



Oxford English Dictionary (OED)

Gamble Guides

Where to access the OED

The OED can be accessed in the 'Student Resources'/'Library Resources' section of the VLE or in the 'Digital Resources from the Gamble Library' section of each shell:

Student Resources

Dashboard > My courses > Student Resources Continue Course

- Announcements
- General College Resources
- College Timetable Spring 2023
- Library Resources**

The Gamble Library's electronic resources.

To access our electronic resources click on any of the hyperlinked pictures below. You will be redirected to the Union Theological College email login page. Once you type in your email address and password you will be redirected to the landing page of the resource.

Atlas PLUS by atla



(THY4000) Introduction to Jesus and the Gospels

Dashboard > My courses > (THY4000)

Module resources, assignments and discussion boards

Digital resources from the Gamble Library

To access our electronic resources click on any of the hyperlinked pictures below. You will be redirected to the Union Theological College email login page. Once you type in your email address and password you will be redirected to the landing page of the resource.

**Atlas
PLUS** by atla

Early English Books Online

**Oxford
DNB**

OED

Oxford English Dictionary
The definitive record of the English language

You can also access the OED using the PDF Gamble Guide listing all electronic resources which is emailed out by the Librarian.

Once you click on the 'OED' icon you will be prompted to enter your Union Theological College email address and password. You will then be redirected to the OED landing page.

The OED gives present-day meanings as well as being a historical dictionary, giving the history of individual words and their usage traced through quotations from classic literature, newspapers and a range of other sources. You also have the option to search the historical thesaurus. This groups senses and words into categories and orders them by the date of first use. It is like an index of language history – you would use it to explore the different words used for a particular concept or meaning over time. The three big categories in the thesaurus are: the world; the mind and society.

Presbyterian

Sign in

someone@example.com

Can't access your account?

Back Next

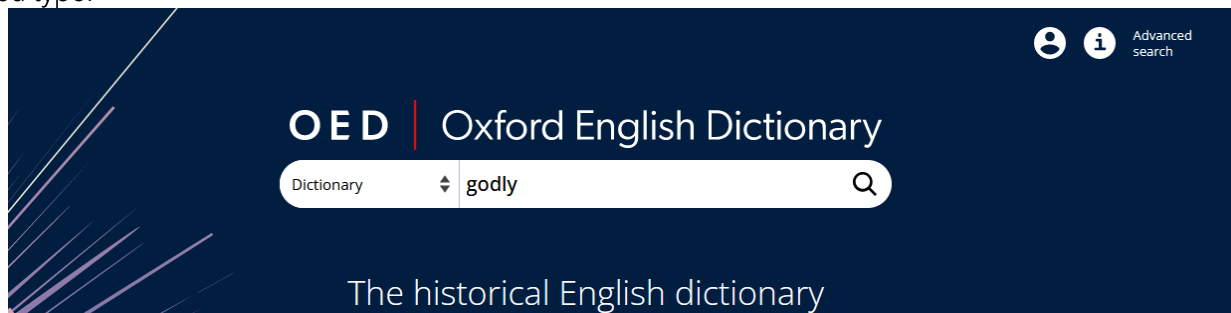
Presbyterian Church in Ireland
itsupport@presbyterianireland.org

Sign-in options

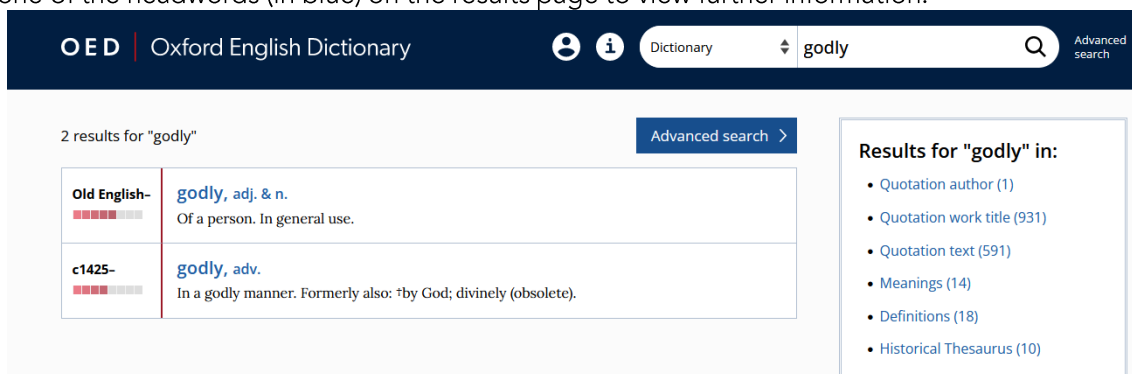


Quick (simple) search

The quick search is in the centre of the landing page. Just enter keyword(s) in the box and click the magnifying glass to search for their definition. The autocomplete function will try to predict the word you want to find as you type.



Click one of the headwords (in blue) on the results page to view further information.



'Meaning & use' lists all meanings for your search term. Quotations are given showing how the word was used. You can tick the box on the left beside 'Show all quotations' to see all quotations.





Information about a word or phrase is spread across several tabs. The default tab you see first is 'Meaning & use.' This lists the various meanings of a word and quotations demonstrating its use over time. The Contents on the left will stay still as you scroll down the page. This helps with navigation as each heading is hyperlinked. At the bottom of each meaning is a 'Cite' button:

ADJECTIVE

1. Of or relating to God; coming from God; divine; spiritual. Now somewhat *archaic*. Old English-

In quot. *c*1425: = **theological** *adj.* A.1.

OE *Dealibus, .i. deificis, godlicum.*
Harley Glossary (1866) 131 ...

...

***c*1425**
(?c1384) Pes two godliche virtues [sc. faith and hope].
J. Wyclif, *Select English Works* (1871) vol. III. 340 ...

...

1994 Terrible brightness and he had to shield his own cause of it, like they were godly figures and the light coming from them was godly or something.
J. Kelman, *How Late it Was* 2 ...

[Show more quotations](#)

“ Cite Historical thesaurus ▾ Christianity archaic

Clicking this reveals references for the meaning in Chicago and MLA9 referencing styles. These can be copied and pasted into a Word document. The reference contains a DOI which is unique to that meaning and can be used as a permanent URL link to a meaning. Putting this URL into your browser will take you straight to the meaning.

Clicking the down arrow beside 'Historical thesaurus' will reveal categories and words linked to the search term.

The 'Factsheet' tab gives an overview of the word and links to find out more:



godly
ADJECTIVE & NOUN

Factsheet Meaning & use **Etymology** Pronunciation Forms Frequency Compounds & derived words

What does the word *godly* mean?

There are **six** meanings listed in OED's entry for the word *godly*. See 'Meaning & use' for definitions, usage, and quotation evidence.

godly has developed meanings and uses in subjects including

Christianity (Old English) religion (Middle English) parliament (mid 1600s)

[See meaning & use >](#)

How is the word *godly* pronounced?

BRITISH ENGLISH **U.S. ENGLISH**

/ˈɡɒdli/ **/ˈɡɑdli/**

GOD-lee GAHD-lee

[See pronunciation >](#)

How common is the word *godly*?

About **1** occurrence per million words in modern written English

[See frequency >](#)

Where does the word *godly* come from?

The earliest known use of the word *godly* is in the Old English period (pre-1150).

EARLIEST KNOWN USE
Old English

godly is a word inherited from Germanic.

[See etymology >](#)

'Etymology' gives details of the origin of the word:

godly
ADJECTIVE & NOUN

Factsheet Meaning & use **Etymology** Pronunciation Forms Frequency Compounds & derived words

Summary

A word inherited from Germanic.

Cognate with or formed similarly to **Old Frisian** *godelik, godilik, godlik*, **Old Dutch** *godalīk* (**Middle Dutch** *godelijc, godlijc*, **Dutch** *goddelijk, godlijk*), **Middle Low German** *gōdelik*, **Old High German** *gotalīh, gotlīh* (**Middle High German** *gotelich, gotlich, götelich, götlich*, **German** *göttlich*), **Old Icelandic** *gudligr*, **Old Swedish** *gublīker, gudhliker* (**Swedish** *gudlig*), **Old Danish** *gudelig* (**Danish** *gudelig*) < the **Germanic** base of **god n.** + the **Germanic** base of **-ly suffix**¹.

Notes

In early use sometimes difficult to distinguish from **goodly adj.** and in **β forms** apparently influenced by **goodly adj.** Compare discussion at **god n. & int.**

“ Cite



Under 'Pronunciation' you can click the arrows to hear the British and American pronunciations of the word:

godly
ADJECTIVE & NOUN

Factsheet Meaning & use Etymology **Pronunciation** Forms Frequency Compounds & derived words

BRITISH ENGLISH /'ɡɒdli/ GOD-lee

U.S. ENGLISH /'ɡɑdli/ GAHD-lee

Pronunciation keys

- British English ▾
- U.S. English ▾
- Simple Text Respell ▾

'Forms' details the different forms the word has taken since it began to be used:

godly
ADJECTIVE & NOUN

Factsheet Meaning & use Etymology Pronunciation **Forms** Frequency Compounds & derived words

CONTENTS

- α. See god and -ly.
- β.

DATE OF USE

From ▾

To ▾

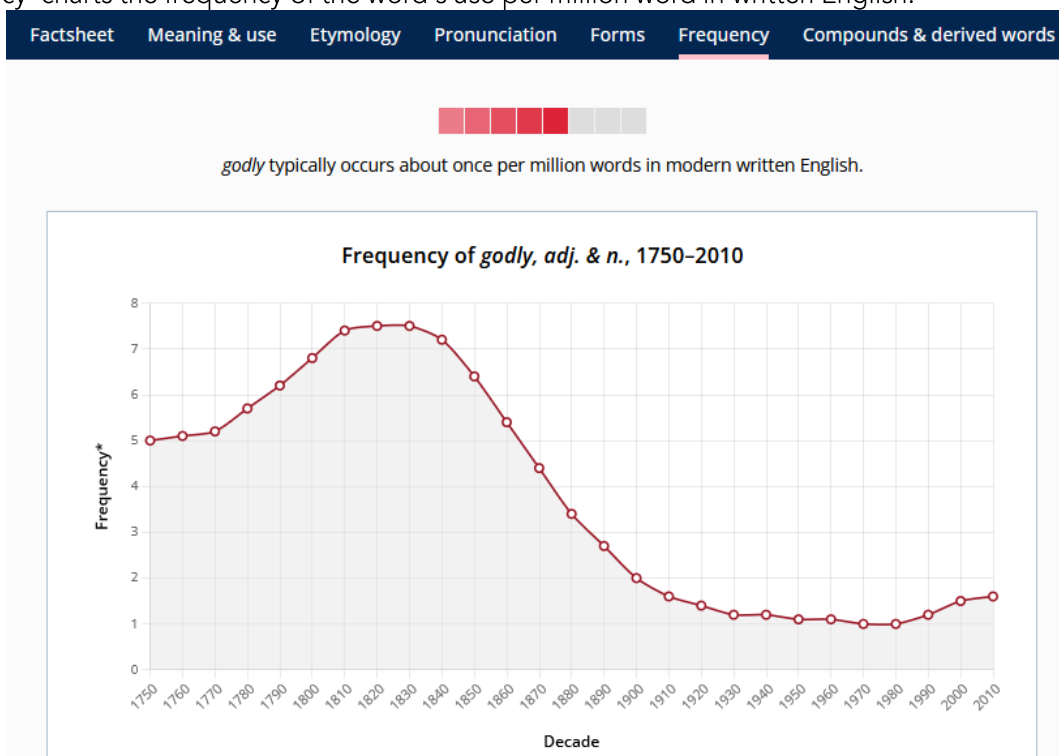
Variant forms

- α. See **god** *n.* & *int.* and **-ly** *suffix*¹.
- β.

Middle English **goodely, goodliche, goodly**

“ Cite

'Frequency' charts the frequency of the word's use per million word in written English:



'Compounds & derived words' lists all words which use the word you searched for:

godly
ADJECTIVE & NOUN

Factsheet Meaning & use Etymology Pronunciation Forms Frequency **Compounds & derived words**

SHOW

All compounds & derived words
 Curated compounds

DATE OF USE

Use First use

From
To

PART OF SPEECH

Noun (3)
 Adjective (2)
 Adverb (1)

TYPE OF FORMATION

Derivative (4)

Sort by

godly sorrow, n. 1526-
Sorrow according to God's will; sorrow on account of sin.

ungodly, adj. 1526-
Of persons: Not fearing or reverencing God; irreligious, impious, wicked.

godliness, n. 1528-
The quality of being godly; devout observance of the law of God; piety.

godlily, adv. 1548-
In a godly manner; = godly, adv.

godly mother, n. 1594-1602
= pia mater, n. 1.

over-godly, adj. a1613-1717



An advanced search follow up to a quick search

Once you do a quick search an 'Advanced search' link will show in the results:

The screenshot shows the top of the OED search results for 'napkin'. It includes the OED logo, search bar with 'napkin', and a summary of 2 results. A sidebar on the right lists categories of results: Quotation work title (11), Quotation text (200), Meanings (23), Definitions (50), and Historical Thesaurus (20). An 'Advanced search' button is visible.

This will allow you to refine or expand your search by using the links on the left:

The screenshot shows the advanced search interface for 'napkin'. It features a search bar with 'napkin', a 'Save search' button, and a list of filters on the left:

- Headword** (selected)
- Quotation text
- Definition
- Quotation author
- Etymology
- Quotation work
- Forms

 There are 'Add term' and 'Update' buttons. Below are sections for:

- DATE OF USE**: 'Use' (selected) or 'First use', with 'From' and 'To' year input fields and an 'Update' button.
- PART OF SPEECH**: Noun (12), Adjective (1), Verb (1) with checkboxes.

 The main results area shows '1 to 14 of 14 results' and a 'Sort by' dropdown set to 'Frequency'. The results list includes:

- 1384-** **napkin, n.**: A usually square piece of cloth, paper, etc., used at a meal to wipe the fingers and lips and to protect the clothes (also occasionally, to place...
- 1847-** **paper napkin, n.**: A disposable table napkin made of paper.
- 1917-** **sanitary napkin, n.**: A pad worn by women to absorb menstrual flow.
- 1686-** **napkin ring, n.**: A ring of silver, wood, plastic, etc., used to hold (and sometimes distinguish) a person's table napkin when not in use.
- 1913-** **cocktail napkin, n.**

For example, you can refine results by the date of use, part of speech, usage, subject etc. You can expand your search by adding in another word using AND OR NOT (Boolean operators).

The 'Save search' option should be at the top of this search. If you click this option you can create your own account, name and save the search to your personal folder. You can then run the search again, at a later date.



An advanced search

Click on 'Advanced search' in the top right of the screen to start an advanced search:



When you click on 'Advanced search' all meanings in the dictionary are returned. Search for specific words using the text query builder on the left of the webpage:

fruition

1 to 3 of 3 results [Save search](#) 1

Sort by [Export results \(.csv\)](#)

1413-	fruition, n. Erroneously associated with fruit, n., in the sense: the state or process of bearing fruit, esp. in to come to (reach, etc.) (full) fruition ...
a1674	marriage-fruition, n.
a1631	post-fruition, n.

HEADWORD

Headword Quotation text
 Definition Quotation author
 Etymology Quotation work
 Forms

[Add term](#) [Update](#)

DATE OF USE

Use First use

From
To

[Update](#)

PART OF SPEECH

Noun (3)

TYPE OF FORMATION

Borrowing (1)
 Compound (1)
 Derivative (1)

LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN

English (2)
 Indo-European (1)

USAGE

OBSOLESCENCE

In current use (1)
 Obsolete (2)



Historical thesaurus

You can also search the historical thesaurus part of the OED – just select this from the dropdown menu:



The historical thesaurus gives synonyms for words and how these have been used over time. It also gives taxonomic classifications with words arranged in a structured hierarchy.

If you search for 'Church' you will see all related meanings arranged in alphabetical order with the hierarchy on the right as well as a link to 'View in Historical Thesaurus':

The screenshot shows the OED search results for the word 'church'. On the left, there are several filter sections:

- DATE OF USE:** Radio buttons for 'Use' (selected) and 'First use'. Input fields for 'From' and 'To' years.
- CATEGORY:** A 'Select category' button.
- PART OF SPEECH:** Checkboxes for Nouns (203), Adjectives (9), Verbs (8), and Adverbs (1).
- LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN:** Checkboxes for English (186), Indo-European (17), and Other sources (1).
- USAGE:** (partially visible)

The main search results area shows '1 to 50 of 221 results' and a 'Save search' button. The search term 'church' is entered in the search bar. Below the search bar, there are options to 'Sort by' (A-Z) and 'Jump to' (Go). An 'Export results (.csv)' link is also present.

The search results are listed in a table-like format:

Word	Period	Description	Related Terms
ante-church	1695-	A narthex or antechapel.	society, faith, artefacts, division of building (general), chapel, [nouns], west end of <i>ante-church, antechapel</i> View in Historical Thesaurus
Broad Church	1976-	Usually with lower-case initials. A group (often a political party), ideology, field of practice, etc., which is open to and caters for a wide...	society, society and the community, social relations, association, fellowship, or companionship, a company or body of persons, [nouns], other specific types of company <i>quorum, alliance, minority, umma, lads, milieu...</i> View in Historical Thesaurus
Broad Church	1850-	A tradition or group within the Anglican communion which favours a liberal, comprehensive, or tolerant approach to the variety of opinion existing...	society, faith, religion, Christianity, Protestantism, Anglicanism, Broad Church, [nouns] View in Historical Thesaurus
Broad Church	1853-	Designating the tradition or group within the Anglican communion	society, faith, religion, Christianity, Protestantism, Anglicanism, Broad Church, [adjectives]

You can filter your search on the left of the screen.

Here is what you see if you click on 'View Historical Thesaurus' for one meaning of 'Church':

<p>church Old English-</p> <p>A building for public Christian worship or rites such as baptism, marriage, etc., traditionally cruciform in shape, and typically having a tower...</p>	<p>society faith artefacts sanctuary or holy place church</p> <p>[nouns]</p> <p><i>church, temple, God's house, kirk, church building...</i></p> <p>View in Historical Thesaurus</p>
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You see other words which mean the same thing. You can click on these blue headwords to see their meanings and use etc.

Select category

Browse categories

- › the world
- › the mind
- ◀ **society**
 - › [nouns]
 - › [adjectives]
 - › [adverbs]
 - › [transitive verbs]
 - › society and the community
 - › inhabiting and dwelling
 - › armed hostility
 - › authority
 - › law
 - › morality
 - › education
 - ◀ **faith**
 - › aspects of faith
 - › religion
 - › administration and structure of religious organizations
 - › worship
 - ◀ **artefacts**

society faith artefacts sanctuary or holy place church

church NOUNS (34 terms)

“ Cite Sort by

church **Old English-**
A building for public Christian worship or rites such as baptism, marriage, etc., traditionally cruciform in shape, and typically having a tower...

God's house **Old English-**
A place of worship; = *house of God* at *house*, n.¹ A.I.2.

temple **Old English-**
A building dedicated to public Christian worship; a church.

kirk **c1175-**
= *church*, n.¹ A.I Chiefly *northern*. (See etymological note.) Now rare.

steeple **1555-1641**
Used by metonymy for church. In nonce-phrases: **the sign of the steeple** (referring to monastic hospitality); **bigamy of steeples**, plurality of...

church building **1605-**
A building constructed for public Christian worship; = *church*, n.¹ A.I.1a.

steeple-house **1644-**
Used by the early Quakers (and, before them, sometimes by other scrupulous persons) instead of 'church', on the ground that that word ought not...

On the left are the categories which make up the hierarchy which this word is found in. You can browse these and see other related words.

'Select category' allows you to search for a category, see the different hierarchies it is mentioned in, and go straight to anyone of them:



Select category

religion

society faith religion a religion or belief system [intransitive verbs]

society faith religion a religion or belief system [transitive verbs]

the mind mental capacity psychology social psychology psychology in relation to morality [nouns] in relation to religion

the mind mental capacity knowledge conformity with what is known, truth deceit, deception, trickery dissimulation, pretence insincerity [nouns] in religion

the mind attention and judgement contempt derision, ridicule, or mockery [nouns] one who derides or ridicules one who derides morality or religion

the mind attention and judgement contempt disrepute damage to reputation [nouns] of religion

the mind attention and judgement contempt disrepute damage to reputation [nouns] source of discredit or discrediting circumstance to religion

the mind mental capacity philosophy rationalism [nouns] rationalist who denies a need for religion

society inhabiting and dwelling inhabited place dwelling place or abode [phrases] for or on behalf of religion and home

If you have any more questions, ask Library staff.