UNIVERSITY
CHURCH

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Choral Eucharist

with Act of Remembrance

Sunday 8 November 2026

10.30am

Please take this booklet away with you

Welcome to the University Church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford. We are delighted that you have joined us today. This Order of Service will guide you through the Eucharist. Please join in singing the hymns, as well as in saying together the words printed in bold type. Invitations to sit, stand, or kneel are only suggestions; please worship in whatever posture is best for you. If you need holy communion in your seat, please inform a Steward. The service is live-streamed, and the central nave area may be visible on camera. To avoid appearing on camera, please sit in the Gallery.

The Revd Canon Dr William Lamb, Vicar, is presiding, and the Revd Hannah Cartwright, Associate Vicar, is preaching.

The Mass Setting is *Missa pro defunctis* by J Esquivel Barahona (c.1562–c.1625) sung by the University Church Choir, under the direction of Robert Howarth. The Organist is James Brown.

CHILDREN AT ST MARY'S

We are delighted to have children worshipping with us and you are welcome to breastfeed and bottle-feed in church. A selection of toys and books are available in the Newman Room (behind the glass brick wall) next to the baby change. Saplings takes place on the first and third Sundays of the month in the Old Library for children aged 3-10 years and their families.

INFORMATION ABOUT ST MARY'S

For over 1,000 years, this church has served the city of Oxford as a place of inspiration, worship, and Christian witness. The University of Oxford began within the precincts of this building. Today it is the home of a vibrant and diverse community, and offers a particular welcome to those who feel on the edges of faith or society. We hope that you will enjoy being here with us today and that we will see you again very soon.
If you are new and would like to receive our weekly e-newsletter about events and services at St Mary's, please email the Administrator: admin@universitychurch.ox.ac.uk.
Lavatories, including accessible and baby-changing facilities, are situated at the West End of the Nave behind the glass brick screen. Entry is on the North Side.









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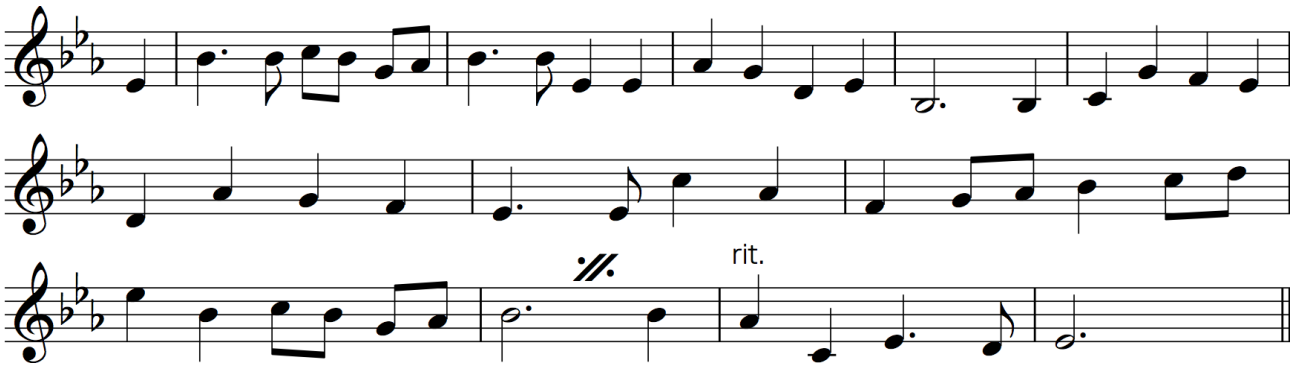
ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Elegy (Opus 58)
- Edward Elgar (1857-1934) arr. West

The congregation remain seated as the choir sing the vestry prayers, concluding: 'This is none other than the House of God: This is the gate of Heaven' (Genesis 28.17).

THE GATHERING

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *Please stand*



Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
reclothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with Thee
The silence of eternity
Interpreted by love!

In simple trust like theirs who heard
beside the Syrian sea
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm!

Words: John Whittier (1807-92) Tune: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918) NEH 353

President In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All **Amen.**

President The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Words of welcome may be offered

President As we meet in the presence of God, we come to commit ourselves to work in penitence and faith for reconciliation between all people, that together we may live in freedom, justice, and peace.
We pray for all who in bereavement, disability, and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror.
We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives, in world wars and conflicts past and present, have been given and taken away.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Deacon Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world; its pride, its selfishness, its greed; its evil divisions and hatreds.
Let us confess our share in what is wrong, and our failure to seek and establish that peace which God wills for his children.

Please sit or kneel

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,**
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us, forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

President Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

Please stand

KYRIE ELEISON *Sung by the Choir*

Kyrie eleison	Lord, have mercy
Christe eleison	Christ, have mercy
Kyrie Eleison	Lord, have mercy

THE COLLECT

President Let us pray. *We remain standing as we pray in silence*

President Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by
the ravages of sin, to be subject to your just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING *1 Thessalonians 4.13-end*
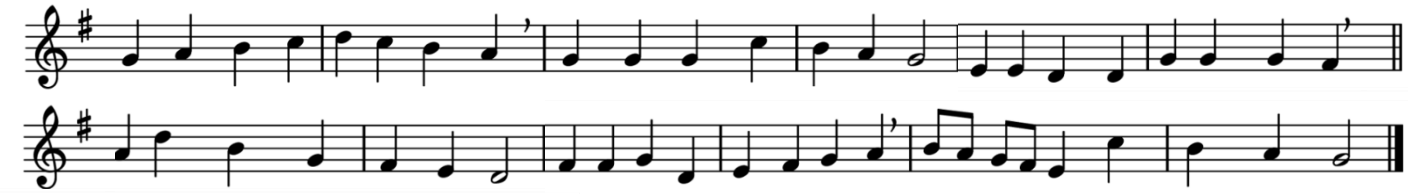
A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader For the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN *Please stand*



For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord,
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom;
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.

You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind.
For our growing in your likeness,
bring the life of Christ to mind
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.

Words: Fred Kaan (1965) v.1,2,4
Tune: ALLELUIA DULCE CARMEN, unknown. Harm. W. H. Monk (1823-1889). A&M 635

Please turn to face the Gospel

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Deacon Alleluia, alleluia. Jesus Christ is the firstborn from the dead; to him be glory and power for ever and ever.
All **Alleluia.**

THE GOSPEL *Matthew 25.1-13*

Deacon Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: 'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

Deacon This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON The Revd Hannah Cartwright *Please sit*

THE NICENE CREED *Please stand*

All **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
Scriptures; he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE *Please remain standing*

President Let us, in silence and prayer,
recall before God those who have given their lives
in the cause of freedom and in the service of others.
They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them.

All **We will remember them.**

THE LAST POST

Two minutes silence are kept

THE REVEILLE

President Ever-living God, we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war into the peace of your presence; may that same peace calm our fears, bring justice to all peoples and establish harmony among the nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *Please sit or kneel*

President Let us, in faith and commitment, pray for God's reign of justice, mercy and peace, in his world, his Church, and in our lives.

Lord, in your mercy:

All **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father,

All **accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PEACE

President Jesus said, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives.' The peace of the Lord be always with you
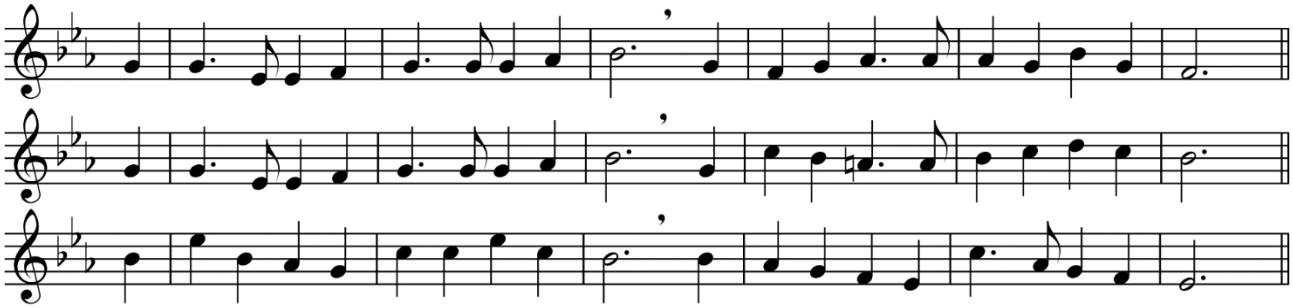
All **and also with you.**

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

All may exchange a sign of Christ's peace saying 'Peace be with you!'

OFFERTORY HYMN

During the hymn a cash collection is taken, and the altar is prepared.
To donate electronically, please see page 15.



Eternal God, before whose face we stand,
your earthly children, fashioned by your hand,
hear and behold us, for to you alone
all hearts are open, all our longings known:
so for our world and for ourselves we pray
the gift of peace, O Lord, in this our day.

We come with grief, with thankfulness and pride,
to hold in honour those who served and died;
we bring our hurt, our loneliness and loss,
to him who hung forsaken on the cross;
who, for our peace, our pains and sorrows bore,
and with the Father lives for evermore.

O Prince of peace, who gave for us your life,
look down in pity on our sin and strife.
May this remembrance move our hearts to build
a peace enduring, and a hope fulfilled,
when every flag of tyranny is furled
and wars at last shall cease in all the world.

From earth's long tale of suffering here below
we pray the fragile flower of peace may grow,
till cloud and darkness vanish from our skies
to see the Sun of Righteousness arise.
When night is past and peace shall banish pain,
all shall be well, in God's eternal reign.

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b.1926) A&M 577
Tune: UNDE ET MEMORES - W.H. Monk (1823-89). NEH 273

Please remain standing

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

President God of power and love,
draw together all your children
into the peace and unity which is your will,
and make us a sign of hope to our divided world,
through the love of Jesus Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

President The Lord be with you.
All **and also with you.**
President Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**
President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

President Living God, Father of light, hope of nations, friend of sinners,
builder of the city that is to come:
your love is made visible in Jesus Christ,
you bring home the lost, restore the sinner
and give dignity to the despised.
Your light shines in the darkest places,
reaching out in goodness and truth
to gather into one a divided and broken humanity.
With people from every race and nation,
and with all who in your eternal peace
rest at last from the turmoil of this world,
we join the angels of heaven
in their unending song:

Sung by the Choir

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,	Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.	God of power and might,
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.	heaven and earth are full of your
Hosanna in excelsis.	glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Benedictus qui venit	Blessed is he who comes
in nomine Domini.	in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in excelsis.	Hosanna in the highest.

President Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us
the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup
and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Deacon Praise to you, Lord Jesus.

All **Dying you destroyed our death,**
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

President And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.
Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours,
almighty Father, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

Please sit or kneel

THE LORD'S PRAYER

President Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The President breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

President We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

President Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,**
but only say the word and I shall be healed.

AGNUS DEI

Sung by the Choir

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem sempiternam.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, give them rest.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, give them rest.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, give them eternal rest.

All who seek to follow Christ are invited to receive Holy Communion. When directed by the stewards, please go forward. The priest will place the sacrament into your hands with the words 'the Body of Christ'. You should consume the Host immediately and then you will be offered the Chalice with the words 'the Blood of Christ'. To each you respond 'Amen'. Please do not intinct (dip) the Host in the Chalice. If you need to receive a gluten-free wafer (20 parts per million gluten), please tell the priest at the Nave Altar. To receive a prayer of blessing, please fold your arms across your chest.

ANTHEM

Hear my prayer – Henry Purcell (1659 – 1695)

Hear my prayer, O Lord,
and let my crying come unto Thee.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
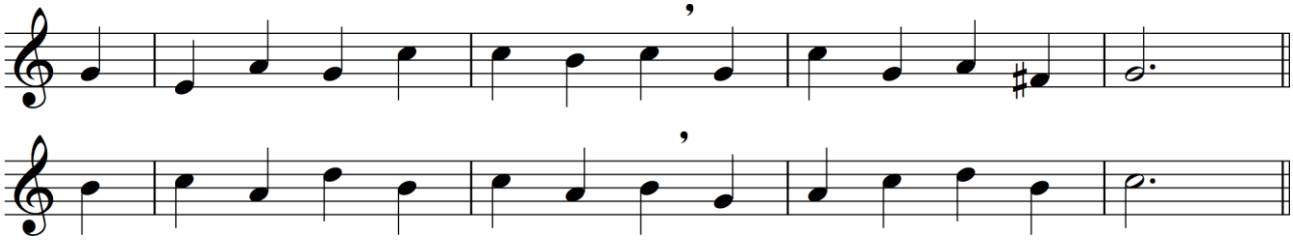
President God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

All **Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit;**
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever.
Amen.

Please stand

POST-COMMUNION HYMN



O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home;

Under the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
soon bears us all away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home!

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt
Tune: ST ANNE, attrib. William Croft (1678-1727) NEH 417

THE DISMISSAL

NOTICES

Please be seated

BLESSING *Please stand*

President May God teach you to live in the ways of peace and justice,
that, by the power of his Spirit, as one family
you may come to the inheritance of his kingdom;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY *Solemn prelude "For the Fallen" (Opus 80)*
- Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Please join us for refreshments
in the De Brome Chapel after the service

Announcements

POPPY APPEAL COLLECTION | Today | 10.30am
Poppies will be available before and after the 10.30am service at the door and over coffee in the Adam de Brome chapel. Please give generously by cash or QR code.

SECOND COFFEE | Today | 12noon | Weston Library
A chance for students and young adults to meet each other, share perspectives & drink more coffee! After the 10.30am service we walk to the Weston Library Cafe.

EQUALLY OXFORD MEAL AND MEETING | 10 Nov | 6.30pm | Old Library
If you would like to be part of a small community seeking to make a big difference in the city through prayer and practical action, join us for the next meal and meeting.

TALK: INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT | 13 Nov | 6pm | Old Library
Explore *the Case for International Development in a Contested World* following the shocking reduction in government funding. Anneliese Dodds MP (local MP & former Secretary of State for International Development) will be in conversation with leaders from OXFAM, Christian Aid, the Anglican Alliance and Caritas International.

SUNDAY FORUM (NB: DATE CHANGE) | 15 Nov | 12 noon | De Brome
Too many children, young people and families experience uncertainty, instability or the loss of a safe place to call home. Imogen Onwuka from the charity Safe Families will share with us how they are working towards a different future: one where families are supported before they reach crisis, children experience lasting belonging, and communities step forward to offer hope, help and connection.

BOOK LAUNCH: RETHINKING CHRISTIANITY | 17 Nov | 6.30pm | Nave
Join renowned theologian Professor Alister McGrath for an illuminating conversation with writer, broadcaster and host of the Sacred Podcast Elizabeth Oldfield about his new book, Rethinking Christianity. Tickets are £8 and available from the website.

JAM SALE IN AID OF BURKINA FASO | 22 Nov | 10.30am | De Brome
Contributions of homemade jam, chutney or other items for a fundraising sale after church we would be very welcome. Please speak to Judith Pettersen.

BIBLE STUDY | Tuesdays | 12.45pm | Old Library
Explore the strange and visionary text of Revelation with sensitivity and imagination.

COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS | Wednesdays | 11.15am | De Brome Chapel
Join is for coffee, conversation and, of course, doughnuts! All are welcome.

THURSDAY LUNCHTIME RECITAL SERIES | Thursdays | 1.00pm | Nave
A free recital during the lunch hour by musicians from the Royal Academy of Music.

CHARITABLE GIFTS AND DONATIONS

The University Church donates 10% of the cash and direct debits given by worshippers at this service to charity. If you are unable to make a cash donation, please consider using the contactless card machines by the door. Alternatively, you can donate online by using the QR code. Thank you for your generosity.

This Week

Sunday	8.30	Holy Eucharist	*Chancel*
Remembrance Sunday	10.30	Choral Eucharist	*Nave*
	12.00	Second Coffee	*Old Library*
	15.30	Choral Evensong	*Chancel*
Monday	9.00	Morning Prayer	*Chancel*
	12.15	Eucharist for All Souls	*Chancel*
Tuesday	9.00	Morning Prayer	*Chancel*
Leo the Great, 461	12.15	Eucharist	*Chancel*
	12.45	Bible Study	*Old Library*
	18.30	Equally Oxford Meal and Meeting	*Old Library*
Wednesday	9.00	Morning Prayer	*Chancel*
Martin, c.397	11.15	Coffee and Doughnuts	*De Brome*
	12.15	Eucharist	*Chancel*
Thursday	9.00	Morning Prayer	*Chancel*
	12.15	Eucharist	*Chancel*
	13.00	Lunchtime Recital (Free)	*Nave*
Friday	9.00	Morning Prayer	*Chancel*
Charles Simeon, 1836	12.15	Eucharist	*Chancel*
	18.00	Talk: International Development	*Nave*

Next Sunday

Sunday 15 November The Second Sunday before Advent

8.30	Holy Eucharist *Preacher:* Simon Bland	*Chancel*
10.30	Choral Eucharist with University Sermon *Preacher:* Sir Robert Chote	*Nave*
15.30	Choral Evensong	*Chancel*

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