

Wadham College Chapel

Hilary Term 2023

Sundays in Chapel 6 pm: Choral Evensong

Keeping Faith ...

What does 'keeping faith' mean to you? What (or whom) do you believe in, trust, or support, no matter what? What gives your life meaning, purpose and direction? Our speakers in Wadham Chapel this term will ponder these questions from a wide range of callings, professions, and faith perspectives.

1st week ★ 15 January *Keeping Faith ... following the star*

The first three Sundays of Hilary 2023 fall in Epiphany, the season celebrating manifestations of the divine in our world, beginning with the Wise Men following the Star in the East. **The Chaplain** invites everyone at the start of a new year to reflect on their own guiding star.

2nd week 22 January *Keeping Faith ... in 2023*

The Chaplain introduces our termly topic exploring what it means to 'keep faith'. How do we balance our responsibilities and obligations to ourselves and our neighbours in our daily life, society more generally, and in global context? And amid so many harbingers of doom, how do we maintain equilibrium, and even optimism?

3rd week ★ 29 January *Keeping Faith ... with silence*

Professor Madeleine Reeves (St Hugh's) is a social anthropologist with wide-ranging interests in borders, labour migration, sovereignty, time, and social reproduction, who has conducted field work in Central Asia and Russia. Drawing on her experience of silence in Quaker spiritual practice, she will help us think about our own journeys through the multi-faceted challenges we face.

4th week 5 February *Keeping Faith ... with human rights in Palestine*

William Parry works in Wadham's Development Office, fundraising for student support. He has maintained a journalistic interest in Palestinian human rights issues for nearly two decades. Despite an increasingly bleak landscape on the ground in Palestine, and in the West for those defending Palestinian rights issues, he finds inspiration, hope and faith from different quarters.

5th week ★ 12 February *Keeping Faith ... with our fellow primates*

Lucy Radford has worked in research, funding, and communications for primate conservation projects (notably Barbary Macaques and Sumatran Orangutans) in the UK and worldwide, and is currently based nearby at the OU Interdisciplinary Centre for Conservation Science. She honours human primates by serving as an accredited Humanist Celebrant for funeral and memorial services, and practices flying and static trapeze and aerial hoop in her spare time.

6th week 19 February *Keeping Faith ... with wildlife and conservation*

Wadham's own **Taras Bains** is a fourth-year biologist in Oxford's Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, just back from field work in Uganda studying the experience of local communities living next to wildlife-protected areas. He is passionate about conservation outreach—serving as a blog editor for Conservation Optimism, a Learning Officer for the BBO Wildlife Trust, the projects coordinator for the Oxford Nature Conservation Society, and the animator of last year's badger-cam in Wadham gardens and a project to rewild the History Faculty.

7th week ★ 26 February *Keeping Faith ... 'This above all: to thine own self be true'*

Humans are moral and spiritual as well as material beings. **The Chaplain** marks the beginning of the Christian penitential season of Lent by considering our essential nature and purpose, and how we can be 'true' to it.

8th week 5 March *Keeping Faith ... with humanity: 'A Grain of Sand'*

Pat Winslow is an author, poet, and Humanist Celebrant who 'keeps faith' with humanity as a writer-in-residence in hospitals and a high-security prison, and running community and school writing workshops. *I've often been asked how I, as an atheist, can live without faith. My answer is always 'fully and with compassion'. I could also add 'with a healthy dose of curiosity'. Human beings are infinitely complex. We are the sum total of our whole lives, not bits of our lives. So, broadly, the subject is our propensity for change.*

★ *On starred evenings, Evensong is followed by dinner in Hall for all who have signed up beforehand.*

Midweek Services and Observances *(in Chapel unless otherwise noted)*

Roman Catholic Evening Mass in Epiphany – Wed 2nd wk (25 January), 6 pm: all welcome

A small, quiet gathering by candlelight for Holy Communion, led by one of the University's Catholic chaplains.

International Holocaust Memorial Day – Friday 2nd wk (27 January)

An area of remembrance will be set up in the Ante-Chapel to commemorate the six million European Jews, and Roma, queer, disabled, and other victims of Nazi persecution murdered in the Holocaust (1941-45), together with modern victims of ethnic cleansing and genocide in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur.

Winter Mindfulness Half-Hour 'Staff Service' – Wednesday 3rd wk (1 February), 10.30 am

For all Wadham staff members: a half-hour in the garden for guided nature immersion and reflection, followed by refreshments at 11.

Choral Eucharist for Ash Wednesday – Wed 6th wk (22 February), 8 pm, University Church

Joint service at the University Church with imposition of ashes and Holy Communion, with combined college choirs.

Midweek Events in College for all

Full Moon Tree Walks – Sunday 3rd wk (5 Feb), Wednesday 8th wk (8 March), 9-10 pm

Wrap up warmly and join Jane and Maggie Mae in the gardens by night to admire Wadham's amazing trees by moonlight (clouds permitting); the writing and reciting of moon-poetry is encouraged.

Tree Appreciation after Lunch: Conifers in Winter – Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1.10-1.40 pm

Join Jane and Maggie Mae after lunch in the gardens, with different trees featured each time; rain or shine.

Qigong in the Garden – *watch the first Chapel mailing for a consultation about times and days*

Join Jane and Maggie Mae in the garden for Qigong—an ancient Chinese mindfulness & movement practice. No prior experience necessary. Rain venue: the Ante-Chapel.

Weekly Events for Students (Weeks 1–8)

Wednesdays, even weeks, 7.30-9 pm – Explore

Come explore the Bible and its implications in an informal environment, with refreshments. Chaplain's Room 3/1, led by Desirée Wilson (Medicine, 2017). All questions and everyone welcome!

Thursdays, 4-5 pm – Postgraduate Student Teas

Postgraduate students, this tea is for you! Join Jane and Maggie Mae weekly in the Chaplain's Room (3/1) for informal afternoon tea, crumpets, and cake. Special diets catered for. Drop in and out as you are able.

Odd-Week Friday Afternoon Teas

Join Jane and Maggie Mae on odd Fridays for afternoon tea to end the week and start the weekend, in the Ante-Chapel (1st and 7th) or around town as the Chapel's guest (3rd and 5th). Watch Chapel mailings for details, and sign-up links for museum teas.

1st Friday (20 Jan): Welcome Back Tea —*Lunar Year of the Rabbit*—in the Ante-Chapel, 4-5 pm

3rd Friday (3 Feb): Pitt Rivers Museum, *His Dark Materials* trail, 3-4, followed by tea in the museum café

5th Friday (17 Feb): Natural History Museum, *Connected Planet* exhibition, 3-4, followed by tea in café

7th Friday (3 March): Almost-Done Tea in the Ante-Chapel, 4-5 pm

Beyond the Walls

An Evening with Icons – Wednesday 3rd week (1 February), University Church, 7.30 – 8.45 pm.

A quiet evening to explore the exhibition Icons on Ammunition Boxes, led by Esther de Waal and Jane, with time for personal reflection. These traditional Eastern Orthodox images of holy figures are painted on ammunition box panels from Ukrainian war zones, and sold to support a mobile hospital and rehabilitation facility in Ukraine.

Volunteering Opportunities

Wadham has volunteering relationships with a number of local groups, including Oxford Mutual Aid, The Gatehouse, and KEEN Oxford (Kids Enjoy Exercise Now); watch Chapel mailings and the Chapel webpages for details.

Wadham College Chapel

The College Chapel serves as a haven for all members of College as well as their families and friends. Chapel events are inclusive and gather students and staff with diverse perspectives on matters of faith, metaphysical enquiry and spiritual practice, without assuming any particular religious affiliation. The Chapel is open all day, and is a place where you can light a candle, sit quietly and reflect, read, offer prayers, or simply take time out in stillness and peace.

Chaplain: The Revd Dr Jane Baun


The Chaplain is available to all members of the College community, and can be consulted in confidence on any matter of concern, whether personal, practical or spiritual – academic pressures, relationship difficulties, bereavement, anxiety or just life in general. The kettle is always on, and chocolate available. Jane is ably assisted by Maggie Mae, a mostly sheepdog who is always happy to listen, receive adoration, and give reassurance. (If you would rather meet Jane without Maggie in the room, just let her know ahead of time.) Please do get in touch: contact Jane on chaplain@wadham.ox.ac.uk.



Chapel People

Director of Chapel Music	Katharine Pardee (kfpardee@yahoo.com)
Chapel Organist	Julian Littlewood
Chapel Wardens	Atchutananda Surampudi, Casey Ciulla, Charlotte Máthé, Eva Hayward, Madison Barnes, Mohammad Faisal Bin Mohammad Feroz.

If you are interested in singing in the choir please contact Katharine Pardee. If you would like to read or lead the prayers at Evensong, or indeed help in any other way in Chapel, please contact the Chaplain.

 Follow us on [@wadhamchapel](https://twitter.com/wadhamchapel)

