Advent, Christmas and Epiphany 2018/19

www.chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedral • 01865 276155
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
Sunday 2 December 2018 • 6pm
FREE, 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.

Advent Sleepover
Thursday 29 November

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 https://sleepoutchallenge2018.everydayhero.com/uk/cathedral-sleepover-2018
Macmillan Charity Concert: A Celebration of Christmas
Friday 7 December • 8pm

This popular Carol Concert has become Macmillan’s biggest fund-raising event in Oxfordshire. Join us for a memorable evening of seasonal choral music, favourite carols and festive readings from celebrities including Shaun Evans, Will Gompertz and John Lloyd. Our conductor, Tom Hammond-Davies, will bring you a feast of music from the world-class vocal ensemble the Blenheim Singers, and Robert Quinney will play the organ. For a bit of extra magic, we have a guest chorister from New College and entertainment in the Quad from the Magdalen College School Brass Ensemble. The reality is that we have all been touched by cancer directly or indirectly; joining us for this magical evening will help fund Macmillan’s work.

Tickets from ticketsoxford.com • 01865 305305

Family Carol Concert
In aid of Christ Church Cathedral Music Trust
Saturday 8 December • 11.30am

We welcome audiences of all ages to enjoy a host of Christmas music in this daytime event; with angelic singing from Christ Church’s choristers to inspire, and a programme tailored to young ears, this is the ideal family concert to engage with the spirit of the season.

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

Tickets from www.musicatoxford.com
01865 244806
Chapter Charity Concert
In aid of ZANE
Saturday 8 December • 8pm

Enjoy a magical Christmas evening in the splendour of our Cathedral with guest readers Harry Enfield, Prue Leith and John Simpson.

Combining Christmas carols and celebrity readings, the programme promises festive humour, entertainment and contemplation.

Music will include the Dragon School’s celebrated Idris Choir led by William Morris, and renowned vocal ensemble Vespri Segreti directed by David Bannister. The organist will be the accomplished Ben Giddens.

We hope you will enjoy this spectacular evening whilst supporting ZANE’s life-saving work amongst the poorest of the poor in Zimbabwe.

For more information on ZANE, see www.zane-zimbabweanationalemergency.com

Tickets from www.ticketsoxford.com
01865 305305

Music at Oxford’s
Christmas at Christ Church
Friday 14 December and
Wednesday 19 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 new director Steven Grahl, with spirited readings and audience carols to share. Early booking is essential.

Tickets from www.musicatoxford.com
01865 244806
Organ Meditations: *La Nativité du Seigneur* by Messiaen  
**Monday 17 December • 6pm**

Makoto James and Ben Collyer, our organ scholars, perform 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.

FREE event, no tickets required

Christmas Carol Service and Party  
**Friends of Christ Church Cathedral**  
**Tuesday 18 December • 6pm**

A special Friends service sung by the Cathedral Choir. The service is open to the public and all are welcome. This is followed by a two-course supper with wine, mince pies and coffee at 7.30pm. No tickets are needed for the service but booking for the supper is essential.

**Tickets for the supper (£30 for Friends, £33 for guests) are available by post from Elizabeth Harrison, Hon Secretary, Friends of Christ Church Cathedral, Priory Room Office, Christ Church Oxford OX1 1DP cathedralfriends@btconnect.com**

Please make cheques payable to Friends of Christ Church Cathedral and include an SAE.
Christmas with the Cathedral Singers
Friday 21 December • 8pm

The Christmas season is not complete without an evening spent in the musical and convivial company of the Cathedral Singers of Christ Church and their director James Morley Potter.

Come and join us for a traditional concert of beloved carols and new discoveries, festive readings, and a glass of wine.

www.cathedralsingers.org.uk

Tickets are available from
www.ticketsoxford.com 01865 305305

Nine Lessons and Carols
Sunday 23 December • 6pm
Monday 24 December • 3pm

The Cathedral Choir sings a selection of Christmas music old and new. The service involves choir processions around the building and congregational participation in the hymns.

Entry is FREE but tickets are required (£1 postage)
www.ticketsoxford.com 01865 305305

Tickets available from Monday 19 November
If you don’t have a ticket, you are welcome to queue on the day but we cannot guarantee entry.
Special Events and Services - Advent, Christmas and Epiphany

NOVEMBER 2018
Sunday 25 November
5.30pm College Advent Carols with the Cathedral Choir (Entry by ticket only)

Wednesday 28 November
8.15pm College Choir Carols by Candlelight (Singing for Syrians)

Thursday 29 November
Advent Sleepover for CUF

DECEMBER 2018
Sunday 2 December
6pm Cathedral Advent Carol Service

Monday 3 December
6pm Frideswide Voices Advent Carol Service

Tuesday 4 December
10.30am Christingle for local schools
1.30pm Christingle for local schools

Friday 7 December
8pm Macmillan Charity Concert

Saturday 8 December
11.30am Family Concert
8pm Chapter Charity Concert

Tuesday 11 December
8pm Headington School Carol Service

Friday 14 December
8pm Music at Oxford’s Christmas at Christ Church

Monday 17 December
6pm Organ Meditations

Tuesday 18 December
6pm Friends of Christ Church Cathedral Carol Service

Wednesday 19 December
8pm Music at Oxford’s Christmas at Christ Church

Friday 21 December
8pm Cathedral Singers Concert

Saturday 23 December
6pm Nine Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve

Monday 24 December
10.30am Crib Service
3pm Nine Lessons and Carols
11.30pm Midnight Choral Eucharist

Christmas Day

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

Wednesday 26 December
8am Holy Communion
9.45am Choral Matins
11am Choral Eucharist
6pm Choral Evensong

Friday 28 December
8pm Macmillan Charity Concert

Saturday 29 December
11.30am Family Concert
8pm Chapter Charity Concert

Tuesday 1 January 2019
8pm Crib Service
3pm Nine Lessons and Carols
11.30pm Midnight Choral Eucharist
Christmas Day

Wednesday 2 January 2019
8pm Crib Service
3pm Nine Lessons and Carols
11.30pm Midnight Choral Eucharist
Christmas Day

Thursday 3 January 2019
8pm Crib Service
3pm Nine Lessons and Carols
11.30pm Midnight Choral Eucharist
Christmas Day

Friday 4 January 2019
8pm Crib Service
3pm Nine Lessons and Carols
11.30pm Midnight Choral Eucharist
Christmas Day

Saturday 5 January 2019
8pm Crib Service
3pm Nine Lessons and Carols
11.30pm Midnight Choral Eucharist
Christmas Day

Sunday 6 January 2019
8am Holy Communion
9.45am Choral Matins
11am Choral Eucharist
6pm Choral Evensong

JANUARY 2019
The Feast of Epiphany
Sunday 6 January
8am Holy Communion
9.45am Choral Matins
11am Epiphany Eucharist
6pm Festal Evensong

Friday 18 January
10.30am Christingle for local schools

Saturday 26 January
6pm Installation of Honorary Canons and admission to Order of St Frideswide

FEBRUARY 2019
Candlemas
Saturday 2 February
6pm Candlemas Carols with RSCM
Christmas Eve Crib Service
for Families
Monday 24 December
10.30am
Christmas wouldn’t be Christmas without our Crib Service. Calling all children, parents and grandparents... You are most welcome to come and take part in our short, informal Christmas Eve family service where we will re-enact the Christmas story and sing some well-loved carols.

Christmas Eve Choral Eucharist
Monday 24 December • 11.30pm
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
Tuesday 25 December
Come and join us at the Cathedral on Christmas Day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

8am    Holy Communion
9.45am Choral Matins
11am    Choral Eucharist
Mozart Missa Brevis in F
Darke In the Bleak Midwinter
6pm    Said Evening Prayer
Torn from home
A CPD opportunity for Primary and Secondary Teachers
25 January 2019 • 9.30-3.45pm

To commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day 2019, the Cathedral, in partnership with the Oxford Jewish Centre and Synagogue and the Museum of Oxford is offering a special CPD day for teachers. This is a unique opportunity to explore the Jewish heritage of Oxford, learn more about Judaism and Christianity, and become more aware of Holocaust education resources available to teachers.

Booking essential. £15 per head including lunch.

To find out more about this and our school visits programme, contact jacqueline.holderness@chch.ox.ac.uk or 01865 286003

Educational Visits
The Cathedral offers a wide range of options and bespoke educational visits for pupils of all ages on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

We have the following NEW Options for Schools for 2018/19.

RE: Become a Monk at St Frideswide’s Priory
Children may dress up as monks and discover more about the Monasteries of England, before the Reformation. They can learn about Monastic rule, worship, healing and pilgrimage.

RE: Exploring Christianity in context
Bring the RE curriculum to life in the Cathedral, and support the teaching of key concepts and themes, including Creation, Incarnation and Salvation.

History: Oxford and Christ Church in the Civil War
King Charles I lived at Christ Church and his Parliament was held here during the Civil War. Pupils may come to discover the many hidden secrets of the Cathedral and College during this turbulent time in our history.

For more information, contact jacqueline.holderness@chch.ox.ac.uk or 01865 286003
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.

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Book a parish visit 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 is as follows:**
- 3pm: Arrive at Christ Church for a guided tour of the Cathedral
- 4pm: Visit to Upper Library or Picture Gallery
- 4.30pm: Afternoon tea in the Great Hall
- 5pm: Visit to the Treasury and Cathedral Shop
- 6pm: Choral Evensong
- 7pm: End of visit

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.
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
Registered charity in England and Wales number: 1143423

Be A Chorister For A Day

Saturday 9 February 2019
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 a real Cathedral Evensong.

For more information about the day, contact the Registrar, Mrs Clare James, on 01865 260650 or registrar@cccs.org.uk • www.cccs.org.uk