New College Chapel has been a place of prayer and reflection for nearly 650 years, standing at the heart of the college and welcoming students, fellows, staff, and visitors alike. Whether you are overjoyed or overwhelmed, curious or cautious, or simply in need of rest, we invite you to find solace and inspiration within these walls.

Chapel Services are an excellent way to escape the frenetic pace of working and studying, and to find space apart in challenging times. The Choir of New College is one of the best in the country, and we are blessed to hear them nearly every night. In term time there are sung services every day except Wednesday, at 6.15 on weekdays and 5.45 on weekends. Compline for NC students is at 9pm on Tuesdays in 2nd and 5th weeks. There is also a short said eucharist on Wednesdays at 12.15pm. For details of the music and special services, including Christmas services, see https://www.new.ox.ac.uk/chapel.

The Chaplains are both experienced pastoral listeners and are available to all students, staff and fellows. The Associate Chaplain has a particular concern for staff members.

Chapel Team

Dean of Divinity: Rev'd Dr Erica Longfellow
erica.longfellow@new.ox.ac.uk

Associate Chaplain: Rev'd Dr Susan Bridge
susan.bridge@new.ox.ac.uk

Organist: Mr Robert Quinney
choir@new.ox.ac.uk

Chapel Administrator: Ms Elizabeth Nurse
chapel.administrator@new.ox.ac.uk

Choir Administrator: Mr Peter Roberts
choir@new.ox.ac.uk

Chapel Manager: Mr Diego Ramírez Alcalde
diego.ramirezalcalde@new.ox.ac.uk

Chapel Graduate Scholar: Mr Pieter Hansum
pieter.hansum@wolfson.ox.ac.uk

Concerts Administrator: Ms Sophie Tiezel
concerts@new.ox.ac.uk

Please contact the Chapel Administrator if you have any questions about the chapel and chapel services, baptisms, weddings or funeral and memorial services. Any event in the chapel, antechapel or cloisters must be arranged through the Chapel Administrator. To organise a concert, contact the Concerts Administrator. Due to building works, in 2026-27 we are unlikely to be able to host concerts and events.

The Choir Administrator can answer questions about choir concerts, tours & recordings, and the process for becoming a Chorister, Organ Scholar or Academical Clerk (the New College term for a Choral Scholar).

NEW COLLEGE CHAPEL

a place of prayer and reflection for nearly 650 years

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Good to know and FAQ

Evensong is the traditional evening service of the Church of England, with beloved musical settings, readings and prayers. It is an undemanding service that allows the congregation to be swept up in the sound of the choir. Evensong lasts 40-50 minutes, finishing in time for dinner in Hall.

Vespers is a short evening service of about 30 minutes, in a more monastic style.

Compline is one of the ancient monastic offices, bringing an end to the day with 15-20 minutes of music, readings, and silence. In 5th week it is followed by a drink in the bar for New College students.

The Eucharist (Holy Communion or Mass) is the service when we receive grace in the form of bread and wine, accompanied by music by Byrd, Mozart and others on a Saturday or special feast, or in a simple said form on Wednesdays at 12.15.

Livestreaming: Sunday services are livestreamed on the choir YouTube channel and are available for the rest of the term.

Who can come? Most chapel services are open to the public and you are warmly encouraged to bring guests. If you are bringing a larger group (10+) please let the Chapel Administrator know so that we can reserve seats for you.

What should I wear? There is no dress code for chapel services. Students and senior members of the College usually wear gowns at Chapel services, but please don't worry if you have forgotten yours.

Are there special services for students? Sunday Evensong is especially focused on the college community. The service starts at 5.45pm and is followed by drinks in the south Undercroft, finishing in time for dinner in hall. Compline for students takes place twice a term, at 9pm on Tuesday in 2nd and 5th weeks. In 5th week it is followed by a free drink in the bar.

Getting Involved: We are always looking for students, staff, and fellows to read at choral services, and especially for fellows to read on Sundays. The Associate Chaplain coordinates readers and would love to hear from you.

To join our small team of **altar servers** who take part in the ceremony at special services contact the Chapel Graduate Scholar, and to hone your film production skills as an **operator of our professional multi-camera livestreaming system** contact the Chapel Administrator.

Photography: For safeguarding reasons photography and filming are strictly forbidden during services.

Accessibility: The chapel and cloisters are accessible via low ramps. We are in the process of installing a new hearing loop. We are also upgrading the lighting which can be dim; please let us know if you need assistance. There are no toilets in the chapel. The nearest toilets (including accessible facilities) are in the Long Room. Please ask the Chapel Manager on duty who can direct you. If you or someone in your group may need to leave early for health or sensory reasons, please sit on the west side of the chapel near the organ where it is easier to slip out. If you have any questions about access please contact the Chapel Administrator on a weekday or the Chapel Manager on a weekend.

Children are very welcome at our services, but most services are formal and may not be suitable for very young children. If you are interested in choristerships please contact the Choir Administrator.