From the Chaplain

Welcome!

We’ve had a busy summer full of both joy and sorrow. We celebrated the weddings of alumni and staff, most notably Steve Brown, our Head of Maintenance, to Kim. But we also faced the tragic death of our own student and friend, Lottie Fullerton. Some of us will have already come together in Chapel to remember her before term got underway; we’ll have a formal Memorial Service for her on January 11 (0th week) next term. Not long after her death we were also shocked by the death of our very recently retired Head Gardener, Jeremy Dickson; we’ll have a formal Memorial Concert for him during next term.

Now we embark on a new term and a new year with the promise and hope of new faces, new friends, and a new community. There are some new things in Chapel as well. On Monday mornings, throw me your questions about life and death and everything else in between or beyond, and I’ll chat with you in groups or individually about what’s on your mind (over a coffee, of course). We’ve got two Colloquia which focus on some of the issues facing us in our contemporary world: a wonderful local Imam talking about terrorism, and a Professor of Law from Cardiff joining English and Welsh in reflections on “Britishness”. Our Meditation series expands now to include Hindu meditation, and we’ve got an astonishing seven special religious feasts being thought about in food available in Hall those days. Religious literacy for us all is becoming more and more important in our common life and culture, and we provide opportunities both to learn and value our diversity.

And as for Sunday Evensongs... A star-studded line-up of preachers who hopefully will go at least some way towards cheering you up at any time you’re in need of some hope and light. They will be sharing some good news indeed, to the accompaniment of beautiful music in our gorgeous setting. Make it a priority to take time out in the busy Oxford terms to breathe and be inspired. Everyone, everyone, is welcome.

With prayers throughout the term -

Megan

Jesus College
Oxford
**Sunday**  
4.00-5.15pm Choir Practice  
5.45-6.50pm Choral Evensong

**Monday - Friday**  
9.00-9.20am Morning Prayer

**Monday**  
11.00am-12.00pm Chat with the Chaplain  
12.10pm-12.30pm Franciscan Midday Prayer  
1.00pm-2.00pm Scriptural Reasoning

**Tuesday**  
5.00pm-6.00pm Oxford Meditative Groups  
6.15-7.00pm Holy Communion Service

**Wednesday**  
1.00pm-2.00pm Scriptural Reasoning  
6.30pm (weeks 2, 4, 6, 8) College Christian Union  
8.00pm (weeks 1, 3, 5, 7) OICCU Central

**Thursday**  
4.30-6.00pm Choir Practice

**Sunday Evensong** is the main Chapel service of the week for the whole College, with beautiful music and excellent speakers. You are all very welcome, whether you are a Christian, exploring your faith, or simply want to come to hear the speakers and the music. See next page for speakers and subjects. The service starts at **5.45pm** unless otherwise specified.

**Morning Prayer** is a time when the Chapel is booked for quiet prayer. When a student or the Chaplain is present to lead it, we follow a modern Church of England service, praying for all members of College and the wider world. Otherwise all are welcome to make the most of this meditative time in their own ways, using the resources available, as a way to start the day well.

**Chat with the Chaplain** on Monday: Students bring the questions and the Chaplain provides the coffee. Voice any question you want, big or small, about Chapel, faith and faiths, or life in all its richness. Like: Is Evensong weird? How do we make sense of suffering? Find the Chaplain in 14.2 and raise the things on your heart and mind. Come with friends or by yourself. You may find others are asking just the same questions...

**Franciscan Midday Prayer** on Mondays connects with the Third Order of the Society of St. Francis, an Anglican religious order. A simple time of prayer lasting 20 minutes, it offers a pause for spirituality in the middle of the day.

**Scriptural Reasoning** is a practice of inter-faith reading. See below for more information.

**Oxford Meditative Groups** (also known as **OMG**) is an opportunity for students to experience meditative practices influenced by different faith traditions. If you are hurrying from academic commitments finishing at 5pm you will be able to slip in quietly. The various traditions and the dates their groups are attending are listed below. There will always be a number of people there so rest assured it will not be intimidatingly intimate.

Students often speak at **Tuesday Holy Communion**; this Christian service is a popular gathering which combines sociable joy with a reflective peace. Sherry follows, before Formal.

The **Christian Union** meets on Wednesdays. Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7 are at **Oxford Inter-Collegiate Christian Union** at Wesley Memorial Church at 8.00pm; weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 in Chapel at 6.30pm.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>8 October</td>
<td>FRESHERS’ EVENSONG: Holy Fools</td>
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<td>5.30pm</td>
<td>Sally Phillips</td>
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<td>Actress, TV presenter and comedy writer</td>
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<td>15 October</td>
<td>Talking Funny for Four Thousand Years</td>
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<td>Paul Kerensa</td>
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<td>Comedy writer and stand-up comedian</td>
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<td>22 October</td>
<td>The Hero with Six Billion Faces</td>
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<td>Debs Paterson</td>
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<td>Film director and writer</td>
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<td>29 October</td>
<td>Searching for Belonging</td>
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<td>Jessica Hynes</td>
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<td>Actress, writer, and comedian</td>
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<td>5 November</td>
<td>CU EVENSONG: Laughter at the Foot of the Cross</td>
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<td>The Chaplain</td>
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<td>12 November</td>
<td>REMEMBRANCE EVENSONG: Sacrifice</td>
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<td>Air Vice-Marshall Malcolm Brecht CB CBE</td>
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<td>Royal Air Force</td>
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<td>19 November</td>
<td>Under Your Nose</td>
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<td>Paul Powell</td>
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<td>Comedy writer and producer</td>
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<td>26 November</td>
<td>CAROL SERVICE</td>
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<td>5.30pm</td>
<td>The Chaplain</td>
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On **Sunday of 1st week** (8 October) at **5.30pm** our Freshers’ Evensong celebrates the start of the academic year and welcomes new members, with the Principal hosting a drinks reception afterwards.

On **Sunday of 5th week** (5 November) our termly CU Evensong offers a fusion of music styles, contemporary worship songs alongside the traditional canticles normally sung by our Choir.

On **Sunday of 6th week** (12 November) we observe Remembrance Sunday with an Act of Remembrance at the beginning of the service.

The Carol Service on **Sunday of 8th week** (26 November) starts at the earlier time of **5.30pm**. This will be a moving service with candles, evocative music, and lots of rousing carols. Everyone is very welcome: do come at least once in your time at Jesus!
More Carols...

On Monday of 8th week (27 November) there are two OICCU Carol Services at the Sheldonian Theatre, at 5pm and 8pm.

The Cymdeithas y Dafydd ap Gwilym Annual Welsh Carol Service takes place in Chapel on Thursday of 8th week (30 November) at 6.15pm.

Roman Catholic Chaplaincy in College

The Roman Catholic Chaplaincy have a lunchtime Mass in Jesus Chapel on Thursday of 3rd week (26 October) at 12.15pm.

The College Roman Catholic Mass will be celebrated in Chapel on Monday of 6th week (13 November) at 6.00pm, followed by drinks and formal hall together.

Defeating Terrorism: A Muslim’s Perspective

Imam Monawar Hussain MBE DL, founder of The Oxford Foundation, Muslim Tutor at Eton College, Department of Theology at Birmingham University, and Chaplain at the Oxford University Hospitals Trust, reflects on issues central to recent news coverage. This, the first Chaplain’s Colloquium of the year, will take place after the Lebanese International Formal on Tuesday of 2nd week (17 October), at about 8.30pm in the Ship Street Centre. Beginning with a formal address to begin, after a few questions we break out into the Bastion area for kosher cheese and wine. All welcome, of any faith or none. www.theoxfordfoundation.com

“Britishness” in Law and Custom

Following the same format, we welcome Professor Norman Doe, Professor of Law in Cardiff University, to discuss matters of British identity. His work ties together Welsh and English law and traditions of Establishment. What is Great Britain? This will take place on Tuesday of 8th week (28 November), again at about 8.30pm in the Ship Street Centre and with kosher cheese and wine to accompany our conversations.

Music and More...

The College Chapel Choir sings at Sunday Evensong. It rehearses 4.30pm-6.00pm on Thursdays and 4.00pm-5.15pm on Sundays. All members of the choir are offered choir tour opportunities, free singing lessons, and free dinner after Evensong. New members are welcome. It is non-auditioning but attendance at rehearsals is required unless by arrangement. If you would like to join, or find out more, please contact Ed Buxton, edward.buxton@jesus.ox.ac.uk.

On Friday of 5th week (9 November), at 8.30pm, we host a Charity Opera Concert for Student Minds. Contact Louis Prosser, louis.prosser@jesus.ox.ac.uk to find out more.

On Tuesday of 6th week (14 November), at 1.10pm, we have the Freshers’ Concert. Everyone is welcome to come and listen; if you are a Fresher and want to perform something, please get in touch with Jack Colley, john.colley@jesus.ox.ac.uk.

On Thursday of 7th week (23 November), at 5.45pm, we welcome Summerfields School to sing Choral Evensong for us. Everyone is welcome to come and support our visitors.
Oxford Meditative Groups (OMG) is a chance for students to participate in meditation sessions hosted by Jesus College in the Habakkuk Room and led by different faith groups on Tuesdays at 5.00pm as follows:

10 October Christian Meditation The Society of St. Francis: Ginny Ross & Jan McLeod
17 October Buddhist Meditation Oxford University Buddhist Chaplaincy: Venerable Khammai Dhammasami
24 October Sufi Meditation Bridging Spiritual Cultures: Siobhan Bygate & Marek Lubelska
31 October Mindfulness Oxford Mindfulness Centre: Olivier Bazin
7 November Christian Meditation The Society of St. Francis: Ginny Ross & Jan McLeod
14 November Hindu Meditation Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies: Shaunaka Rishi Das
21 November Buddhist Meditation Oxford University Buddhist Chaplaincy: Venerable Mahasena
28 November Mindfulness Oxford Mindfulness Centre: Olivier Bazin

Scriptural Reasoning (SR) is a practice of inter-faith reading where people of all faiths gather and reflect on short passages from their scriptures together. It is a worldwide movement www.scripturale reasoning.org just beginning in Oxford. There is sometimes overlap between texts where different faiths share their Scriptures. We will be meeting in the Harold Wilson Room on Mondays 1.00-2.00pm. We spend time with texts from Jewish, Christian, and Muslim traditions, and discuss ancient, medieval, and modern interpretations of Scripture, modern day practices which reflect these texts, and what they mean personally for individuals and faith communities. Rabbi Michael Rosenfeld-Schueler helps lead it, and a free, simple kosher lunch is provided.

9 October Salvation
16 October Attitudes towards death and dying
23 October Mourning
30 October Mind
6 November Body
13 November Soul
20 November Warfare and Violence
27 November The role of the Prophets
Small items and books for a range of religious rites are available in the cupboard in the Nurse’s waiting room. Do borrow them for your own personal prayer and meditation whether in the Chapel or elsewhere, but please return them after use. If you have suggestions for inclusion in the collection please ask the Chaplain.

The Chaplain will also be very pleased to help any student of any faith find a place to worship or connect with a faith community in Oxford.

**Feasts for Faiths and Cultures**

Each term, to complement our International Dinners in Hall, we will take account of a few religious or cultural festivals in our dining. These events may either be reflected in a single item of food, or an entire menu. Information will be available on these foods for all those who dine in Hall on the occasion. It’s a chance to learn about a range of religious and cultural festivals and celebrate our diversity. Sign-up happens in the usual way, and the food will be at the same costs as normal. Come, learn, and eat!

**Thursday 5 October - Sukkot (Freshers’ Lunch) in Harold Wilson Room**

This is the Jewish Festival of Booths, which lasts for a week from the evening of 4 October this year. A booth, or sukkah, is a tent, recalling G-d’s sheltering of the Jewish people in the Exodus from Egypt to the Promised Land. We may not have a marquee on the quad to help us celebrate this, but we do have a kosher lunch available in the Harold Wilson Room.

**Wednesday 18 October - Divali (Lunch and Dinner) in Hall**

This Hindu, Jain and Sikh Festival of Lights is in honour of Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth. It also commemorates the Divali legend of the return of Rama and Sita to Rama’s kingdom after being in exile for fourteen years. There will be a theme of sweetness and light in today’s dining in Hall.

**Monday 4 November - Guru Nanak’s Birthday (Lunch) in Hall**

Sikhs today celebrate the birthday of their first Guru in 1469 CE. Sikh festivities have evolved around the lives of the ten Sikh gurus who shaped Sikh beliefs.

**Thursday 24 November - Thanksgiving (Dinner) in Hall**

Traditionally a Harvest Festival, this is a national celebration in Canada and the United States of America. It is an important cultural festival for those associated with North America.

**Wednesday and Thursday 29 and 30 November - Christmas Dinners in Hall**

Christmas is widely celebrated as the Christian festival remembering the birth of Jesus, or the Incarnation of the Son of God. Carols will be sung in Hall during dinner on Thursday.

**Friday 1 December - Prophet Muhammed’s Birthday (Lunch) in Hall**

Many Muslims across the world celebrate Mawlid, or the birthday of the founding prophet of Islam, in about 570 CE. There is some debate as to when precisely to celebrate it, so in some cultures a seven-day period is set aside for this purpose.

*The Chaplain welcomes all suggestions of faith or arts events that you’d like to see in Chapel. Please contact her with your ideas.*
**The Chaplain** (The Reverend Dr Megan Daffern) is glad to meet with students, regardless of religious affiliation, to offer pastoral support and welfare. If you want to see her, do contact her via pigeonhole, email (chaplain@jesus.ox.ac.uk) or telephone (2)79757. Her office is XIV.2. Further details of the whole Welfare Team are on the Welfare Leaflet.

Chapel Clerk Team  Lois Williams, Ealish Swift, Alan Jiang  Katie Harrison  
Sacristan  Thomas Cotterill  
Chapel Clerks Emeriti  Ben Naylor, Imogen Rhodes, Mark Smith  
Christian Union  Tom Iszatt  
Choir Social Team  Hannah Scheithauer, Bronny Harbinson  
Interfaith Rep  Ben Tucker  
Ordinand on Placement  Jonathan Tearne (Wycliffe Hall)  
Organ Scholars  Edward Buxton, Lucia Svecova  
Assistant Organist  Jack Colley  
Young Organ Scholar  Barnaby Merriman (Larkmead School)  
Young Music Scholars  Olivia Nyagua, Elsa Rea (St. Joseph’s Catholic Primary)  
Catholic Chaplaincy Rep  Katie Harrison

The **Christian Union** welcomes all Christian students across the College, regardless of denomination, and those who want to learn more about Jesus Christ and Christianity. To find out more, please contact thomas.iszatt@jesus.ox.ac.uk. The College Christian Union is part of the Oxford Inter-Collegiate Christian Union: see www.oiccu.org.

**OICCU** is running a range of events in **Freshers’ Week**: do contact Tom to learn more.

Graduates may also appreciate the **Graduate Christian Forum**. For more information, see www.graduatechristianforum.org.

If you are looking for a **church** of any denomination, the Chaplain will be glad to help.

**Jesus College has a diverse but very united community of Christians, and a broad range of students from many different faith and cultural backgrounds. Whether you are new to College or have been here a while everyone is always welcome to any event in Chapel or organised by the Chaplain.**

In memory of Lottie Fullerton, **Chapel Charity** collections this term are going to **Médecins sans Frontières** www.msf.org.uk.

The painting on the front of the term card is “Oxford in Autumn” by Adrian Sykes (oil on board, 90x90cm). The image is a playful depiction of taking time to relax and be entertained in our beautiful city. With thanks to Iona House Gallery, Woodstock.