FROM THE CHAPLAIN
Welcome to Michaelmas Term!

It’s been quite a Summer. Our hopes for football coming home were dashed, as the trophy went instead to our French neighbours. Southgate showed real leadership, not least in remembering his own worst moment to comfort Columbian striker, Mateus Uribe. The Summer of 2018 soon took on legendary status as the hottest on record. As we all enjoyed the sun, our horticultural team worked hard to keep the lawn and quad looking fresh and green, the perfect setting for ice cream following Ed Whitehead and Alice Goldman’s wedding.

Now we embark on a new term, and a new year, full of the same promise of highs and lows, opportunities and experiences, hard work, fun, new faces, new friends, and new community. We have new things in Chapel too:

• The Chapel theme for the year is Faith, Formation, & Flourishing. Faith stream looks at how the Christian faith is lived out both practically and academically. Formation addresses our values as a College. We believe in your ability to bring about change – in yourself and in the world, so we invite those involved in issues of fairness, justice, and equality to share their passion with us. Flourishing is so important, and we want you to be equipped to thrive, so our speakers will be looking at issues of mental, emotional, and physical wellbeing.

• We will be having special Evensong Invitation Services tailored to each year group. Do look out for your invitation.

• We are delighted to be partnering with the Catering Team to present Faith Feasts – celebrating faiths and cultural festivals through food.

• Spaces are available for our exciting Leaders Who Lunch programme. If you lead in any context, such as sport, music, college, or charity, you are welcome to come along as we look at developing our skills and our Leadership.

Everyone is welcome to all Chapel events and services, regardless of faith.

With my prayers throughout the term –

Mia

WHAT’S ON IN CHAPEL?
REGULAR CHAPEL SERVICES

Sunday 5:45pm: CHORAL EVENSONG (BCP), our principal service, with guest speakers. Followed by drinks.

Tuesday 10pm: Compline by Candlelight – A short plainchant service. Come early to light up.

Thursday 6pm: (except 8th week) Holy Communion, followed by free Chaplain’s Buffet (with vegan option)

Chapel Activities:

Wednesday Lunchtime: HCMS recital. Free, with a retiring collection for the HCMS fund.

Fridays 5:30-7pm, Sundays 4:30-5:30: Choir Practice (see below for further information)

Music Practice? Chapel is a great place to practice and play music. Proficient pianists, especially those likely to offer recitals, are welcome to approach the Chaplain for key access.

SPECIAL EVENTS IN CHAPEL

College Communions:
Slightly more formal services marking special dates in the life of the college.

St Luke (the doctor) is celebrated on Thursday of 2nd (18th October). This service celebrates 70 years of the National Health Service, and will incorporate both anointing for those involved in the care of others, and a special promotion of blood donation as a thank you to the NHS.

All Souls is an opportunity to remember those who have died, on Thursday of 4th (1st November). It is a special reflective service where we have the rare opportunity to grieve, to remember, and to support one another. Names of those we have lost are read out.

Compline Workshop:
Tuesday of 4th week, 9pm
Come and learn the what, why, and how of this popular and soothing service over hot chocolate and doughnuts. Particularly useful for those who might want to give it a go, by coming along, or even by leading.

Transgender Day of Remembrance:
Annual vigil, 7pm on Tuesday 20th November.

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols By Candlelight:
6pm on Wednesday of 8th (28th November)

Exploring Faith
University is a great time to explore the big questions of purpose in life; please email the chaplain if you would like to investigate ways of doing this. For details of the Alpha course, visit (www.staldates.org.uk/courses/alpha)

The Christian Union:
The C.U. meets on Wednesday Evenings. Weeks 1,3,5,& 7 are at Oxford Inter-Collegiate Christian Union, 8pm in the Wesley Memorial Chapel, and weeks 2,4,6, & 8 in College in NB1/4. Contact Philippa Kent for further details.

Roman Catholic Mass:
This term’s Mass takes place at 6pm on the Monday of 3rd week. Followed by supper. Contact Elena Burges for further details.
Evensong Preaching Series: Faith, Formation, and Flourishing

Sundays, 5.45pm

7th October 1st Week
The Reverend Mia Smith, Chaplain
Welcome Service Faith, Formation, and Flourishing at Hertford

14th October 2nd Week
The Chaplain
Imposter Syndrome

21st October 3rd Week
Professor Ard Louis
Faith & Science

28th October 4th Week
Majors Julia & Keith Johnson
Homelessness

4th November 5th Week
The Reverend Alison Hogger Gadsby
Stress

11th November 6th Week
The Reverend Chaz Howard
Remembrance Sunday

18th November 7th Week
The Reverend Doctor Joanna Collicutt
Self Esteem

25th November 8th Week
Advent Carols

Members of College and their guests are invited to join the Chaplain and preacher for drinks in the Old Library after the service. Coffee is served in the Old Library after dinner.

Evensong Offerings this term will support the work of 28 Too Many, (registered charity 1150379), promoting a world where every girl and woman is safe, healthy and lives free from female genital mutilation.
About our Evensong Speakers

Ard Louis is Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Oxford. He is also an associate of the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion. His hobbies include molecular gastronomy, applying science to the art of cooking. His Erdős-Bacon number is 6: Erdős 4 through Jonathan Doye, Bacon 2 through Morgan Freeman, in whose series “The Story of God” Ard appears.

Keith & Julia Johnson have been in leadership in The Salvation Army for more than 40 years. Between them they have a wealth of experience in working with the homeless, most recently as joint Chaplains to The Gateway in Coventry, which provides 1st stage accommodation for 63 residents. They recently began new roles, Julia as chaplain in both the homelessness and domestic violence sectors, and Keith as Regional Chaplaincy Officer.

Ali Hogger Gadsby is director of Keeping Health in Mind, which helps churches to explore their relationship with mental health. Ali came to the priesthood via English Literature, Mental Health Nursing, behaviour therapy, and freelance writing. Her special interest is in how our knowledge of God can inform how we see mental and emotional wellbeing.

Chaz Howard is Chaplain at the University of Pennsylvania. He is a prolific author, writing for publications such as Black Arts Quarterly, Chronicle of Higher Education, The Huffington Post, and Slate. He is the editor of a number of books on poverty, poetry, and spirituality. He sees his vocational calling to be to work for a communal increase in joy, peace, justice and love. Chaz is visiting us with his wife, Lia, and two of their daughters.

Joanna Collicutt lectures on Psychology and Spirituality at Ripon College, Cuddesdon, and is Oxford Diocesan Advisor for Spiritual Care for Older People. A chartered clinical psychologist & specialist neuropsychologist, her interests include brain & behaviour, psychological approaches to the Bible, psychological trauma, and medical ethics. She is a parish priest in Oxfordshire.
FAITH FEASTS

Each term we take into account a range of religious or cultural festivals in our dining. These may be a single item of food, or, occasionally, an entire menu. Information on the events will be provided for diners. It’s a great opportunity to learn about a range of religious and cultural festivals, and to celebrate our diversity as a College. Sign-ups and purchasing of food will take place in the usual way. So turn up, tuck in, and learn something fun!

Wednesday 7th November: Diwali This Hindu, Jain, and Sikh festival of Lights is in honour of Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth. It also commemorates the Diwali legend of the return of Rama and Sita to Rama’s kingdom after exile. Come along for some sweetness and light!

Seventh week: Happy birthday the them! Tuesday 20th November is Mawlid, or Milad, marks the birth of the Islamic prophet Muhammed, or Mohamed, in the year 570 of the Gregorian calendar. Then Friday 23rd November: Guru Nanak’s birthday. Sikhs celebrate the birthday of their first Guru in 1469 CE. Sikh festivities have evolved around the lives of the ten Gurus who shaped their faith.

Thursday 22nd November: Thanksgiving. Traditionally a harvest festival, this is a national celebration in Canada and the USA. It is an important cultural festival for those associated with North America.

Eight Week: Christmas Dinner in Hall. Christmas is widely celebrated as the Christian festival remembering the birth of Jesus, or the Incarnation of the Son of God. Come along for some festive fun and traditional food.

WANT TO WORSHIP?

The Chaplain will be very pleased to help any student of any faith to find a place to worship, or to connect with a faith community in Oxford. Here’s a sample of contacts to get you started:

The Oxford University Sikh Society: www.ousikhsoc.com
The Oxford Jewish Chaplaincy: http://oxfordchap.weebly.com
The Oxford Islamic Chaplaincy: affi.al-akiti@orinst.ox.ac.uk
The Hindu Chaplaincy: shaunaka@ochs.org.uk
Hertford College Chapel Choir has a well deserved reputation as Oxford’s best non-auditioning choir, combining great music and high quality performances, with a fun, friendly, and inclusive atmosphere.

The choir rehearse on Friday evenings (5:30-7pm) and Sunday afternoons (4-5:30pm), and sing evensong each Sunday evening during term time. With a number of social events throughout the year, as well as free Formal Hall on Sundays, there is plenty of time to quickly make friends. Choir hold a number of concerts, plus an overseas tour, each year, with previous destinations including Lithuania, Spain, and The Netherlands.

The choir is open to anyone regardless of their singing experience, and love to welcome new members every year. An open rehearsal (followed by free Pizza) will be held on the Friday of 0th week (5th October), 5:30-7pm in Chapel for anyone who is interested. Contact Hannah Towndrow, Senior Organ Scholar, for further details.

We also have a limited number of auditioned Choral Clerkships available. Choral Clerks are experienced choral singers who can act as lead for their part. They are offered a small honorarium (ideally, for singing lessons) for offering two services per week. Please contact Hannah if you are interested in this opportunity.

Do you like money? Free food? CV building opportunities?

Then come and join our team as a Chapel Welcome Assistant.

The role involves setting up / clearing away at services and welcoming attendees at two services per week during term time. A small honorarium is offered, along with free suppers on Thursdays and free Formal Hall on Sundays.

Please see the Chaplain, Mia Smith, for further details.

Are you a LEADER?

All of us lead others at some time in our lives. A lot of our leadership depends on competence, or chemistry, but the one thing which will dictate our success or failure as a leader is our character. How can we build the kind of character which will help us thrive as leaders?

Come along to our termly leadership seminars, “Leaders Who Lunch”, to explore your leadership potential.
CHAPEL PEOPLE

Mia Smith, Chaplain. Mia leads the life of the Chapel, and has a role in welfare. She is happy to speak to members of the community (confidentially) on any matter. Her office is NB1/4.

Hannah Towndrow & Charlotte Corderoy, Senior and Junior Organ Scholars, together organise and direct the music for our Chapel services. They also lead the choir, and love to welcome new choir members.

James Potter, Chapel Music Advisor works with the Chaplain and Organ Scholars on all aspects of Chapel music.

Torrance Chen and Osman Rokni: Chapel Welcome Assistants ensure that you are made welcome in Chapel, and have what you need to join in. They need another team member – see the Chaplain for further details.

Vicky Arnold, David Heathcote, Anu Vasirani, & Hannah Watkin, Compline Leadership Team, lead our plainchant at Compline, and ensure we are all suitably somnorific on Tuesday nights. New team members welcome.

Anu Vasirani, Choir Librarian, organises and collates choir music and keeps on top of our vast and growing library.

Philippa (Philii) Kent, Christian Union Rep. Get in touch with Philii for further information on OICCU.

Elena Burgess, Roman Catholic Rep, oversees our termly Roman Catholic Mass in Chapel.

Heathcote the Organ Sloth reminds us, in the fast pace of term, to slow down and enjoy the music, and can be seen waving from the loft during the Peace at Eucharist.

To email Hertford members, please use firstname.surname@hertford.ox.ac.uk