



GIRTON COLLEGE CHAPEL

MICHAELMAS TERM 2026

PAYING ATTENTION IN A FAST AND FURIOUS WORLD

THE CHAPEL

All are welcome in the College Chapel, which has stood for over 120 years as a space of peace and beauty. As well as a place where services are held, the Chapel is for everyone in the College community - of all faiths or none - for quiet reflection, prayer or meditation. Choir practices and other musical rehearsals sometimes take place in Chapel, but it is mostly free and peaceful. Please do make use 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. See the ‘Faith in Cambridge’ page for more information on support and connections for College members of any faith.

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 available to all members of College (students, staff and Fellows), 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 support that you might benefit from. He is part-time, but is around College regularly in full term and available outside of term too. Tim is also the Artistic Director of Girton Jazz, and a professional jazz saxophonist.

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 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 Scholar, **Tomás Escobar**.

Chapel Wardens: Jess Smith, Daphne Lelong, David Burstow, Rosie Rice.

Girton's Chapel Wardens assist the Chaplain in all 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 Priests:

Rev'd Dr Charlie Bączyk-Bell

Fellow and Director of Studies in Medicine; Fellow in Public Theology

Rev'd James Anderson

Fellow, College Bursar

Student Christian organisations:

Student Christian Movement: www.movement.org.uk

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

Christian Union: www.ciccu.org.uk

Please see the 'Faith in Cambridge' section on the College website for details of connections and support for College members of all faiths.

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, and access is via keycard. Please email prayerroom@girton.cam.ac.uk with any particular enquiries.

MIDWEEK SERVICES

Choral Candlelit Compline

**Tuesday 13 & 27 October, and 3 & 17 November
at 9 pm in full term**

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 College Bursar, Rev'd James Anderson.

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. If you would like to be on a more regular 'services reminder' email from the Chapel, please email chaplain@girton.cam.ac.uk with your request and you can be added to the list.

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 is *'Paying Attention in a Fast and Furious World'*.

11
OCT

Introductory Evensong: Is Religion Worth Any Attention?

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

Music: *Intro* - Tantum Ergo (Louis Vierne)
Responses - John Reading
Canticles - Evening Service in B Minor
(Thomas Tertius Noble)
Anthem - Nunc Dimittis (Angel Hristow)

18
OCT

Curious Attention: a path to hope in an angry world?

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

Music: *Intro* - In Thy Name, O Lord (Oscar Gardner)
Responses - John Reading
Canticles - Evening Service in C (Charles Villiers Stanford)
Anthem - It's going to rain today (Randy Newman / Nina Simone, arr. Rose Walthing)

25
OCT

Reading the Signs of the Times

Speaker: Prof Paul S. Fiddes, *Professor of Systematic Theology, University of Oxford; Principal Emeritus and Senior Research Fellow, Regent's Park College, Oxford*

Music: *Intro* - Enter Into His Gates with Thanksgiving
(Dmitri Bortniansky)
Responses - John Reading
Canticles - The Girton Service (Alice Rivers)
Anthem - Tebe Poyem (Serghi Latnow)

1
NOV

All Souls' Commemorative Evensong: Attention, Consolation and Love

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

Music: *Intro* - Visitation (Rachel Hill)
Responses - John Reading
Canticles - Evening Service in E flat no.2 (Charles Wood)
Anthem - Te Deum (Herbert Howells)

8

NOV

Remembrance Sunday: Paying Attention to the Past

Speaker: Rev'd Tomos Reed, *Vicar, Parish of the Holy Saviour, Croydon*

Music: *Intro* - In Stiller Nacht (Johannes Brahms)
Responses - John Reading
Canticles - Truro Service (Dobrinka Tabakova)
Anthem - I Shall Make a Sacrifice of Praise to You/O
Lord, Do Not Deprive Me of Your Mercies
(Dmitri Bortniansky)

15

NOV

Listen up, listen in, listen out

Speaker: Rev'd Canon Jane Winter, *Residentiary Canon, Rochester Cathedral; Asst Director of Mission and Ministry, Diocese of Rochester; Oblate, West Malling Abbey*

Music: *Intro* - Ego sum lux mundi (Gareth Wilson)
Responses - John Reading
Canticles - Gloucester Service (Herbert Howells)
Anthem - Salve Regina (Michele Varotto)

22

NOV

Attention and Action

Speaker: Rev'd Canon Dr Gale Richards, *Ecumenical Canon Emeritus, Ely Cathedral; Chaplain, Westminster College, Cambridge*

Music: *Intro* - God is With Us (Alice Rivers)
Responses - John Reading
Canticles - Magnificat (Michele Varotto)
Nunc Dimittis (Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina)
Anthem - I Will Sing a New Song Unto Thee, O Lord
(Dmitri Bortniansky)

29

NOV

Advent to Christmas Carol Service

A service of Advent and Christmas Carols and music by the Choir, preceded by tea in the Stanley Library from 4:30pm

Featuring Music by Dmitri Bortniansky, Rachel Hill, Herbert Howells, Alice Rivers, Michele Varotto, Peter Warlock and Gareth Wilson.

Early arrival is essential as this service is very popular.

PREACHERS TO COME IN 2027

Rev'd Canon Dr Jenny Wright, *Canon Theologian, Ely Cathedral*

Rev'd Dr Ayla Lepine, *Associate Rector, St James' Picadilly, London; Author 'Women, Art, God'*

Rev'd Azariah France Williams, *Rector, Ascension Church Hulme, Manchester; Author 'Ghost Ship: Institutional Racism and the Church of England'*

Most Rev'd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullaly DBE, *The Archbishop of Canterbury*

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](https://www.instagram.com/girtoncollegechoir)
- **X:** [@GirtonChoir](https://twitter.com/GirtonChoir)

CHARITY FOR MICHAELMAS TERM WINTERCOMFORT



This term we are supporting Wintercomfort, which is a support hub, creating opportunities all year round for homeless individuals.

- wintercomfort.org.uk

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 a *The Boulevard Montmartre at Night* by Camille Pissaro (1897) from
The National Gallery
(Credit) Bought, Courtauld Fund, 1925

