



WADHAM COLLEGE
CHAPEL
HILARY TERM 2026

Sundays in Chapel 6 pm: Choral Evensong

Virtues

1st week ★ 18 January FAITH (*fides*)

Where is virtue to be found? The Chaplain introduces our term's exploration of the four cardinal virtues (prudence, justice, fortitude, temperance) and the three theological virtues (faith, hope and love) with a meditation on Faith.

2nd week 25 January *Lessons and Carols for Epiphanytide*

Our service of **Lessons and Carols** celebrates the four Epiphany manifestations of Christ – the Star, the Presentation, the Baptism, the Miracle at Cana – as found in Scripture, poetry, and song.

3rd week ★ 1 February HOPE (*spes*)

On the eve of the feast of Candlemas, which celebrates the Presentation in the Temple of the infant Jesus, proclaimed by the aged prophet Simeon to be the hope of all people, we welcome **The Revd Canon Dr Will Lamb**, Vicar of the University Church of St Mary the Virgin, to ponder the sustaining virtue and act of the will that is hope.

4th week 8 February PRUDENCE (*prudentia*)

Philosophers ancient, medieval, and modern have considered prudence (*phronesis, providentia/prudentia*) – practical wisdom, reasoned discernment – to be the foundation of all virtues. **The Revd Dr Andrew Davison**, Oxford's Regius Professor of Divinity, will draw on his great love for the 13th-century theologian Thomas Aquinas to explicate what prudence could mean for us.

5th week ★ 15 February LOVE (*caritas*)

So *faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love* (1 Cor. 13:13). On the day after the secular feast of Valentine's day, **Sofia Radaelli**, a final-year ordinand training for the priesthood at St Stephen's House in Oxford, will help us ponder the deeper divine and moral significance of love.

6th week 22 February TEMPERANCE (*temperantia*)

What do ancient Greek philosophy, Christian theology, and Chinese five-element theory have in common? An abhorrence of extremes, and the promotion of the virtues of moderation. **The Chaplain** will lead us in practical exercises which help us cultivate the balanced middle between excess and deficiency.

7th week ★ 1 March FORTITUDE (*fortitudo*)

A Celebration of Welsh musical and poetic traditions for St David's Day

Fortitude – inner and outer strength, courage, resolve – is depicted on Sir John Portman's tomb as a woman warrior standing by a shattered pillar, a reference to the Biblical Samson. **The Revd Dr Harriet Harris**, a former chaplain of Wadham and now Principal of Ripon College Cuddesdon, will consider how fortitude is learned and lived.

8th week 8 March JUSTICE (*iustitia*)

Theologian and sociologist **Dr Edward David** will conclude our term of virtues by reflecting on justice. Lecturer in Ethics and Values at King's College London, and a research associate of Blackfriars, Oxford, he leads The Gen Z Role Models Project, and hosts *The Vibe Shift* podcast, exploring Gen Z spiritual and cultural lives, including perspectives on religion, social media, and finding meaning in a digital age.

★ On starred evenings (Odd Weeks), Evensong is followed by dinner in Hall for all who have signed up beforehand; see Chapel mailings for details.

Midweek Services and Events in College

Chinese New Year Celebration Tea – Tuesday 5th Week (17 February), 3-5 pm, Ante-Chapel

Greet the new moon and celebrate the Lunar New Year of the Fire Horse, with tea, traditional treats and a dragon.

Full Moon Tree Walks

February – Monday 3rd Week (2 February), hot chocolate in the Ante-Chapel, 7-8 pm; moon walk, 8-9 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); offerings of moon poetry, songs, and stories encouraged.

March – Lunar New Year Lantern Festival – Tuesday 7th Week (3 March), 8-10 pm

Join Jane and Maggie Mae in the Ante-Chapel, 8-9 pm for hot chocolate and traditional treats, followed by a moon and lantern-lit tree walk from 9 pm with crowd-sourced riddles, poetry, songs, and stories.

Roman Catholic Termly Evening Mass – Wednesday 2nd Week (28 January), 6 pm: all welcome

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

International Holocaust Memorial Day – Tuesday of 2nd Week (27 January)

A remembrance and reflection space in the Ante-Chapel will honour the memory of the six million European Jews murdered in the Holocaust (1941-45) alongside Roma, queer, and other victims of Nazi persecution, together with modern victims of ethnic cleansing, genocide, and genocidal acts, in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, Darfur, and Gaza.

Winter Mindfulness Half-Hour 'Staff Service' – Wednesday 4th week (11 February), 2 pm

For all Wadham staff members: 20 minutes in the garden for guided nature immersion and reflection, followed by refreshments until 11 am. Join us as we go in search of snowdrops and other signs of Spring.

Weekly Events for students (Weeks 1-8)

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1.10-1.40 pm – Tree Appreciation after Lunch – Conifers and Evergreens

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

Wednesdays & Fridays, times tbd – Garden Qigong

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. Watch Chapel mailings for scheduling survey.

Weekly Postgraduate Student Teas – day tbc

Postgraduate students, this tea is for you! Join Jane and Maggie Mae weekly in the Chaplain's Room (3/1) for informal drop-in afternoon tea and cake. Special diets catered for. Watch Chapel mailings for scheduling survey.

Odd 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) or around town as the Chapel's guest (3rd & 5th). Extramural teas limited to ten students; watch Chapel mailings for 3rd- and 5th-week sign-up links and further details.

- 1st Friday (23 Jan): Welcome Back Tea in the Ante-Chapel, 3.30-4.30 pm
- 3rd Friday (6 Feb): Tea at the Oxford Town Hall Café, 3-4; Museum of Oxford, 4-5.
- 5th Friday (20 Feb): Oxford Botanic Garden, 2.45-4, followed by tea at Queen's Lane Coffee House, 4-5

Beyond the Walls

Iffley Snowdrop Pilgrimage

Saturday 5th week (21 Feb, weather allowing) – a morning walk in search of snowdrops along the Thames towpath to Iffley village, with its fabulous Romanesque church of St Mary, followed by refreshments at the Isis Farmhouse; watch Chapel mailings 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, personal, practical or spiritual – academic pressures, relationships, bereavement, anxiety or just life in general. Jane is ably assisted by the College ‘cat’ Maggie Mae, a mostly sheepdog who is always happy to receive adoration and give reassurance. Contact Jane on chaplain@wadham.ox.ac.uk.



Chapel People

Director of Music Hannah Zaki
(hannah.zaki@wadham.ox.ac.uk)

Chapel Organist Julian Littlewood

Chapel Wardens Emily Gray
Eva Hayward
Samantha Rockney
Caiden Searcy
Theo Wright



Cover image:

Tomb of Sir John Portman (1605–24). Photo: Martin Dunkley Smith