesday 18 December 8pm
Music at Oxford’s annual celebration of carols in the beautiful surroundings of the Cathedral brings together a popular mix of festive cheer and seasonal nostalgia. The Cathedral Choir will sing a range of music centred on the Christmas message, under their director Steven Grahm, with spirited readings and audience carols to share. Early booking is essential.

Tickets from www.musicatoxford.com
01865 244806

Cathedral Singers Christmas Concert: The Path to Bethlehem
Saturday 21 December • 8pm
Always a highlight of the festive season, the Cathedral Singers’ Christmas Concert includes beautiful music by Mendelssohn, Howells, Rutter, and more, directed by James Morley Potter and accompanied by David Bannister. The journey to Bethlehem is brought to life with music tracing the path from the Old Testament prophets to the familiar Kings, Shepherds, and Angels of the Christmas story. And there’s the chance to enter into the festive spirit by joining in with favourite carols and indulging in a complementary glass of wine in the interval
Tickets: £15/£10
Available from www.ticketsoxford.com
01865 305305

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**Special Events and Services** November 2019 - February 2020

### NOVEMBER 2019

**Thursday 28 November**
8pm College Choir Carols by Candlelight

**Saturday 30 November**
6pm Cathedral Advent Carol Service

### DECEMBER 2019

**Sunday 1 December**
9.45am University Sermon
5.30pm College Advent Carol Service

**Monday 2 December**
Oxford Wives’ Fellowship Service

**Tuesday 3 December**
Oxford Brookes Christian Union Carol Service

**Wednesday 4 December**
Fridayside Voices Advent Carol Service

**Thursday 5 December**
Advent Sleepout for CUF

**Friday 6 December**
8pm Macmillan Charity Concert

**Saturday 7 December**
2.30pm Family Concert

**Tuesday 10 December**
Christmas services for local schools

**Thursday 12 December**
8pm Chapel Choir Concert

**Friday 13 December**
8pm A Christmas at Christ Church

**Monday 16 December**
6pm Messasem La Nativité du Seigneur

**Tuesday 17 December**
Headington School Carol Service

**Wednesday 18 December**
8pm Music at Oxford’s Christmas at Christ Church

**Thursday 19 December**
6pm Priory Cathedral Carol Service

**Saturday 21 December**
8pm Cathedral Singers Christmas Concert

**Monday 23 December**
6pm Nine Lessons and Carols

**Christmas Eve**

**Thursday 26 December**
6pm Music at Oxford’s Christmas at Christ Church

**Christmas Day**

**Tuesday 25 December**
8am Holy Communion
9.45am Choral Matins
11am Choral Eucharist
6pm Said Evening Prayer

**Wednesday 26 January**
6pm Sir William Osler Centenary Evensong

**Wednesday 29 January**
12 noon Friends lecture

**FEBRUARY 2020**

**Saturday 1 February**
Be A Chorister For A Day

**Sunday 2 February**
6pm Candemas

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**Christmas Eve Crib Service for Families**

**Tuesday 24 December • 10.30am**
Come and join us for the service often known as ‘Midnight Mass’, when we celebrate the dawning of hope in the midst of darkness as Christmas Eve gives way to Christmas Day.

**Christmas Day Services**

**Wednesday 25 December**
Come join us at the Cathedral on Christmas Day to celebrate the birth of Christ.
8am Holy Communion
9.45am Choral Matins
11am Choral Eucharist
6pm Said Evening Prayer

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**Nine Lessons and Carols**

**Tuesday 24 December • 3pm**
(see page 7 for full details)

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**Special Services**
Epiphany Supper
Tuesday 7 January • 7.30 for 8pm • Cathedral North Transept
With the Rt Revd Olivia Graham, Bishop of Reading.
Sherry and soft drinks followed by a two-course supper with wine and coffee. Black tie.
Tickets £45 (£48 guests). Booking essential.

The Pre-Raphaelites, Ruskin and the Oxford Movement
Wednesday 29 January • 12noon
Sir Michael Dumett Lecture Theatre
Lecture followed by a sandwich lunch with wine or soft drinks, tea / coffee.
Tickets £15 (£18 guests). Booking essential.

Be A Chorister for A Day
Saturday 1 February 2020
Do you know a boy who might enjoy joining our world-famous choir? Boys aged seven and eight are invited to come and see what it’s like for an afternoon. Join a choir practice, enjoy tea in the Harry Potter Hall and sing at Evensong.
For more information, contact the Registrar, Mrs Clare James, on 01865 260650 or email registrar@cccs.org.uk • www.cccs.org.uk
Details of taster sessions for girls interested in joining Frideswide Voices of Christ Church will be announced in the new year. For more information see http://frideswidevoices.co.uk or contact frideswide.voices@chch.ox.ac.uk

Holocaust Memorial Day 2020
With Professor Paul Weindling
27 January • 9.30am-4pm • Oxford Synagogue / Town Hall / Christ Church Cathedral
An event for RE and History teachers, interested adults and sixth-formers. To commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day 2020, the Cathedral, in partnership with the Oxford Jewish Centre and the Town Hall, is offering a special day about learning lessons from the past.
£15 per head, including a sandwich lunch
Booking essential
For more information and to book, contact Jacqueline.holderness@chch.ox.ac.uk
01865 286003

Book a parish pilgrimage to your Cathedral
The Dean and Canons of Christ Church warmly invite parishes in the Diocese of Oxford to visit the Cathedral, to share in its worship and discover its history.
The programme for the day includes: a guided tour of the Cathedral; a visit to the Upper Library or Picture Gallery; afternoon tea in the Great Hall; followed by Choral Evensong or Choral Eucharist.
There will be a charge for tea but guided tours are FREE.
For further information go to www.chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedral or email Miranda Hockliffe at miranda.hockliffe@chch.ox.ac.uk.
To find out more about visiting the Cathedral, and free passes for parishioners in the Diocese of Oxford, see www.chch.ox.ac.uk/yourcathedral

Friends of Christ Church Cathedral

Supper

Lunchtime Lecture

Education and Family events

Be A Chorister for A Day
Our regular pattern of worship at Christ Church Cathedral

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

**Sundays**

- 8am: Holy Communion (1662)
- 9.45am: Matins and Sermon (1662)
- 11am: Choral Eucharist (CW)
- 6pm: Choral Evensong (1662)

**Weekdays**

- 7.15am: Morning Prayer (CW)
- 7.35am: Holy Communion (CW)
- 1pm: Holy Communion (Wednesdays only) (1662)
- 6pm: Evening Prayer – Choral Evensong (1662)

On Mondays, Evening Prayer is either a said service or, during university term time, sung by the College Choir. On Thursdays, the evening service is usually a Choral Eucharist.

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.

Who’s who at Christ Church Cathedral

**Dean:** The Very Revd Professor Martyn Percy

**Sub Dean:** The Revd Canon Dr Edmund Newey

**Canon Precentor:** The Revd Canon Dr Grant Bayliss

**Organist:** Professor Steven Grahl

**Registrar:** Mr John Briggs

The Cathedral, Christ Church, St Aldate’s, Oxford OX1 1DP
cathedral@chch.ox.ac.uk Tel: 01865 276155

For up to date information go to www.chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedral

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