



GIRTON COLLEGE CHAPEL

WHAT IS THE CHURCH DOING?

LENT TERM 2026

THE CHAPEL

All are welcome in the College Chapel. As well as a place where services take place, it is a space for everyone in the College community – of all faiths or none – for quiet reflection, prayer or meditation. There are sometimes musical rehearsals in Chapel, but it is mostly free and peaceful. Please do make us of this beautiful space at any time.

Services in the Chapel, mostly in the Anglican Christian tradition, are also for anybody who wants to come – from whatever faith, background or tradition. The Chapel community fosters a welcoming and inclusive culture, including in matters of sexuality and gender, and the services can provide a welcome stability and rhythm amongst the busyness of College life.

Use of the Chapel

Any groups wishing to use the Chapel for rehearsals or meeting must obtain direct permission from the Chaplain. Many things are possible, and the Chaplain very much welcomes appropriate use of the space, but this must be arranged beforehand in order to prevent clashes. Whilst every effort is made to accommodate requests, please be aware that the Chapel is not simply a practice or meeting room and permission is not guaranteed.

Quiet Hour

A 'Quiet Hour' is kept in Chapel between 1:30pm – 2:30pm on weekdays in term time. The Chapel is very often free at other points, but rehearsals or meetings will not be arranged during this time, so you can be confident that the Chapel will be quiet for anyone to enjoy the space and peace.

WHO'S WHO?

The Chaplain: Rev'd Dr Tim Boniface



Rev'd Dr Boniface is the College Chaplain. As well as overseeing the life of the Chapel and leading the worship, Tim is a welfare presence within College, available to all members, and is happy to see people in confidence for any reason, religious or not. He can spend time listening and guiding you, and can also help refer you on to other welfare support that you might benefit from. He is part-time, but is around College regularly in full term.

Do feel free to drop in to Tim's office (D4a). He is available to see you in person, talk to on the phone, on Zoom, or to contact by email (chaplain@girton.cam.ac.uk) if that is best for you. The Porter's Lodge can also contact Tim in an emergency.

Director of Chapel Music: Dr Gareth Wilson

Dr Wilson ([gw377](#)) oversees the musical life of the Chapel and directs the College Chapel Choir. He is assisted by the Organ Scholars, **Ben Nolan** and **Tomás Escobar**.

Chapel Wardens: David Burstow, Daphne Lelong, Bozhou Mu, Rosie Rice, Ruyi Shi, Jess Smith, Corinne De Klerk (ordinand)

Girton's Chapel Wardens assist the Chaplain in practical matters relating to Chapel and are a crucial part of the community. We would always welcome more in this friendly team. Ordinands are those training for ministry who are attached to Girton for part of their training. Please contact the Chaplain or speak to the Chapel Wardens if you're interested serving as a Chapel Warden yourself, or to explore any other ways in which you might contribute to chapel life, such as assisting with live streaming, reading or leading prayers.

Assisting clergy within College: Rev'd Dr Charlie Bączyk-Bell

Charlie Bączyk-Bell is a Fellow in Medicine and Public Theology and also Chair of the Chapel Committee. He can be contacted by email ([cb561](#)).

Assisting Deacon: Rev'd James Anderson

James Anderson is the College Bursar and a Fellow. He can be contacted by email (bursar@girton.cam.ac.uk).

Student Christian organisations:

Student Christian Movement: www.movement.org.uk

Cambridge University Catholic Chaplaincy: www.fisherhouse.org.uk

Christian Union: www.ciccu.org.uk

The Chaplain has contact details for Chaplaincy support for students of other faiths, and will be happy to put you in contact. **You can also find extensive details about faith in Cambridge through the Chapel and Faith page on the College website:**

www.girton.cam.ac.uk/life-girton/chapel-faith/faith-cambridge

PRAYER AND MEDITATION ROOM

Girton has a prayer and meditation room, available for use by any member of the College at any time. The room is simple, neutral and comfortable, intended for use by people of all faiths or of none. Basic guidelines for its use are posted outside. The room is overseen by the Junior Bursar and the Chaplain. Please request the key from the Porters if you wish to use it. If you need to make regular bookings, please email prayerroom@girton.cam.ac.uk.

MIDWEEK SERVICES

Choral Candlelit Compline Tuesdays at 9 pm in full term

(No Compline on 20 January, 17 February, 10 and 17 March)

A service traditionally sung or said before sleep, Compline at Girton includes plainchant and reflective music sung by the Choir, most Tuesdays during Full Term. An ancient service of great beauty – take some time to unwind and be still for 20 minutes in the candlelight, music and silence. No demands.

Tuesday Morning Prayer 8:15 am

A short said service of Morning Prayer in the contemporary Anglican tradition led by the Bursar.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Ash Wednesday Eucharist Wednesday 18 February, 8pm

A beautiful sung candlelit service for the beginning of Lent, including the traditional offering of ashes. With a short message from the Chaplain and music from the Choir. All are welcome. Holy Communion is offered to those who wish to receive it.

From time to time there are other services in term. These are included in the College Newsletter that comes out every week in term time., and often in emails from the Chaplain as well.

CHORAL EVENSONG Sundays at 5:30 pm in full term (unless otherwise stated)

Evensong in English dates back to the time of the Reformation, but many elements draw on the ancient monastic ‘offices’ or ‘hours’ (regular prayers at certain times of day), especially to the office of vespers (evening prayer). The 1662 Book of Common Prayer provides the form of words and ceremonies that the Church of England uses to this day, although the service first appeared in this form in 1549. Congregations are drawn to the rhythms of prayer that have sustained worshippers down the centuries. The Evensong at Girton is ‘choral’, meaning that key elements of the service are sung to beautiful choral settings by our College Choir.

Choral evensong also includes a sermon of around 10 - 15 minutes. Sermons often follow a theme for the term, allowing for in depth exploration of certain issues and topics from many different angles. In addition to the Chaplain, sermons are often given by notable guests preachers who bring valuable perspectives from their own life and context.

Our sermon theme for evensong this term explores the question ‘What is the Church Doing?’ – examining some key practices and characteristics of Christian thought and faith.

25
JAN

Trusting

Speaker: Rev'd Dr Tim Boniface, *College Chaplain*

Music: *Introit* - Tantum Ergo (Fernand Laloux)
Responses - Alice Rivers
Canticles - Evening Service in D major (Herbert Brewer)
Anthem - My Lips Called Unto Him (Dmitri Bortniansky)

1
FEB

Eucharist for Candlemas: Eating

Speaker: Rev'd Rachel Rosborough, *Vice Principal, Westcott House, Cambridge*

Music: *Eucharist setting*
Missa Solemnis (Johann Gottlieb Naumann)
Tantum Ergo (Manuel Cardoso)

8
FEB

Forgiving

Speaker: Rev'd Dr Tim Boniface, *College Chaplain*

Music: *Introit* - The Lord's Prayer (Roderick Williams)
Responses - Alice Rivers
Canticles - Gloucester Service (Herbert Howells)
Anthem - Like as the Hart (Herbert Howells)

15
FEB

Engaging

Speaker: Rev'd Reid Humble, *Chaplain and Interfaith Advisor, University College London (UCL)*

Music: *Introit* - Tebe Poyem (Vassily Zinoviev)
Responses - Alice Rivers
Canticles - Second Service (Kenneth Leighton)
Anthem - Blagoslovi dushe moya gospoda (Sergei Rachmaninov)

22

FEB

Praying

Speaker: Rev'd Dr Tim Boniface, *College Chaplain*

Music: *Introit* - Hear My Prayer (Moses Hogan)
Responses - Alice Rivers
Canticles - Evening Service in B flat (Charles Villiers Stanford)
Anthem - Geistliches Lied (Johannes Brahms)

1

MAR

Hoping

Speaker: Rev'd Professor David Fergusson, *Regius Professor of Divinity, University of Cambridge*

Music: *Introit* - Psalm 23 (David Bevan)
Responses - Alice Rivers
Canticles - Evening Service in E minor (Daniel Purcell)
Anthem - Miserere (David Hurd)

8

MAR

Reading

Speaker: Professor Susannah Ticciati, *Professor of Christian Doctrine, King's College London*

Music: *Introit* - Sitio/Sicut Cervus (Gareth Wilson)
Responses - Alice Rivers
Canticles - Evening Service in E flat no. 2 (Charles Wood)
Anthem - Decalogue I (Gareth Wilson)

15

MAR

The Seven Last Words

A service of music, scripture readings and poetry as we journey towards Holy Week and Easter. This is a deep and moving service that invites us to consider some of the deepest aspects of our humanity together.

STILL TO COME... MORE VISITING PREACHERS IN 2026

Rt Rev'd Martin Seeley, *former Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich*

Ven Dr Liz Adeknule, *non-executive Director, Royal Marsden NHS foundation; Chaplain to HM the King*

Rev'd Jenny Pathamajara, *Minister, Castle Hill Methodist Church; Methodist Representative to the University of Cambridge*

Rev'd Jon Canessa, *Addiction and Recovery Worker, Newcastle-upon-Tyne*

Rev'd Dr Evie Vernon O'Brien, *Racial Justice Director, Church of England West Midlands; Vice Chair, Inclusive Church; Womanist Theologian*

Rev'd Canon Jane Winter, *Residentiary Canon, Rochester Cathedral*

...and more... keep an eye on the term cards!

FURTHER INFORMATION

- **Chapel webpage:** www.girton.cam.ac.uk/life-girton/chapel-faith

For regular updates from the Girton College Chapel Choir, follow their social media accounts:

- **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/GirtonChoir
- **Instagram:** @girtoncollegechoir
- **X:** @GirtonChoir

CHARITY FOR LENT TERM

EMBRACE THE MIDDLE EAST



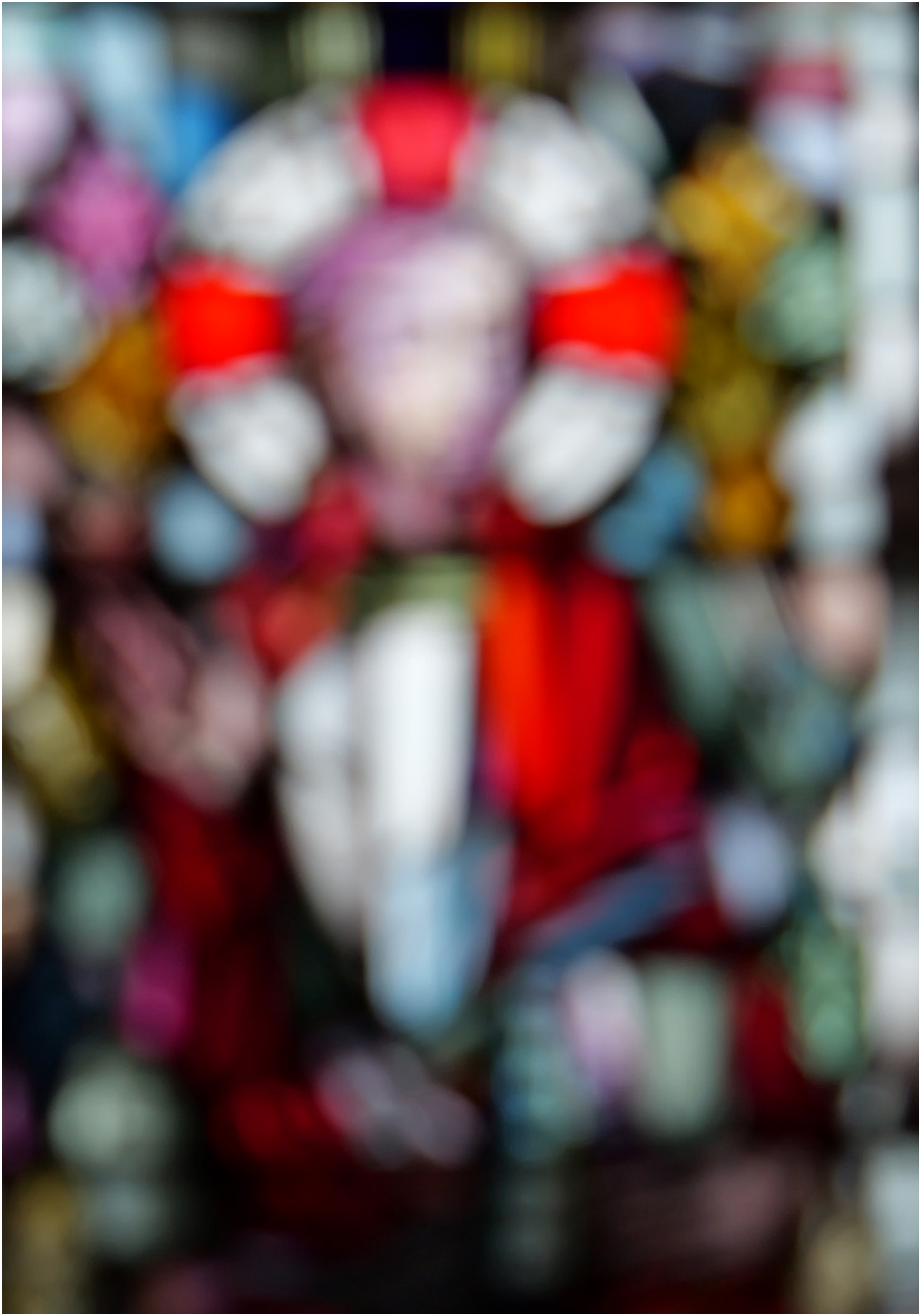
This term we are supporting Embrace the Middle East, a Christian development charity who partner with Christians in the Middle East as they work to transform lives and restore the dignity of the most excluded and marginalised communities.

Where there is a need – for refuge, a home, for health care, for education, for justice and human rights – we, with our partners, respond. Our goal is to contribute to a culture of human flourishing in a troubled region.

- embraceme.org

You can give to the Chapel charity either by cash or card following services or by emailing the Chaplain.

THIS TERM'S COVER ART



The cover art is an abstract photograph of the stained glass window in Girton College Chapel.

