FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Happy New Year! and welcome back.

This term might seem cold, grey, and damp, but there is much going on in Chapel and beyond to lift your spirits. Read on...

In terms of your spiritual wellbeing and mood, do take a look at the Meditation sessions on Tuesdays at 5pm in the Habakkuk Room. There will always be others there so you need not be worried about an overly intense experience: the Chapel Survey we held last summer flagged up that this was what many people wanted, so do take up this opportunity.

In terms of developing your cultural hinterland, you can get excited about the Turl Street Arts Festival in Fifth Week. Some events will happen in Chapel, most notably the art exhibition of Fiona Whitehouse’s work throughout the week. Of course, our Choir sings throughout the whole term!

In terms of making creative connections between beliefs and academic disciplines, see our Colloquium series. Note especially the first one, when our Principal Sir Nigel will be speaking on Intelligence, alongside two other Fellows from Jesus.

In terms of learning about how faiths can speak to, with, and about each other, have a think about coming along to our Scriptural Reasoning on Wednesdays at 1pm in the Harold Wilson Room. Kosher food will be served so we can share some free lunch and explore Jewish, Christian, and Islamic texts together.

There’s lots else on too. Evensong of course is the bread and butter, and if you’ve ever wondered what Christianity’s about, we’ve got a range of speakers from different denominations and backgrounds coming to explore the different statements of the Creed. There’ll be something there for everyone, whether it’s informative or inspiring.

Have a good term!

Megan
**WEEK BY WEEK OVERVIEW**

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

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

**Monday**  
12.10pm-12.30pm  Franciscan Midday Prayer

**Tuesday**  
5.00pm-6.00pm  Oxford Meditative Groups

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

**Thursday**  
4.30-6.00pm  Choir Practice  
6.15-7.00pm  Holy Communion Service

**Friday**  
4.30pm-5.00pm  College Prayers

**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 opposite 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.

**Franciscan Midday Prayer** on Mondays is part of the Young Franciscans movement. A simple time of prayer lasting 20 minutes, it offers a pause for spirituality in the middle of the day.

The **Christian Union** meets on Wednesdays. Weeks 1,3,5,7 are in Chapel at 6.30pm; weeks 2,4,6,8 at **Oxford Inter-Collegiate Christian Union** at Wesley Memorial Church at 8.00pm.

**Oxford Meditative Groups** (also known as **OMG**) is a new 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.

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

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

**College Prayers** on Fridays are led by students, organised by the Prayer Rep.
SUNDAY CHORAL EVENSONG
BELIEVE IT OR NOT...

15 January  EPIPHANY EVENSONG: The Gift of the Creed
             The Chaplain

22 January  God the Father
             The Reverend Dr Martin Wellings
             Superintendent Minister of the Oxford Methodist Circuit

29 January  Creator of Heaven and Earth
             The Reverend Dr Kim Wasey
             Anglican Chaplain, Salford University; Parish Priest in Manchester Diocese

5 February  Belief in Jesus: Son of God, Son of Man
             The Reverend Shannon Preston
             Priest for Spiritual Formation at Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Austin, TX;
             Formerly member of the Community of St. Anselm, Lambeth Palace

12 February Conceived by the Holy Spirit
             The Reverend Canon Mark Soady
             Prior, Area Dean, and Vicar of Abergavenny

19 February TSAF EVENSONG: Exeter College
             Malcolm Archer
             Church musician, conductor, composer, recital organist

6pm

26 February CU EVENSONG: The Trial of Jesus
             The Reverend Juliet Kilpin
             Social activist and Baptist Minister

5 March    LENTEN EVENSONG: Hell on Earth?
             The Chaplain

On Sunday of 6th week (19 February) we mark the end of the TURL STREET ARTS
FESTIVAL with a joint choirs’ Evensong. This year, the service takes place at Exeter College
Chapel, beginning at 6pm.

The Chapel Charity at Evensong this term supports the 2017 Giving What We Can Oxford
“Big Match” campaign. The Big Match is a matched fundraising campaign in support of the
Against Malaria Foundation (AMF) – rated by GiveWell as one of the world’s most effective
charities – and runs for the fortnight between 23rd February and 8th March.
For more information contact mikkel.lauritzen@jesus.ox.ac.uk.
OXFORD MEDITATIVE GROUPS (OMG)

Oxford Meditative Groups (OMG) gives students the chance to participate in meditation sessions hosted by Jesus College in the Habakkuk Room and led by different faith groups on Tuesdays at 5.00pm throughout term.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meditation</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 January</td>
<td>Buddhist Meditation</td>
<td>Oxford University Buddhist Chaplaincy</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 January</td>
<td>Mindfulness</td>
<td>Oxford Mindfulness Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 January</td>
<td>Christian Meditation</td>
<td>Third Order of the Society of St. Francis</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 February</td>
<td>Sufi Meditation</td>
<td>Bridging Spiritual Cultures</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 February</td>
<td>Buddhist Meditation</td>
<td>Oxford University Buddhist Chaplaincy</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 February</td>
<td>Mindfulness</td>
<td>Oxford Mindfulness Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 February</td>
<td>Christian Meditation</td>
<td>Third Order of the Society of St. Francis</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 March</td>
<td>Sufi Meditation</td>
<td>Bridging Spiritual Cultures</td>
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SPIRITUALITY

The Chapel Weekend is at Hilfield Friary 7-9 April. This weekend is to take some time for God and enjoy some peace as Holy Week begins. Hilfield Friary is an Anglican Franciscan Community of brothers, with men, woman, and children living alongside them. Their aims include promoting justice and reconciliation in a troubled world, and proclaiming a wise ecology in the face of our culture’s environmental foolishness. The Community shares in a rhythm of daily prayer, helps to look after the Friary land and buildings, and offers hospitality to guests and visitors. People of all backgrounds are welcome – Christians, those of other faiths and of none – for rest, retreat, and renewal of life.

It will be our sixth visit as a group, and in the past everyone’s adored it. Look at the Chapel Facebook page to see some photos. If you are interested, do contact the Chaplain.

FOODS AND FESTIVALS

FOR FAITHS AND CULTURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25 January</td>
<td>Burns Night</td>
<td>National in Scotland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 28 January</td>
<td>Chinese New Year</td>
<td>Chinese Populations everywhere</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 28 February</td>
<td>Shrove Tuesday</td>
<td>Christian Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8 March</td>
<td>Purim</td>
<td>Jewish Festival (celebrated early)</td>
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Each term, to complement our International Dinners in Hall, we will take account of a few religious or cultural festivals in our dining. Some of the food offered will be associated with these festivals or holy days. It’s a chance to learn about a range of religious and cultural festivals and celebrate our diversity. Sign-up and cost are as usual.

INTERFAITH RESOURCES

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.
**CHAPLAIN’S COLLOQUIA**

The **Chaplain’s Colloquia** series runs throughout the year. It is an opportunity to discuss broad and interesting subjects and how they intersect matters of faith and spirituality. Anyone interested in the theme or any of the speakers is warmly invited. Faith of any kind is definitely not a pre-requisite. On each occasion, the speakers lead discussion from their varied viewpoints for 30-40 minutes in the Lecture Theatre, then there is further informal conversation in the Bastion over cheese and wine. Non-alcoholic drinks are also served. Beginning at about 8.30pm, the evenings finish at about 10pm.

**Thursday 9 February**  
Intelligence  
8.30pm, Ship Street Centre

Our Colloquium series this term starts with our own Principal, Professor Sir Nigel Shadbolt, two of our Fellows, Professor Roi Cohen Kadosh and Professor Fred Taylor, and Professor Mark Edwards from Christ Church. Nigel will be speaking on Artificial Intelligence, Roi on Human Intelligence, Fred on Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence, and Mark on Divine Intelligence.

**Monday 13 February**  
Religions and the Arts  
8.30pm, Ship Street Centre

Fitting in to the Turl Street Arts Festival, we explore the spiritual and traditional nuances of the Arts, with Visiting Professor Ilia Gálan Díez from Madrid, specialist in Aesthetics and the Theory of the Arts, and Dr Alasdair Watson from the Bodleian Library, Bahari Curator of Persian Collections: Middle Eastern and Islamic Manuscripts.

**SCRIPTURAL REASONING (SR)**

**Scriptural Reasoning** 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.scripturalreasoning.org](http://www.scripturalreasoning.org) recently started in Oxford. There is sometimes overlap between texts where different faiths share their Scriptures. We meet in the Harold Wilson Room on Wednesdays 1.00-2.00pm. The texts given here are listed as Jewish; Christian; Muslim but they may be read in any order. Additional texts may be provided on the day.

**Kosher food and vessels will be available for all to share.**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>References</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 January</td>
<td>Clothing and Modesty</td>
<td>Genesis 24:64-67; I Timothy 2:8-10; Light 24:30-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 January</td>
<td>Dreams</td>
<td>Genesis 28:10-17; Matthew 1:18-21; Joseph 12:4-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 February</td>
<td>Cain and Abel</td>
<td>Genesis 4:1-16; Matthew 23:29-39; The Table Spread/ The Feast 5:27-32</td>
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<td>15 February</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Deuteronomy 11:16-21; Matthew 7:24-27; The Clinging Form 96:1-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 March</td>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Leviticus 11:41-47; I Corinthians 8:8-13; The Bee 16:65-69</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 March</td>
<td>Fasting</td>
<td>Isaiah 58:4-7; Matthew 4:1-4; The Cow 2:183-185</td>
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OTHER CHAPEL SERVICES THIS TERM

The College Roman Catholic Mass will be celebrated in Chapel on Tuesday of 2nd week (24 January) at 6.00pm, followed by drinks and formal hall together.

Agape is a special evening of informal worship and Communion followed by a meal. One of the highlights of the term, it is a great opportunity for all the Christians in the College to meet and share hospitality. It is on Tuesday of 4th week (7 February), at Stevens, at 7.00pm.

The Turl Street Vocations Network Lunch will be on Monday of 5th week (13 February). It begins with a Eucharist at 12.30 pm in Lincoln Chapel, with a sandwich lunch at 1pm in Lincoln Buttery following on. Guest speaker, Eddie Blaze, General Manager of Emmaus Oxford, will talk about deprivation ministry and the non-profit sector.

We celebrate St. David’s Day or Gŵyl Dewi Sant on Tuesday of 7th week (28 February) at 5.30pm. Come and hear our choir singing in Welsh in this service where the only English spoken is the sermon, preached this year by the Provincial Secretary to the Church in Wales, Canon Simon Lloyd. All are very welcome, as we enjoy in our Welsh roots as a College.

Ash Wednesday in 7th week (1 March), with a special Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes, marks the beginning of Lent. The service starts at 6pm.

The Roman Catholic Chaplaincy have a lunchtime Mass in Jesus Chapel on Thursday of 7th week (2 March) at 12.15pm.

CHAPEL AND THE ARTS

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 alexandra.middleditch@jesus.ox.ac.uk.

Also, don’t forget the fabulous Jesus College Chapel Choir CD now available at the Lodge.

The Turl Street Arts Festival runs from 5th to 6th week (12-19 February). You will find a full schedule of events @TurlStreetArtsFestival on Facebook. The theme is “Zodiac”.

Throughout the week, an art exhibition will also be on display in Chapel by our very own Assistant Academic Director, Dr Fiona Whitehouse, the artist of our cover image.

Religions and the Arts is the theme of a Colloquium on Monday 13 February (see p.6)

As for Choral Music, the Jesus College Chapel Choir will have an open masterclass with Nicholas Cleobury on Tuesday 14 February, 5.15pm-6.45pm, in Jesus Chapel.

Arts events in Chapel this week include a lunchtime concert on Wednesday 15 February, 1.00pm-2.15pm.

The Festival Evensong is in Exeter Chapel on Sunday 19 February (see p. 4)

Our magnificent Drake organ was refurbished over the summer vacation, and to recommission it, we are hosting a recital by world-renowned organist Hans Davidsson, on Sunday of 8th week (5 March) at 2.30pm. Entry is free but there will be a retiring collection. On this occasion we will also be launching the John Wellingham Organ Studies Library, a University-wide collection of organ music and literature, housed at Jesus.
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 Clerks         Thomas Cotterill, Ben Naylor, Imogen Rhodes
Chapel Clerks Emeriti Clem Faux, Luke Green, Sophie-Ann Rebbettes, Mark Smith, Mia Talfourd-Cook
Chapel Publicity      George Berry, Abigail Motley
Christian Union and i-Reps Oli Whitaker, Josh Newell, Elhana Sugiaman
Choir Social and Hospitality Team Hannah Scheithauer, George Berry, Bronny Harbinson
Interfaith Rep        Faisal Ebrahim
Keepers of the Sherry  Ollie Whitaker, Josh Newell
MCR Chapel Reps       Karan Nagpal, Maxi Strobl
Ordinands on Placement Shahriar Ashrafkhorasani (Wycliffe Hall)
                       Judith Clarke (Ripon College, Cuddesdon)
                       William Levanway (St. Stephen’s House)
Organ Scholars        Alix Middleditch, Edward Buxton
Prayer Rep            Anna East
Roman Catholic Chaplaincy Reps Clare McEvoy, 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 oliver.whitaker@jesus.ox.ac.uk. The College Christian Union is part of the Oxford Inter-Collegiate Christian Union: see www.oiccu.org.

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.

The artwork on the cover is by Dr Fiona Whitehouse, our Acting Academic Director. Images taken from a range of aspects of creation are set side by side in this print which conveys something of the vastness, beauty, wonder and joy of our universe. The vine around the frame may remind a viewer of the abundance of life, while the owl at the centre bottom calls us back once again to wisdom.