



NEW COLLEGE CHAPEL

Carol Service FAQs

How many tickets can I book? New College Staff, SCR, Emeriti: two tickets for each service. New College UG and PG students: two tickets for one service (but not both).

Can members of the public/other colleges come? Members of the public (including from other colleges) cannot book tickets but they can queue for returns on the day for the services on 30 Nov and 7 Dec. Admission is not guaranteed. Midnight Mass will not be open to the public this year.

Can I have a third or fourth ticket? Not in the first instance. We can add you to a list for returns.

My friend didn't get a ticket, what can they do? Let us know. We operate a waitlist and prioritise NC staff, students and fellows over members of the public.

Will I have reserved seats? Seating is unreserved except for those with access needs.

What time should I arrive? Doors open at 3.30pm; if you do not arrive by 3.50pm you may be seated in the antechapel, and we will start giving away unclaimed places at 3.55pm.

What if I'm late? We will do our best to seat latecomers if possible, most likely in the antechapel.

What if I or my guest can't come? If you cannot use one or both of your tickets please let us know or give them to someone who can come.

How long does the service last? The services on 30 Nov and 7 Dec last approximately 75 minutes and it can take another 10 minutes to leave the chapel.

What if I have to leave early? For most of the congregation there is no opportunity to leave during the service except in an emergency.

What is the Student Carol Service? It's a short, pre-Christmas dinner service on Thursday of 8th week (4 Dec), starting at 6.15pm and lasting around 35 minutes. Any New College student can come and you can bring as many guests as you like. It will be an abridged version of the service on 7 Dec (4 lessons and carols), conducted by the organ scholars.

Are the services suitable for children? The main carol services on 30 Nov and 7 Dec are formal and long and not suitable for most children under 5. There is a special Family Carol Service on Wednesday 10 Dec 4.30–5.00pm. You don't need tickets and can bring as many guests as you want.

Is the chapel accessible? The chapel is accessible via low ramps. There are two designated places for wheelchairs; please let us know in advance if you or a guest will need one.

Is there a toilet? There are no toilets in the chapel. The closest toilets, including accessible facilities, are a few minutes' walk away in the Long Room.

Can I help? We're always glad of volunteers to usher; email chaplain@new.ox.ac.uk.

Can I book a ticket for Midnight Mass? Information about Midnight Mass will be available in December. Midnight Mass will not be open to the public this year.

Can old members come? There is a designated service for Old Members on Sat 13 Dec at 4.00pm. The Development Office organise the ticketing and will have invited eligible old members.