

John Polkinghorne

[The Reverend Canon](#)

John Polkinghorne

[KBE](#) [FRS](#)

Polkinghorne in 2007

[President of Queens' College, Cambridge](#)

In office

1988–1996

Preceded by [Ronald Oxburgh](#)

Succeeded by [Lord Eatwell](#)

Personal details

Born	John Charlton Polkinghorne 16 October 1930 Weston-super-Mare , Somerset , England
Died	9 March 2021 (aged 90) Cambridge , England
Citizenship	United Kingdom
Spouse(s)	Ruth Polkinghorne (m. 1955) Fellow of the Royal Society (1974)
Awards	KBE (1997) Templeton Prize (2002)
Ecclesiastical career	
Religion	Christianity (Anglican)
Church	Church of England
Ordained	1981 (deacon) • 1982 (priest) Vicar of Blean (1984–1986)
Offices held	Dean of Chapel at Trinity Hall, Cambridge (1986–1989) Canon Theologian of Liverpool Cathedral (1994–2005)

Academic background

[Alma mater](#) [Trinity College, Cambridge](#)

[Thesis](#) *Contributions to Quantum Field Theory* (1955)

Doctoral advisor [Nicholas Kemmer](#)^[1] • [Abdus Salam](#)^[1]

Influences [Ian Barbour](#)^[2] • [Paul Dirac](#)^[3] • [Murray Gell-Mann](#)^[1] • [Bernard Lonergan](#)^[4] • [Jürgen Moltmann](#)^[5] • [Michael Polanyi](#)^[6] • W. H. Vanstone^{[5][7]}

Academic work

Discipline [Physics](#) • [theology](#)

Sub-discipline [Mathematical physics](#) • [particle physics](#)

School or tradition	Evangelical Anglicanism ^[8] · theological critical realism
Institutions	University of Edinburgh Trinity Hall, Cambridge Queens' College, Cambridge
Doctoral students	David Fairlie · Peter Goddard ^[9] · Peter Landshoff [de] ^[9] · Sir Tom Kibble · James Stirling ^[9]
Main interests	Quantum field theory · relationship between science and religion
Notable works	<i>The Way the World Is</i> (1983) <i>Faith, Science and Understanding</i> (2000)

John Charlton Polkinghorne [KBE](#) [FRS](#) (16 October 1930 – 9 March 2021) was an English [theoretical physicist](#), [theologian](#), and [Anglican](#) priest. He was [Professor](#) of [Mathematical Physics](#) at the [University of Cambridge](#) from 1968 to 1979. He became an ordained [Anglican](#) priest in 1982. He was the president of [Queens' College, Cambridge](#), from 1988 until 1996.

Polkinghorne died on 9 March 2021 at the age of 90.^[10]

References

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

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- ↑ Losch 2018, p. 98.
- ↑ Losch 2009, p. 103.
- ↑ 5.0 5.1 Williams, Stephen (2018). "John Polkinghorne on the Doctrine of Creation". *Carl F. H. Henry Center for Theological Understanding*. Deerfield, Illinois: Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Retrieved 5 January 2020.
- ↑ Losch 2009, p. 92; Polkinghorne 1994, p. 47.
- ↑ Watkins 2012, p. 217.
- ↑ Hefner 2001, p. 234.
- ↑ 9.0 9.1 9.2 "DAMTP Theses". Cambridge, England: University of Cambridge. Archived from the original on 4 January 2013. Retrieved 5 January 2020.
- ↑ "College Announcement". *Queens' College, Cambridge*. 10 March 2021. Retrieved 10 March 2021.

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