

# Oxford Chapel Statistics January to December 2013

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This data comes from the first collection of statistics from Oxford Chapels and aims to build up a picture of the valuable contribution Oxford Chapels make locally and to the national church. Oxford chapels hold a range of regular and special services and the choral traditions in Oxford chapels not only enrich worship for those attending in Oxford, but are also building up the choral traditions we enjoy nationally. This data will enable us not only to appreciate our chapels, but crucially act as a starting point for monitoring how the church might change in the future. We hope that this information will be of interest to you locally as a means of understanding and monitoring patterns in your chapels. Nationally this information will help us to gain a more accurate and full picture of the impact of the Church of England, adding an important facet to the information we currently collect from parish churches, Cathedrals and more recently Cambridge colleges.

For more information regarding the data collated, please refer to the returns form at the back of this report. The form was sent to 28 college chapels in Oxford and 15 responded (Christ Church, Exeter, Jesus, Keble, Lincoln, Magdalen, Merton, New, Oriel, Queens, St Peter's, Trinity, University, Wadham, Worcester), all of which reported being Anglican. Statistics reported are based on just those reporting a figure greater than zero. The base figure for Special Services Attendance gives the number of services reported.

Overall, students dominated Sunday attendance during fullterm with an average of about 60 attending each college chapel. Sunday services had a higher average attendance for students than midweek services. The opposite was true for children with an average of 37 attending midweek services compared to an average of just 10 at Sunday services. Similarly, more "other attendees" attended midweek services (an average of 51) than Sunday services (an average of 35) and, on aggregate, they accounted for over half of total midweek attendees. The highest attendance at any service averaged 284 for each college with a total of almost 4,000. Colleges reported 35 Advent and Christmas services with over 8,000 people attending. Note that these figures will include services held on days other than Christmas Eve and Christmas day and so will not fall under the Christmas figures overleaf.

Average Attendance during fullterm	Min	Max	Total	Average	Base
<b>Sunday</b>					
Students	15	97	693	58	12
Others (University members, staff visitors, etc.)	8	100	383	35	11
Children under 16 years of age	1	20	73	10	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>1,149</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>13</b>

<b>Midweek</b>					
Students	2	70	374	31	12
Others (University members, staff visitors, etc.)	1	280	562	51	11
Children under 16 years of age	14	80	110	37	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>1,046</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>12</b>

Highest attendance at any service	Min	Max	Total	Average	Base
	130	435	3,697	284	13

Special Services Attendance	Min	Max	Total	Average	Base (services)
13 Colleges reported at least 2 special services.	15	435	14,704	173	85

Most common or most attended services are given below.

*Remembrance Sunday*

*Founders & Benefactors* **All Souls**

## Advent & Christmas Carol Service

**Freshers/ leavers/ end of year service or evensong**

*Memorial Service*

*Gaudy Service*

Choirs	Min	Max	Total	Average	Base
<b>Adult/student Choir members (Choral Scholars, volunteers &amp; lay clerks)</b>					
Female (excl. organists)	10	20	181	15	12
Male (excl. organists)	10	20	180	14	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Organ students/scholars</b>					
Female (excl. organists)	1	1	7	1	7
Male (excl. organists)	1	3	23	2	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Child Choristers</b>					
Girl Choristers	0	0	0	0	0
Boy Choristers	14	20	50	17	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>

At least 25%, and up to 90%, of students attended at least one chapel service during their time at College.

No colleges reported attendance or communicants at Easter Day services. Just 2 reported attendance at Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services and of those, 1 chapel reportedly served communion. Colleges held, on average, 2 baptisms for each age category. There was just 1 thanksgiving reported and this was for a child under 1 year old. 7 college chapels each held one service of prayer and dedication after a civil marriage while 14 colleges held an average of 6 marriages in the chapel. College chapels held an average of 2 funeral services, 2 memorial services and 1 funeral at a crematorium/cemetery. There were over 600 events (not services) held across the 12 chapels responding to this question; an average of 53 per college.

Numbers of male and female adult/student choir members were roughly equal with an average of 15 females and 14 males, however, one college reported at least one male choir member but no female choir members. No colleges reported having any girl choristers while 3 colleges had an average of 17 boy choristers each. 12 colleges reported having male organists compared with just 7 having female organists.

Easter	Total	Average	Base
Communicants on Easter Day	<i>No services reported</i>		
All age attendance on Easter Day	<i>No services reported</i>		

Christmas	Total	Average	Base
Communicants on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day	150	150	1
All age attendance on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day	440	220	2

Baptisms	Total	Average	Base
Age: under 1 year	23	2	10
Age: 1 to 12	13	2	7
Age: 13+	13	2	7

Thanksgivings for a child	Total	Average	Base
Age: under 1 year	1	1	1
Age: 1 to 12	0	0	0

Marriages	Total	Average	Base
Marriages in the chapel	78	6	14
Prayer & dedication after civil marriage	7	1	7

Funerals	Total	Average	Base
Funeral services	11	2	7
Memorial services (but not a funeral)	19	2	11
Funerals at a crematorium/cemetery	4	1	4

Other events (not services)	Total	Average	Base
Number of other events (not services) held in the chapel (for example, concerts, conferences, meetings).	633	53	12

Uptake by students	Min	Max	Average	Base
Proportion of the student body who attend at least one chapel service during their time at College	25%	90%	63%	13