

JOIN US!

18–21 January 2018



an **EPIPHANY FESTIVAL**  
at Worcester College, Oxford

Epiphany Carol Service  
Early Music and Beer Tasting  
Festival Performance of Handel's *Messiah*  
Vivaldi's Venetian Vespers

# from the **PROVOST**

The Chapel of Worcester College is a hidden gem of Jericho: every corner of it, from the frescoes on the walls to the mosaic on the floor and the carved wooden animals (including a dodo!) on the pews, is testimony to the glorious art and design of the pre-Raphaelite era. Week by week during university term, this special place is filled with something equally glorious: the sound of the Worcester College Choir, singing Choral Evensong, sharing the astonishing centuries-long repertoire of great religious choral music and providing an opportunity for wonder, for peace, and for meditation.

On behalf of Worcester College, I warmly invite the people of Oxford to join us in January 2018, for the beginning of a new year and a new term, as we celebrate our inaugural Epiphany Festival. It will showcase our amazing musical students and Chapel Choir, linking performance with scholarship through collaborations between academics and performers. There will be a wide range of music from the Tudor polyphony of Byrd to the Georgian glory of Handel to the mighty organ works of Howells, offering something for everyone!

As well as sharing our music and our Chapel, we will also be providing a glimpse of our equally beautiful new building: the Sultan Nazrin Shah Centre, overlooking our lake and our sports field.

Welcome to Worcester!

**Sir Jonathan Bate**



# Thursday 18th January **CAROL SERVICE**



The Festival begins with a **celebration of the Epiphany** in a special **carol service of readings and music**, featuring iconic choral works by **Herbert Howells, Jonathan Dove, and Jacob Handl**. The service opens with the famous Coventry Carol and includes **hymns and carols for all to sing**.

Thursday 18 January, in the College Chapel.  
Please arrive by 5.50 pm in order to be seated.  
Free admission; no ticket required.



**INFO:** Worcester Chapel was re-decorated in 1864 by the architect and designer William Burges. Look out for the many animals he included in his designs, including a spiny anteater and a unicorn!

# Friday 19th 'BYRD & BEER'

Come along to our Friday night event to experience **early music as never before!** We feature amazing music by sixteenth-century English composers alongside craft beer tasting with drinks from local Oxford Brewery **Tap Social**.



Tap Social was founded in 2016 in Oxford and makes **unique craft beers** with a mission in social justice and offers employment and training opportunities to marginalised ex-offenders.

This event is **not a formal concert** but presents dazzling keyboard pieces and exquisite choral music in a different light to the traditional concert setting with performances happening amongst the guests. Not heard Early Music before? This could be the event for you!

Friday 19 January, in the Sultan Nazrin Shah Centre.  
8–10 pm. £10. 18+.

## HARPSICHORD MASTERCLASS

Music students from Worcester College participate in a **masterclass** given by keyboard expert Terence Charlston, Professor and Chair of Historical Keyboard Instruments at the Royal College of Music in London. Terence is one of the UK's leading historical keyboard players with an international career as a solo and chamber player. He has recorded **over eighty CDs on historical keyboard instruments** and is a highly sought-after teacher.

Friday 19 January, in the Chapel.  
2–5pm. Free admission to the audience.

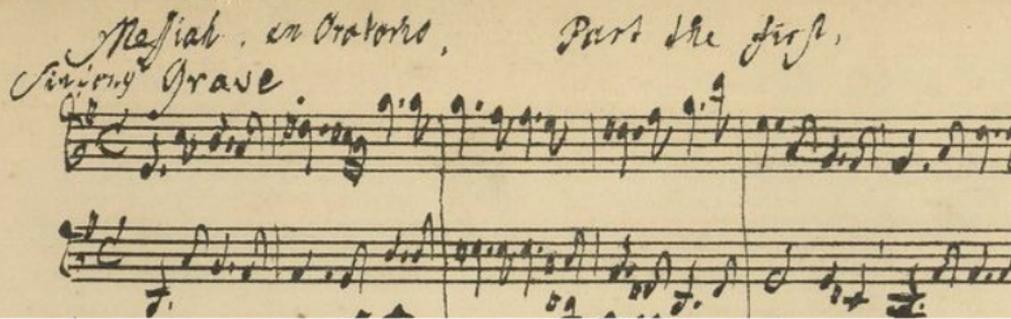
# Saturday 20th **MESSIAH**



The Chapel Choir performs **Handel's famous masterpiece, Messiah**, in the College Chapel. There is a **great deal of variety** in this work dating from 1741, which tells the story of the life of Christ and of the prophecy of the Messiah in **great choruses and colourful arias**. With soloists Re-

becca Silverman, Timothy Morgan, Joel Williams, Matthew Cheung Salisbury, accompanied by period instrument *ensemble 1714*.

7 pm, in the College Chapel.  
£10.



## **PRE-CONCERT TALK**

Worcester College's Chaplain, the Revd Dr Tess Kuin Lawton, will explore and reflect on the theology behind some of Handel's famous Messiah choruses. She will try to unearth what exactly it is that has made this piece so popular with choirs and audiences alike through the centuries.

5.30 pm, in Lecture Room B. Free.

# Sunday 21st **VIVALDI'S VESPERS**

In place of College Evensong, the Combined Choirs of Worcester College (both boy trebles and students) sing a **special service of Latin Vespers** accompanied by ensemble 1714.

The service will feature **Antonio Vivaldi's *Magnificat in G Minor*** (RV 610) and **meditative plainchant** as it would have been heard by Vivaldi in **eighteenth-century Venice**. Other than the Vivaldi, the music for this service has been **newly transcribed and will be heard for the first time** at this unmissable event.

5.45 pm, in the College Chapel. Free.



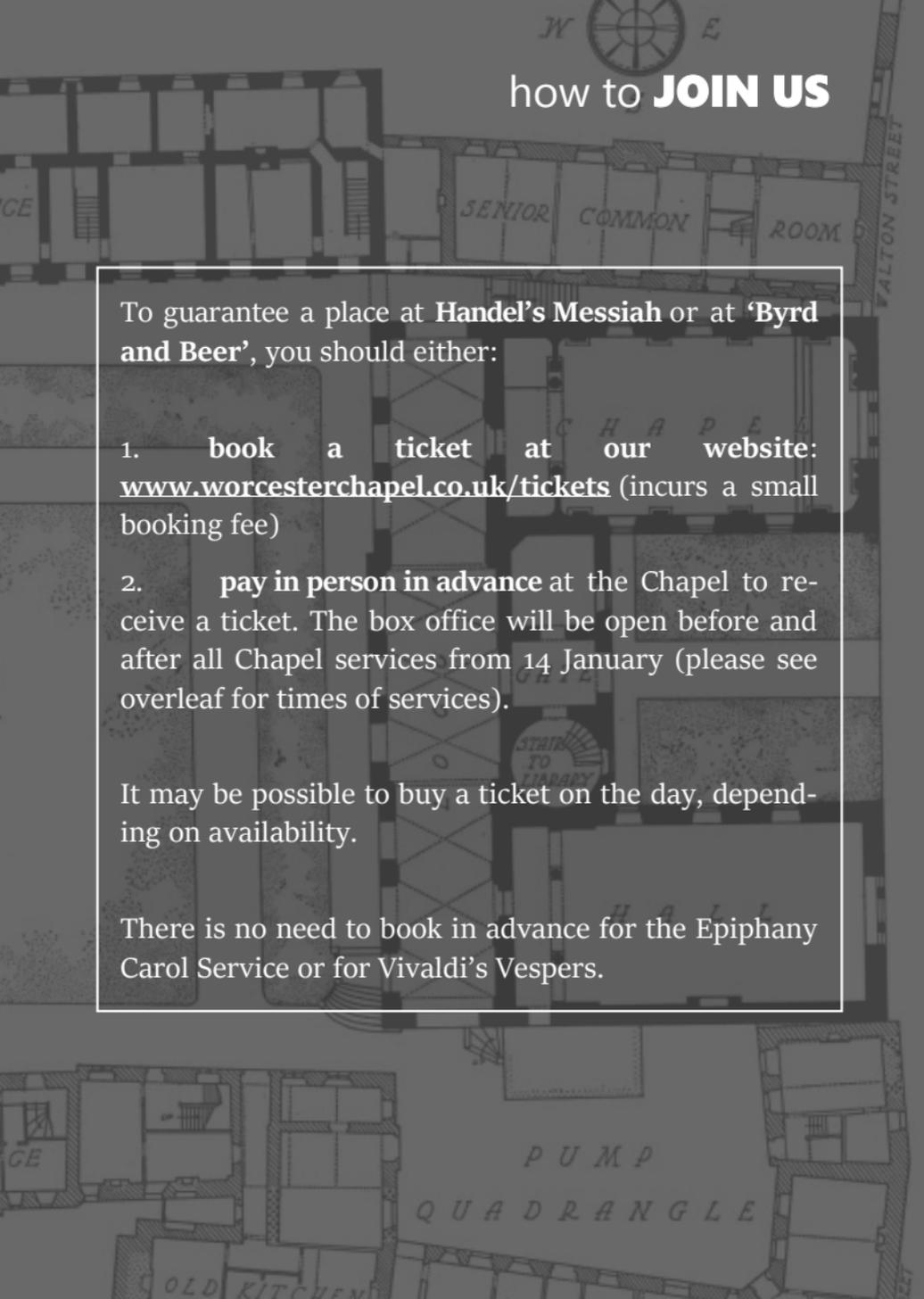
## **PRE-SERVICE TALK**

Music lecturer and assistant chaplain Dr Matthew Cheung Salisbury reveals the sights **and sounds of Venetian churches** which composer Vivaldi would have known when composing his *Magnificat*.

4.45 pm, in Lecture Room B. Free.



**INFO:** There has been a worshipping community on this site for over seven hundred years. This service of Vespers would be recognisable to the Benedictine monks who once lived in the College.



## how to **JOIN US**

To guarantee a place at **Handel's Messiah** or at **'Byrd and Beer'**, you should either:

1. **book a ticket at our website:** [www.worcesterchapel.co.uk/tickets](http://www.worcesterchapel.co.uk/tickets) (incurs a small booking fee)
2. **pay in person in advance** at the Chapel to receive a ticket. The box office will be open before and after all Chapel services from 14 January (please see overleaf for times of services).

It may be possible to buy a ticket on the day, depending on availability.

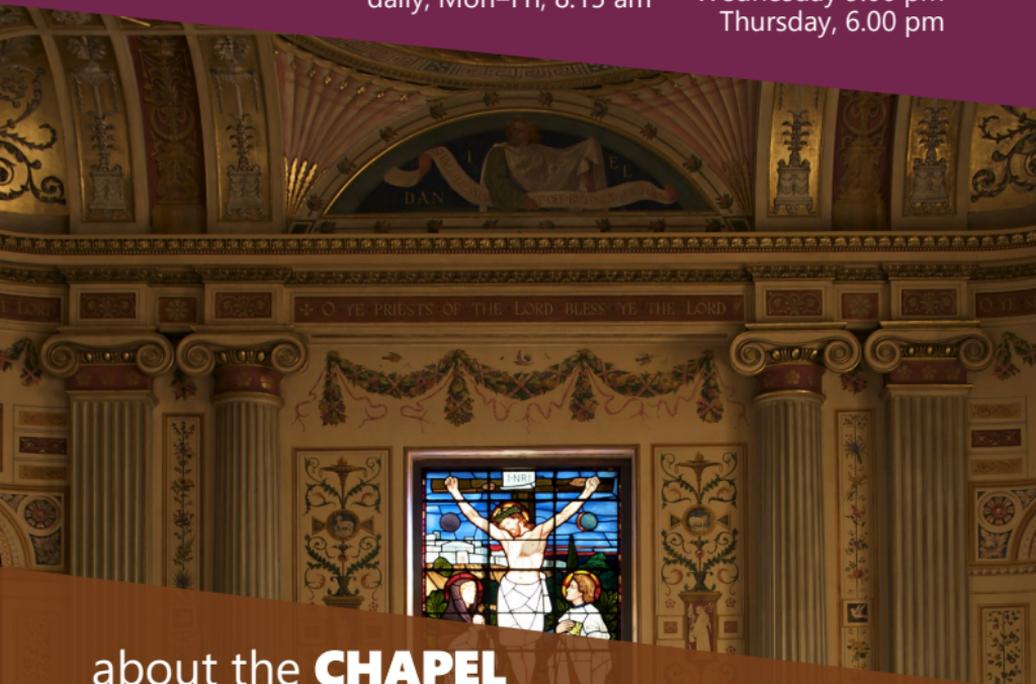
There is no need to book in advance for the Epiphany Carol Service or for Vivaldi's Vespers.

regular **SERVICES**  
throughout the University term

Everyone is welcome at all services.

Said Morning Prayer  
daily, Mon–Fri, 8.15 am

Sunday, 5.45 pm  
Monday, 6.15 pm  
Tuesday, 6.15 pm  
Wednesday 9.00 pm  
Thursday, 6.00 pm



## about the **CHAPEL**

Worcester College is a worshipping community where Morning Prayer is held every weekday throughout the year at 8.15 am. During term time, we are lucky enough to have two choirs singing our services: the student choir made up of choral scholars studying a wide variety of subjects at Oxford University, and the boy choir, with treble voices from Christ Church Cathedral School. We have organ scholars who regularly go on to play at the large Cathedrals of England and we can say proudly that the standard of music at Worcester is exceptional. Chapel is open throughout the day, and there are term cards available which tell you about the preachers and about special events. There are few things as good for the soul as the chance to unwind at a service of Choral Evensong and we welcome you to come to any of our services.