

Use of the Trinity Hall Chapel

Stephen Plant, Dean & Runcie Fellow

The chapel of Trinity Hall is in regular use as a place of worship and, on occasion, as a venue for musical or theatrical performance.

During the full University Term a regular pattern of services is held in the College chapel, typically a Sunday service of Holy Communion and two further choral services a week. Services are largely intended for members of the College, but all services are open to members of the public. Both Sunday services include a preached sermon. In the morning this is given by the Dean, who is a Priest of the Church of England or occasionally by an ordinand attached to the chapel. At evensong on Sunday a sermon is also given either by the Dean or by a visiting preacher invited by the Dean. With the exception of occasional representatives from other Faith traditions, preachers are Christian. Many have been ordained clergy of the Church of England or of member churches of the World Council of Churches. Some have been recognized lay preachers in these churches and, on occasion, leading theologians have been invited to preach. Sermons are not seen in advance by the Dean. The Chapel is open to the public at times when the College is open to visitors and services are also open to the public.

A small number of occasional services are held in the chapel (e.g., weddings, baptisms and funerals); these too are either conducted by the Dean or, rarely, by another member of clergy acting as his deputy.

The Dean's office is used weekly as a space for a student-led Christian Union to meet.

The Chapel is further used for College ceremonial occasions such as the admission of Fellows and Scholars.

A small number – typically once or twice a term – of performances are given in the College chapel. These are almost all musical performances arranged by the Director of Music. On one or two occasions there have been poetry readings or organ recitals at the request of a member of the College. All requests to use the chapel are made to the Dean.

Revd. Dr. Stephen Plant
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