

Guidance for Matriculation (and other Formal) Dinners



Matriculation Dinners are rather formal events. They are very enjoyable, but they can be a little intimidating unless you know what you are meant to be doing. Here are some pointers.

Gowns are worn, with suit and tie or equivalent..

When you come into hall you should make your way to your place and remain standing until the Master has said Grace. You may respond to Grace **Amen**. Then sit.

You should feel free to start when the food is placed in front of you. Use the cutlery furthest away from your plate first and work your way inwards with each new course. If in doubt see what the nearest Fellow is doing.

The wine glasses by your right hand are for you, as is the bread roll by your left hand. There is no pressure to drink alcohol.

It is important that everyone is included in the conversation. It is good practice to change your conversation partner when a new course is served.

At the end of dinner dessert wines will be put on the table and there may be a toast to the King. Take what you would like and pass the bottles to the left. If you do not want any, please just pass the bottles on. If you prefer tea to coffee, ask the waiter.

Please do not use your phone or camera until the Fellows have left.

Grace

Quidquid nobis appositum est, aut quidquid
aponetur,
benedicat Deus haec sua dona in usum nostrum,
necnon nosmet ipsos in servitium suum,
per Jesum Christum Dominum nostrum. Amen.

(Whatever is set before us or shall be set before us
may God bless as gifts to our use,
but not least ourselves in his service,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.)