Wonderfully made Clergy conference – 9 June 2022 DIOCESE of OXFORD

The Diocese of Oxford is the Church of England in Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes.

Together, we are the Church, called and sent by God as disciples of Jesus Christ and filled with the Holy Spirit. We are a living, growing network of more than a thousand congregations, chaplaincies and schools.

Together, we are called to be more Christ-like, to be the Church of the Beatitudes: contemplative, compassionate and courageous for the sake of God's world.

Together, we work with God and with others for the common good in every place in one of the great crossroads of the world.

Together, we are called to proclaim the Christian faith afresh in this generation with joy and hope and love.

Together, we are called to dream dreams and see visions of what could be, and see those visions come to birth.



Front cover: Tim Steward, Redemption

Introduction

This booklet contains everything you need to know about our time together. A PDF and plain text version of the programme and worship materials can be found online.

If you're posting on social media from the conference please @ mention **oxforddiocese** and use the hashtag **#WonderfullyMade**

Keynotes and some other sessions will be livestreamed and available at **youtube.com/oxforddiocese**

Checking in and finding your way around

Once you've registered, take a moment to familiarise yourself with the layout of the site. There's a site map in your conference folder. You can access your room from 2pm onwards using the key card given to you at registration. Check out is by 9.30am on Thursday.

Sign up!

Once you're settled in, be sure to sign up for the events and workshops you'd like to attend during the next three days. Sign-up sheets can be found outside the Derbyshire Hall.

Please note some workshops and reflection spaces have limited space available. Sign up promptly to avoid disappointment.

Opening Eucharist followed by lunch

Our opening Eucharist takes place at 11am in the Derbyshire Hall. Lunch is provided in the dining rooms from 12:30pm.

Bookstall

We're pleased to welcome St Andrew's Bookshop to the conference. Be sure to visit them in the Lounge from 12:30pm on Tuesday through to 10:45am on Thursday.

Staying offsite?

Some people have rooms at the nearby Travelodge (SatNav DE55 1HJ). See the joining instructions sent to you by email.

Help and support

Chaplains are available throughout the conference. In the event of a non-medical emergency, call 0787 655 3882 or speak to a member of the conference planning team (red lanyards).

Father of mercies,

you set the treasure of the gospel in jars of clay.

Guide and strengthen us through trials and affliction.

Restore our hope in the ministry to which you call us,

grant us a fresh vision of your new creation and

fill us with the grace of your Holy Spirit;

through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



Welcome

Dear friends,

The devastating consequences of the war in Ukraine, the lasting effects of the pandemic, and now the fastest rise in the cost of living for a generation have made for a tumultuous 28 months. I am in awe and deep appreciation for what you have achieved through these last two years. Thank you. You have done magnificently.

During my recent deanery visits I have seen signs of hope and energy returning, but challenges remain. This is a season of lament and healing, for seeking spiritual and vocational renewal through fresh encounters with the living God. A time to resist a return to frenetic activity and to pause and refocus on God's heart for the world and seek the empowering work of the Spirit.

Our guiding passage for this conference has been Ps139, which invites us all to consider what it means to be human in these times: we are fearfully and wonderfully made, known and loved by a God who is faithful and for whom 'even the dark is not dark to you'.

There are clergy present from every deanery of the diocese - it is good to have you here. I pray that this conference provides a time of spiritual nourishment for all, a return to the centre of your calling, and the opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and with God. Nothing is compulsory for our time together, so navigate the conference programme in the way that best nourishes you.

I am deeply grateful to the conference planning group, our conference contributors and keynote speakers. We offer this gift of time and space to God as we seek his blessing and refreshment, his grace and healing.

4 Stan Oxfad

Engaging with God's word

9:15am each day, Derbyshire Hall

2 Corinthians is Paul's most personal letter to the Church. Paul wrestles with the challenges of ministry and sets the pattern for the Church in every generation, rooted in the pattern and in the person of Christ.

In the opening Eucharist and in two sessions of Engaging with God's word we will explore three key passages from this beautiful letter. Our hope is that Paul's words will resource each of us as we re-imagine and re-centre our ministries in the present moment.

The passages and themes will be:

2 Corinthians 1.1-14: The God of all Comfort

2 Corinthians 4.1-18: Treasure in clay jars

2 Corinthians 5.13-6.12: A new creation

The second and third readings will be followed by a time of reflection in small groups, and questions are offered to guide your conversation.

Space for your own notes, along with questions for your small group to discuss, can be found on pages 27 to 31.



Tuesday – Lament and healing

10:00	Registration	Reception area
11:00	Opening Eucharist	Derbyshire Hall
12:30	Lunch	Dining rooms
13:15	Bookstall opens	
14:30	Keynote: Lord Boateng	Derbyshire Hall
15:30	Tea and coffee	Main house
16:15	Workshops and spaces for exploration	see pages 10 to 14
18:00	Evening prayer in small groups	see your conference folder
18:30	Free wine reception. Pay bar open.	Bar area, main house
19:00	Evening meal	Dining rooms
20:00	Sound portraits with Epiphany Music Bookstall open	Chapel (booking required) See page 14 Lounge
21:30	Night prayer	Chapel

Activities in **bold** indicate times when we are all together.

Note that some workshops and reflection spaces have limited space available. Sign-up sheets are provided outside the Derbyshire Hall.

Communion is in both kinds by intinction. Gluten-free wafers are available and will be consecrated on a separate paten.

Chaplaincy

The chaplains at our conference are +David Jennings and Sr Elizabeth Jane. They are available for prayer, counsel and accompaniment or to hear confessions (if asked). They are available either by approaching one of them wherever they happen to be, or meeting by arrangement in one of the designated chaplain's rooms (Quiet Room 1, which is between rooms 334-336, and Quiet Room 2, which is between rooms 356-357). The Chapel is also available for most of our conference as a quiet prayer space, as is our reflective Prayer Space in Butterley 2.

OPENING EUCHARIST

Derbyshire Hall, 1100hrs

Just as God shares in our sufferings, so he also shares in our consolation. This service invites us all to come together and engage with the reality of our ministry – to share in our lament and healing as we walk this journey together.

President: Bishop Olivia Preacher: Bishop Steven



Photo: Roger Harri



KEYNOTE

Peace, justice, and the integrity of creation

Derbyshire Hall, 1430hrs

The Rt Hon Paul Boateng became the UK's first Black Cabinet Minister in 2002, and now sits in the House of Lords. He is an active lay preacher in the Methodist Church and served as vice-moderator of the WCC's programme to combat racism. Paul will reflect on contemporary issues and the challenges we face in pursuit of kingdom goals.

Workshops and exploration

Spaces for exploration

Happening on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, be sure to sign up for one of the spaces for exploration. These include workshops, guided conversations, creative arts and prayer and spirituality reflection spaces. They offer a range of ways to engage creatively, deepen engagement or provide space for active reflection. Sign-up sheets can be found in the foyer area of the Derbyshire Hall, our main meeting space. Please note that some workshops and reflection spaces have limited space available. Sign up promptly to avoid disappointment.

Psalms for Plaint, Protesting, Processing

Derbyshire 2

Explore the Psalms as tools for articulating grief and struggle, public and private, to God and to one another. Fresh translations provide a way to engage and study texts, acknowledging the feelings and thoughts of those who composed them and those who read, recite or pray them today. Megan Daffern teaches the Hebrew Bible in Cambridge.

Leadership: My grace is sufficient

Tissington Room, Lakeside

The only thing which can truly help us in an increasingly challenging landscape is a fresh hearing of the words of Jesus. In the first of two sessions, Ian Parkinson invites you to engage anew with the heart of our calling and how we understand our role as leaders. Ian works with the Diocese of Sheffield helping clergy develop the ministry of all God's people and spent 30 years in parish ministry.

Twitter: @lan_Parkinson_

Building healthy relationships

Derbyshire 3 – maximum 30 participants

3D Coaching's Su Blanch provides a space for clergy to consider approaches to building healthy relationships with key leaders in their own context, minimising possibilities for relationship breakdown. Su works with clergy across the Church of England, coaching on relationships and issues in parish contexts.



Lament, laughter and healing?

Buxton Room, Lakeside – maximum 20 participants

There's a time for laughter and a time for tears - and sometimes both at once. Explore the role of laughter in darker times and delve into laughter as a participation in God and a lens to encounter anew sections of scripture. Led by Ian Macdonald, diocesan Discipleship Enabler, and the Revd Dr Andrea Russell, Director of Formation for Ministry.



Creative repair

Derbyshire 5 – maximum 20 participants

How do you replenish the energy used up in everyday ministerial life? Psychotherapist and Anglican priest Anne Holmes looks at how we can resource ourselves through the creative arts and other outlets. Featuring a short example of creative repair through music and a variety of art works.

Are we nearly there yet?

Derbyshire 7 – maximum 20 participants

A chance to reflect on life and ministry after two years of pandemic, considering what to grieve, what to renew and what to nurture. Joanna Collicutt has a background in clinical psychology and was a theological educator in psychology of religion and spirituality. Paul Cowan is chaplain to Bishop Steven and chaired the Diocesan Emergency Planning Group throughout the pandemic.



Healing – Perspectives from our link dioceses

Derbyshire Hall

An online conversation with Bishop Olivia and bishops from our link dioceses, followed by small group discussions with visiting clergy from our link dioceses. The Bishop of Växjö, Sweden, is Fredrik Modéus. Bishop Brian Marajh was enthroned as Bishop of Kimberley & Kuruman, South Africa, in 2021. The Diocese of Nandyal, south India, is led by Bishop Pushpalalitha Eggoni.

Take heart

Butterley 1 - maximum 20 participants

An art and prayer workshop combining practical artwork, images, music, word and silence. No artistic experience needed! It's not about learning to draw but discovering how to use art as a tool to listen and pray. Carol Marples is an artist, teacher, creative liturgist and development worker for the Soul Marks Trust. All materials provided.



Lectio East

Derwent Room, Lakeside

Express hope and lament through Lectio Visceralis: a combination of Ignatian imaginative prayer and Theatre of the Oppressed methods of improvised movement and critical reflection. John Falcone is artistic director of Lectio East.

Gospel music and conscious lyrics

Writing Room, main house – maximum 25 participants

The Revd Polly Falconer leads an opportunity to explore gospel music and its origins, delving into "conscious lyrics" and how both can be effectively used in worship, as blessings and for healing and lament. Polly is a second-year curate in the diocese and the diocesan UKME Development Enabler. She is also a Calypsonian singer-songwriter.

Poetry as meaning/less

Reading Room, main house

Poetry is speech at the limits of meaning, dancing the borders of talking and silence. Gary Collins invites you to explore what theology and faith could gain from recognising their poetic instincts, with time to form your own poetic response to lament and hope. Formerly an artist, Gary became ordained to explore suffering and hope in the context of community.

Reflective prayer space

Butterley 2

Reflective activities and time to contemplate and pray into themes, issues and challenges raised during the conference. BeSpace supports local churches to run prayer and reflection spaces in schools and other areas of the community. Their space will be available to all throughout the conference.



Godly Play - The Exile and Return

Derbyshire 8 – maximum 20 participants

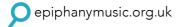
Encounter the people of God as they journey through the desert wondering if God will be in the new place, and if they'll ever return to what they knew before. A full Godly Play session led by diocesan Discipleship Enabler Yvonne Morris.



Epiphany: The Space

Chapel – maximum 50 participants

Reflective music in an anxious world. A unique production, performed 'in the round' with musicians and audience scattered throughout the space. With a mixture of improvised, classical and Celtic music, this is a relaxing opportunity for personal reflection and rest. Epiphany is an innovative group of professional musicians who love improvisation and creativity. Includes Tamara Jackson as artist providing visual impressions of the session.



Pilgrim journey

Meet at main reception - maximum 20 participants

'Time out' for clergy, offering prayer and reflections on the themes of the conference through a short walk in the local area. There will also be an opportunity to discuss the Pilgrim Paths project and some of its benefits and practicalities. Sally Welch is the diocesan Spirituality Adviser and the author of a number of books on pilgrimage.



Bookstall

Lounge, main house

St Andrew's Bookshop provides a range of publications written or suggested by our keynote speakers and workshop leaders. Get your hands on some books to help you go deeper with the week's themes.

Epiphany sound portraits

At other times through our conference Epiphany and Tamara will be offering individual or small group improvised 'Sound Portraits' which last 15 minutes. Many were deeply moved by these experiences in 2018, so these are nt to be missed! **Time slots must be booked in advance.**



Wednesday – Returning to the centre of our calling

08:00	Morning prayer	Derbyshire Hall
08:30	Breakfast	Dining rooms
09:15	Engaging with God's word leading into small group discussions	Derbyshire Hall See your conference pack for small group locations
10:30	Morning break Bookstall Flourishing Fair open	Main house
11:00	Keynote: the Rt Revd Dr Graham Tomlin	Derbyshire Hall
12:00	Eucharist	Derbyshire Hall
13:00	Lunch	Dining rooms
Free time	Epiphany sound portraits - 5 x 15mins sessions	Chapel See page 14
	Walks available	Reception
	Bookstall and Flourishing space	Main house
15:00	Afternoon break	Main house
15:30	Keynote: Dr Isabelle Hamley	Derbyshire Hall
16:30	Seminars and workshops	See pages 19-22
18:00	Evening prayer	Various
18:30	Bar opens	
19:00	Evening meal	Dining rooms
20:00	Evening entertainment	Old Conference Hall
	Bookstall open	Lounge
22:00	Night prayer	Chapel

Activities in **bold** indicate times when we are all together. Chaplains are available throughout the conference. See page 8.



KEYNOTE

The heart of our calling

Derbyshire Hall, 1100hrs

What is the purpose of the Church and what God has called us to? The Rt Revd Dr Graham Tomlin invites us to re-orient ourselves to the heart of our calling and re-focus on our purpose in ordained ministry. Graham is Bishop of Kensington and President of St Mellitus College, previously working as Vice Principal of Wycliffe Hall, Oxford.

EUCHARIST

Derbyshire Hall, 1200hrs

The Revd Canon Felicity Scroggie preaches for our second Eucharist together, with Bishop Alan presiding. Felicity is the Bishop's Advisor in Women's Ministry and team rector for Kidlington with Hampton Poyle.

President: Bishop Alan Preacher: The Revd Canon Felicity Scroggie





KEYNOTE

Mission and ministry in a post-Covid world

Derbyshire Hall, 1530hrs

Dr Isabelle Hamley, secretary for Theology and Ecumenical Relations and Theological Adviser to the House of Bishops, kickstarts the second theme of the day with her keynote speech. How can we find our place in society as we explore mission and ministry in a post-Covid world?

Refreshments

The bar offers a wide range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks as well as snacks. Card payment only. Fairtrade tea, coffee and other hot drinks are available free of charge from the Lounge throughout the conference.

Rest and play

You have free use of an indoor gym equipped with running, cycling, and rowing machines and weights. The sports hall is also available for football, badminton, and basketball. Croquet equipment is by the main house lawn.

Your conference folder includes a map of all the facilities available

Workshops and exploration

Daily workshops

lan Parkinson: Leadership See page 10	Spaces for exploration See page 10	Take heart art workshop See page 12
BeSpace prayer stations See page 13	Epiphany: Hope for the future See page 14	Lectio East See page 12

Flourishing in ministry

Writing and Reading rooms, main house

Wellbeing workshops to help you flourish in ministry. Reflect on the healing potential of faith with the Revd Dr Gillian Straine, CEO of the Guild of Health and St Raphael, or chat to Health Assured and find out how they can provide you with both proactive and preventative support.

Divinum aedificim: Divine building

Derbyshire 3 – maximum 20 participants

A playful session using the LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY® method. Whether you've been serving for years or were recently ordained, contemplate and build what you've learned and what might be next for you. Ben Mizen works alongside leaders and organisations using creative methods to enrich and explore team dynamics, strategy development and leadership.



Vocation and ministry through the lens of disability

Derbyshire 1

Come on a brief journey of disability through history. How do we exercise ministry and vocation through disability (not despite disability)? If accommodations make Church better for disabled people, does that make it better for everyone? Katie Tupling is an Anglican priest, diocesan Disability Advisor and author.



People of promise

Derbyshire 2

Bringing our own experiences and contexts into conversation, discover how the covenants made in the ordination service might challenge us as we live out our priestly ministry. Andrea Russell is Director of Formation for Ministry and Quentin Chandler is Head of Vocations and Diocesan Director of Ordinands.

National trauma past and present

Amber Lounge, Lakeside

Explore the Church of England's response to major crises, from World War I and the Flu Pandemic to coronavirus. There will be space to reflect on ministry in the pandemic and the Church's role in reconstruction. Mark Chapman is Professor of the History of Modern Theology at the University of Oxford and an associate priest.



Playful ministry

Buxton Room, Lakeside – maximum 25 participants

Several newspapers ran articles during 2021 on the collective experienced of "languishing". The importance of play might provide us with a starting point for rebuilding. Explore how play can lead us into the deeper self, and how play can be equipping and empowering for ministry. Led by lan Macdonald.

Celebrating local ministry

Old Conference Hall

Celebrate local mission and explore the amazing impact of our parishes in their communities. A taster workshop from Citizens UK on offer to all Deanery Synods to energise leaders in social action. Citizens UK are strategic partners with the diocese and aim to make change through strengthening local organisations.



We are here now!

Derbyshire 7 – maximum 20 participants

As we emerge from the disruption of the pandemic, how are we called to be 'more Christ-like for the sake of God's world?' How has our missional context changed, and how might we discern that? Director of Mission & Ministry Andrew Anderson-Gear explores key tools to help you in the discernment process.



Experience a Greenhouse

Derbyshire 5 – maximum 25 participants

In a garden, a greenhouse incubates new shoots - providing a place of nurturing until the seedlings are strong enough to go out into the garden. New Congregations Greenhouses act in the same way. Join an interactive mini Greenhouse, led by Sarah Flashman and Will Donaldson from the New Congregations team.



Godly Play - Deep Talk

Derbyshire 8

Yvonne Morris invites you to dwell deeply in the Godly Play Creation Story as we consider the gift of each day and wonder about our recovery and reconnecting with children, young people and families, as we emerge from the pandemic.



Continuing the conversation

Derbyshire Hall

Bishop Graham and Dr Isabelle Hamley invite you to join them to further discuss each of their keynote addresses. Chaired by Bishop Steven.

Ministry Accompaniers taster

Reception Lounge - sign up in advance for your 20-minute slot

Most high-achieving people rely on others to support their thinking. Ministry Accompaniers are committed to encouraging your professional development. Talk through an issue currently on your mind in a taster session with Mike Smith, Gill Lovell or Charles Chadwick. Mike has over 25 years' ordained ministry experience, and Gill and Charles are Parish Development Advisors for the diocese.



IAN MACDONALD ENTERTAINMENT PROUDLY PRESENTS



Folk On

Old Conference Hall, 2000hrs

Like a brand new pair of slippers, there's something exciting yet entirely familiar about Folk On's music and stories. Their sound is honest and pure, with tight rural harmonies and melodies as sweet as village fete jam. Get ready to laugh, cry (perhaps?) and join in with a good old-fashioned village sing-along.

Interval

Bar area, 2100hrs

Our friends at Swanwick have laid on extra bar staff for the interval, so recharge your glasses and get your laughing chops ready for round two!

Barbara Nice

Old Conference Hall, 2130hrs

BGT semi-finalist Barbara Nice gave up the domestic bliss of Tupperware and Poundstretcher shops to perform playful, life-affirming shows for all. With the affectionate attitude of a playgroup leader at an Iggy Pop concert, Barbara Nice is guaranteed to get you laughing.





Thursday – Looking to the future

08:00	Morning prayer	Derbyshire Hall
08:30	Breakfast	Dining rooms
09:15	Engaging with God's word leading into small group discussions	Derbyshire Hall See your conference pack for small group locations
10:15	Morning break	Main house
	Bookstall open	Lounge
10:45	Individual reflection space (see page 30)	
11:15	Sharing the journey – Deanery group reflections	See conference pack
12:30	Lunch	Dining rooms
13:30	Closing Eucharist	Derbyshire Hall

Activities in **bold** indicate times when we are all together. Chaplains are available throughout the conference. See page 8.

EUCHARIST

We lift to God all that we have learned and relearned over the past few days. We go out empowered by his Spirit and emboldened by the knowledge we are all wonderfully made.

President: Bishop Steven Preacher: Bishop Gavin



Thank you



It has been my privilege to lead the planning of this clergy conference, as I did in 2018. Not surprisingly, this has been a very different and far more difficult journey to navigate. Each month of planning, the mood and needs of clergy have changed as we've all experienced the emotional, physical and spiritual roller coaster which has been Covid.

The shape of this conference emerged from dwelling in Psalm 139. Despite a constantly changing environment, a

varied group of parish clergy and Church House staff prayerfully and carefully framed the conference's flow and focus, which has served the planning process and, we trust, the conference well.

We sought to build on all that clergy said was good about the 2018 conference – part festival, part retreat with space for playfulness, creativity and refreshment. Our aim was for a varied but unpressured programme with the space to reconnect and acknowledge the reality of ministry over the past two and half years. Do let us know how we did when the post-conference survey arrives.

We hope and pray that this conference has been a time of blessing, a fresh realisation that you are 'wonderfully made' and that you've experienced a sense of renewal of your calling from God. Whatever your calling and context, we thank God for you and the precious gifts, skills and passions you have been given.

Andrew Anderson-Gear

Director of Mission & Ministry
On behalf of the 2022 Clergy Conference Planning Group

ENGAGING WITH GOD'S WORD 2 Corinthians 1.1-14 The God of all Comfort

ENGAGING WITH GOD'S WORD
2 Corinthians 4.1-18
Treasure in clay jars
Small group discussion
What part is reconciliation playing in your ministry at the present time both in the Church and in the world?

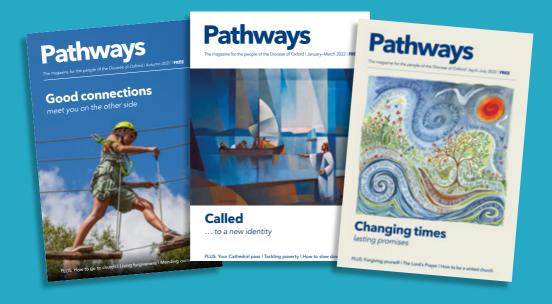
Look ahead five years in time. What do you hope will be the authenticating marks of your ministry as you look back to 2022?

ENGAGING WITH GOD'S WORD		
2 Corinthians 5.13-6.12		
A new creation		
Small group discussion		
Looking back, what have been the main sources of your strength and resilience in ministry over the last two years?		
How can we hold more closely to the pattern of Christ in our own ministries? What habits or decisions would help?		

What do I need to take away? What are the key things I have heard?	
What have I noticed that I need to pay attention to?	
What actions do I need to take or explore going forward, for myself and my ministry, and for the parish or context in which I minister?	
What support would be helpful to take these actions forward?	

In your archdeaconry group at 11:15 What are the themes emerging that some of us share?
How might we support each other in these areas?
What's the one thing I would like someone else to pray for as a result of this conference?
You will be given a prayer card to exchange with someone else in your group

The magazine for the people of the Diocese of Oxford



Pathways is for everyone who wants to think afresh about faith, inequality, our communities and what it means to be human. Request free copies of the magazine, or adjust existing delivery quantities for your church via the website.

oxford.anglican.org/pathways