

Friday Afternoon Teas

Join Jane and Maggie Mae on *three odd Fridays and one even Friday* for afternoon tea to end the week and start the weekend. Museum teas limited to 10 Wadham students; watch Chapel Mailings for sign-up links.

1st Friday (16 Oct.): **Welcome Back Tea in the Ante-Chapel**, 4-5 pm

2nd Friday (23 Oct.): **Ashmolean Museum**, 'Climate Culture Care' exhibition by Bangladeshi artist Soma Surovi Jannat, 3-4 pm, followed by tea as the Chapel's guest in the museum café, 4-5 pm.

5th Friday (13 Nov.): **Weston Library**, tea in the café, 3-4 pm; 'Wonder of Birds' exhibition, 4-5 pm.

7th Friday (27 Nov.): **"Almost Done" Tea in the Ante-Chapel**, 4-5 pm

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 as a quiet refuge where you can light a candle, reflect, pray, read, or simply take time out in stillness and peace.

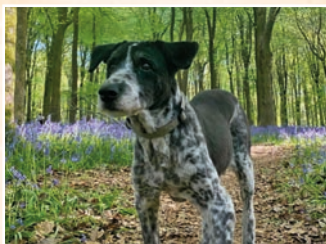
Chaplain: The Revd Dr Jane Baun

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. Jane also welcomes enquiries from students and staff interested in exploring prayer, meditation and mindfulness practice, faith, spiritual growth, vocation, Bible study, church history, and New Testament Greek, as individuals or in small groups. The Chaplain 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	Theo Wright



Wadham College Chapel
Michaelmas Term 2026

Sundays in Chapel 6 pm: Choral Evensong

Initiation: becoming, belonging, rites of passage

1st week ★ 11 October *You are already the person you want to become*

The **Chaplain** welcomes Freshers and encourages us to recognise that we already have within us all that we need to navigate becoming and belonging, whatever the new environment, with grace and skill—and help from trees. Followed by dinner in Hall for all who attend Evensong (sign-up link in 0th-Week Chapel Mailing).

2nd week 18 October *A Journey of Calling*

Wadham doctoral candidate **Sydney Tucker** (Social Intervention and Policy Evaluation) will share her journey into faith at university, and how that faith led her into work more meaningful than she had ever imagined—from leprosy communities in China, to homeless shelters in the US, to her current DPhil research on protecting protect children affected by war in Ukraine and in the Middle East.

3rd week ★ 25 October *Rites of Passage as a Muslim believer*

Many faith traditions mark the assumption of adult responsibility and accountability before God with special rites and signs. Wadham alumna **Maryam AlKetbi** and current student **Maryam Ahmed** will reflect on their experience of growing into mature Muslim faith and practice as women.

4th week 1 November (All Saints Sunday) *Drawn to Faith: becoming Christian as an adult*

Epidemiologist **Dr Bowen Liu** first encountered Christianity among the painted saints of a cathedral courtyard in China. Reflecting on childhood curiosity, the search for truth in science, and his baptism and confirmation as an adult, he explores the gradual ‘distilling’ of faith. How does an attraction to Christianity’s beauty become a commitment to believe and belong?

5th week ★ 8 November *Turning Eighteen in the Arctic*

On **Remembrance Sunday**, as we honour the memory of the young men from Wadham who came of age serving far from home in two world wars, **Magnus Horgan** (Classics and Middle Eastern Studies, 2025), will reflect on his wilderness survival ‘gap year’ at the Pasvik Folkehøgskole, in the far northeast of Norway on the border with Russia, in a beautiful valley where winters can reach -40°C with two months of darkness, and a complicated story of different states and peoples turned tense once again from conflict elsewhere in the world.

6th week 15 November *How do you know you’re a grownup? Lessons from ancient stories*

Our ancestors knew definite rituals that marked the transition from adolescence to adulthood, but our own tech-assisted secular culture ensures that most of us encounter heroic ordeals, trials, and rites of passage only virtually—in games, manga, fantasy novels, or films—with serious implications for personal growth and societal health. The **Chaplain** will draw on Biblical, epic, saintly, and mythological exemplars to suggest ways that ancient wisdom can still serve our moral and personal development.

7th week ★ 22 November (Queerfest Sunday) *Navigating Multiple Truths – a Journey of Belonging*

Social anthropologist **Isaiah Wellington-Lynn** specialises in understanding how rites of passage help us to belong. His research engages with undergraduate students at Oxford from a range of socioeconomic backgrounds, and explores what belonging means. Isaiah will speak specifically about the challenges of resolving seemingly conflicting identities and the opportunity to hold multiple truths.

8th week 29 November **COLLEGE CAROL SERVICE**, followed by mulled wine and mince pies in Hall

Doors open at 5.30 pm for this first-come, first-seated College tradition of **Candlelight Lessons and Carols**, featuring our Chapel Choir and readers from the College community, as we ponder the Christmas story through stories ancient and modern.

★ On starred evenings, 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 for all

🕯️ **Roman Catholic Evening Mass** – Wednesday 2nd week (21 October) – 6 pm; all welcome.

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

🌿 **Autumn Mindfulness Half-Hour for Wadham Staff** – Wed 3rd wk (28 Oct), 2–2.30 pm

For all Wadham staff members: 20 minutes in the garden for tree appreciation and guided nature immersion and reflection, followed by optional coffee and cake in the Chaplain’s Room.

🕯️ **All Saints/ All Souls Day** – Monday 4th week (2 November), 12.30–12.50 pm

A brief service of remembrance for those close to us who have died, with the opportunity to light candles. Names of those whom you would like to be remembered during the service may be given to the Chaplain ahead of time.

🕯️ **Remembrance Day** – Wednesday 5th week (11 November) – 10.45 for 10.50 am

We gather by 10.45 as a community—staff, Fellows, tutors, and students—at the Memorial Tablets outside the Undergraduate Centre, for a short observance to remember and honour the service and sacrifice by College members in time of war.

🕯️ **Transgender Day of Remembrance** – Friday 6th week (20 November), all day

A meditation space will be open all day in the Ante-Chapel, with candles and documentation, to commemorate those whose lives have been lost through anti-transgender violence worldwide over the past year.

Events for students (Weeks 1–8)

🌿 **Harcourt Arboretum Tree Walk** – Saturday 1st week (17 October), 11 am–3 pm (flexible)

Take your trees to the next level! Travel by X40 bus to the Harcourt Arboretum, enjoy a picnic lunch together, commune with the resident peacocks, and admire amazing trees. Details and sign-up in Chapel Mailing.

🎬 **Cinema a Cappella** – films on becoming and belonging, followed by discussion:

Thursday of 3rd week (29 Oct.), 8–10 pm: *Kung Fu Panda* (2008)

Thursday of 5th week (12 Nov.), 8–10 pm: *Whale Rider* (2003)

🌿 **Full Moon Tree Walks** – Sunday 3rd wk (25 Oct.), 9–11 pm; Tuesday 7th wk (24 Nov.), 8–10 pm

Wrap up warmly and join Jane in the gardens by night to admire Wadham’s amazing trees by the light of the final two full moons of 2026 (clouds permitting); bring moon poetry, songs, and stories, and your own mug if possible. First hour: hot chocolate in the Ante-Chapel; 2nd hour: garden moon walk.

🌿 **Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1.10–1.40 pm – Tree Appreciation after Lunch**

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

🌿 **Even Thursdays, 4–4.20 pm – Twilight Walking Meditation in University Parks**

22 October, 5 & 19 November

Three even Thursdays, 4–4.20 pm: meet Jane at the Keble gate of Uni Parks for 20 minutes of silent walking meditation together in the Buddhist tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh.

🕯️ **Odd Thursdays, 4–5 pm – Postgraduate Afternoon Tea**, 15 & 29 October; 12 & 26 November

Postgraduate students, this ‘odd’ tea is just for you! Join Jane and Maggie Mae on Odd Thursdays of term in the Chaplain’s Room (3/1) for informal afternoon tea, cake and fruit. Special diets honoured. Drop in and out.

🕯️ **Qigong in the Garden** – regular weekly times tbd; sign up for 1st-wk taster sessions in 0th-wk Chapel Mailing

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.