



30

# Hope of our Calling

*Celebrating 30 years of  
women's priestly ministry  
in the Church of England*

*Friday 8<sup>th</sup>  
& Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>  
November 2024*

## 8 November

### Conference at Great St Mary's

08.30	Church open for early arrivals
09.00	Morning Prayer (Optional) <i>using the daily prayer app or book</i>
09.30	Arrival, registration and coffee
10.00	Welcome and introduction & short act of worship Revd Dr Dagmar Winter (Acting Bishop of Ely) Revd Dr Jutta Brueck (Vicar of Great St Mary's)
10.15	Keynote address: Revd Dr Isabelle Hamley, Principal of Ridley Hall <i>Unexpected things in unexpected places: the strange ways of God, women and the Church of England</i>
11.00	Video message: Rt Revd Rachel Treweek (Bishop of Gloucester)
11.15	Comfort break <i>and an opportunity to browse the shop and displays</i>
11.30	Seminar: Rt Rev'd Dr Rosemarie Mallett (Bishop of Croydon) <i>Race, Racism and Hope</i>
12.15	Comfort break <i>and an opportunity to browse the shop and displays</i>
12.30	Seminar: Rev'd Christina Rees CBE (Li Tim Oi Foundation) <i>What Would Equal Look Like?</i>
13.15	Lunch (included in your admission ticket) <i>and an opportunity to browse the shop and displays</i>
14.00	Seminar: Lizzie Hensman and Emily Rumble Researching the Ministry of Women (at Lambeth Palace Library)
14.45	Comfort break <i>and an opportunity to browse the shop and displays</i>
15.00	Keynote address: Revd Dr Victoria Johnson, Dean, St John's College, Cambridge <i>The Priest finds her voice: the sacrament and our sound</i>
15.45	Closing short act of worship
16.00	Optional mingling and networking time for those who can stay (until 4.45pm)

## 9 November

### Celebration Eucharist at Ely Cathedral

14.30	Lady Chapel open for viewing displays
15.00	Choral Eucharist
16.30	Refreshments

# About the conference

Thank you for booking to attend this conference, and welcome to Great St Mary's Church. Thirty years into women's priestly ministry, we focus today on women's voices and the fruit of their work today, in ministry, scholarship and creativity. We hope that you will feel able to bring and share with one another your stories, and leave with our song of hope renewed.

Please find below some practical information.

## Parking/arrival

The nearest public car park is at the Grand Arcade shopping centre. Please note that traffic in central Cambridge can be very busy, so allow plenty of time for your journey. If you are coming by train, please allow plenty of time to travel from the station to the Church.

Taxi – the closest drop off points are outside the Arts Theatre or by the Cambridge University Press bookshop (each is c.2 minutes' walk from the entrance to the church).

If dropping people off at the church, please come along Trinity Street before 10am and after 4pm. For satnav please put in Cambridge University Press bookshop to be guided to the right place.

There are some disabled parking spaces outside the Arts Theatre (please note that because of the barrier by the Corpus Clock being lowered during the day, it is not possible to leave the disabled spaces in King's Parade in the daytime).

## Coffee and lunch arrangements

We will be serving tea and coffee at 9.30 as delegates arrive and register, between optional morning prayer and the opening session.

A simple vegetarian lunch will be served in the church (soup, roll and fruit). Please let us know if you have any other dietary requirements, by emailing us at [office@gsm.cam.ac.uk](mailto:office@gsm.cam.ac.uk)

## Toilets

We have limited toilet facilities in the church. There are further facilities at Michaelhouse in Trinity Street and in the Grand Arcade and local shops / cafés.

## Photography

There may be some photographs taken during the day to capture the event; if you would prefer not to be visible in these photos, please make this known to the planning group when you arrive.

## **Displays/stalls**

There will be a small display of items from the Lambeth Palace Archives and also from the Li Tim-Oi Foundation in St Andrew's Chapel (accessed via the northeast corner of the nave of Great St Mary's). Do make time during the day to look at these during the breaks; the displays will also be at the Cathedral on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Crowdsourcing resources**

There will be an area where samples of books and resources brought by our speakers, by the conference planning group, and by delegates can be displayed for everyone to browse.

We will use this display to create a resource list that will be sent out to all delegates afterwards.

We would love to co-create both the display and the resource list during the conference. If you have published books or created resources that are relevant to the occasion, please feel free to bring a sample with you for the display (and make sure you write your name on whatever you bring!)

- If you wish to recommend a group or network please be ready to write on the graffiti board information on what the group is about / what they do, and how to contact them.
- For online resources, please be ready to write a one or two sentence summary of the resource you would like to share, and the website address (or bring this with you as a printout if you prefer).

Please also take the opportunity to network with one another, sharing your wisdom and experience to encourage one another.

## **A Selection of Publications by our Speakers**

Isabelle Hamley, *Embracing Humanity*, 2024, BRF

Isabelle Hamley, *Embracing Justice*, 2020, SPCK

Isabelle Hamley, *Struggling with God*, 2022, SPCK

Victoria Johnson, *On Voice: Speech, Song, Silence, Human and Divine*, 2024, DLT

Christina Rees (ed) et al, *Voices of this Calling*, Canterbury Press, 2002

Christine Rees, *The Divine Embrace: Discovering the Reality of God's Love*, 2006, DLT

Christina Rees, *Feast + Fast, Food for Advent and Christmas*, 2012, DLT

# Speakers

## **Revd Dr Isabelle Hamley, Principal of Ridley Hall**

***Unexpected things in unexpected places:  
the strange ways of God, women and the Church of England***

Isabelle Hamley is currently principal of Ridley Hall. She is a speaker, writer and broadcaster who is passionate about Scripture and how it can shape the life of the church. She has previously held posts as a university chaplain, parish priest, chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury and theological adviser to the House of Bishops. She has written widely on issues of justice and violence, and on faith and mental health.

## **Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Bishop of Croydon**

***Race, Racism and Hope***

The Right Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett was born in Barbados but has lived much of her life in the UK. She has worked in West and East Africa, the Caribbean and the UK as an academic researcher. She then trained for ordained ministry, and since 2004 has served as an ordained minister in the Diocese of Southwark. She now serves as the Bishop of Croydon. She is a Fellow of Westminster Abbey Institute and a Visiting Fellow of Jesus College Cambridge.

## **Lizzie Hensman and Emily Rumble**

***Researching the Ministry of Women (at Lambeth Palace Library)***

Lizzie and Emily are archivists at Lambeth Palace Library where they recently curated 'Women and the Church of England'. This exhibition used Library records to highlight the vital role women have played in the Church of England in the last 200 hundred years and to mark three important anniversaries: 80 years since the ordination of Florence Li Tim-Oi, 30 years of women being ordained as priests in the Church of England, and the passing of the Bishops and Priests (Consecration and Ordination of Women) Measure ten years ago.

## **Revd Christina Rees CBE, Li Tim-Oi Foundation**

### ***What would equal look like?***

Christina is a writer and broadcaster and was a leading campaigner for women's ordination in the Church of England. She was a spokesperson for the Movement for the Ordination of Women and then chair of National WATCH (Women and the Church) for over 13 years. Christina was a member of General Synod for 25 years and a founder member of the Archbishops' Council. Her books include 'Voices of This Calling', a collection of the experiences of the first generation of women priests and The Divine Embrace. She is the Director of the Li Tim-Oi Foundation, a charity that gives grants for education to Christian women across the Anglican Communion enabling them to follow their vocations. Christina speaks and preaches widely in the UK, US and across the Communion. She lives in North Norfolk and is on the ministry team of St Peter's Church, Sheringham.

## **Revd Dr Victoria Johnson, Dean, St John's College, Cambridge**

### ***The Priest finds her voice: the sacrament and our sound***

Victoria is Dean of Chapel of St John's College, Cambridge. Prior to ordination training she was a cancer research scientist. She trained for priesthood at Westcott House and read Theology and Religious Studies at Cambridge University and Yale Divinity School. She was ordained in 2007, served her title in the parish of St John the Divine, Baguley, then was Priest-in-Charge of St Michael's, Flixton. From 2015 she was a Residentiary Canon at Ely Cathedral combining the portfolios of mission and pastoral care and in 2020 was appointed Canon Precentor of York Minster. She has taught Liturgy and Homiletics to ordinands and lay readers on local training courses in the North West, and has served on national church bodies in the areas of mission, public affairs, environment and evangelism and is a Trustee of Westcott House. She has recently published her first book, On Voice: Speech, Song, Silence, Human and Divine (DLT, 2024)

## Opening Worship

*Please be settled in your pew by just before 10am, then stand, as you are able.*

*Leader* O Lord, open our lips.

**All** **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Open to me the gates of righteousness,

**that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.**

The stone which the builders rejected

**has become the chief cornerstone.**

This is the Lord's doing,

**and it is marvellous in our eyes.**

This is the day that the Lord has made;

**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

**his mercy endures for ever.**

*Psalm 118*

*An image of the Visitation (from the east window at Great St Mary's) is offered for reflection on the front cover of your booklet.*

Elizabeth said, 'Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

*Luke 1.45*

*Bishop* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

Rejoice, my sisters and brothers, that we are called to share in magnifying the Lord, as Mary sang:

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,**

**my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;**

**he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.**

**From this day all generations will call me blessed;**

**the Almighty has done great things for me**

**and holy is his name.**

**He has mercy on those who fear him,**

**from generation to generation.**

**He has shown strength with his arm**

**and has scattered the proud in their conceit,**

**Casting down the mighty from their thrones**

**and lifting up the lowly.**

**He has filled the hungry with good things  
and sent the rich away empty.  
He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,  
to remember his promise of mercy,  
The promise made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and his children for ever. Amen.**

*The bishop offers words of welcome and prays for the day ahead.*

*We sing together:*

**Glory to God, the mother of creation,  
in love you brought the universe to birth,  
then gave your life to purchase the salvation  
of all the sons and daughters of the earth.  
Glory to you, for love that's shown through history:  
the warp and weft that patterns time and space.  
By grace you're known, yet known to be a mystery,  
and we can touch eternity in your embrace.**

**Glory to you for calling us to service,  
shepherds and stewards, messengers and priests,  
we give ourselves in gratitude and gladness  
as guests and hosts at your thanksgiving feast.  
Our hearts exult in loving affirmation,  
We sing with joy, your greatness we proclaim.  
Your praise resounds in every generation,  
Our souls with Mary magnify your holy name.**

**We are united, in Christ's body dwelling,  
one in the Spirit: wind and fire and dove;  
one in the grace and hope of every calling,  
to lift the ways of earth to heav'n above.  
Through all our lives your power is ever flowing,  
To show your work of love is underway;  
Stir up your gift in us, your grace bestowing,  
so we may speak and live your Word afresh today.**

*Tune: Londonderry Air*



## Closing Worship

*Leader* O God, make speed to save us.

**All** O Lord, make haste to help us.

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help,  
**whose hope is in the Lord their God;**  
Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them;  
**who keeps his promise for ever;**  
Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong  
**and bread to those who hunger.**  
The Lord looses those that are bound;  
**the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;**  
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;  
**the Lord loves the righteous;**  
The Lord watches over the stranger in the land;  
he upholds the orphan and widow;  
**but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.**  
The Lord shall reign for ever,  
**your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Alleluia.**

*Psalm 146*

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness... being transformed from one degree of glory to another. It is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, therefore we do not lose heart.

*2 Cor. 3.12,18, 4.1*

**Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!**  
**Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!**  
**do not let your hands grow weak.**  
**The Lord, your God, is in your midst,**  
**he will rejoice over you with gladness,**  
**he will renew you in his love;**  
**he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.**  
**I will gather the outcast, and change their shame into praise.**

*Zeph. 3*

*The Diocesan Advisor for Women's Ministry prays.*  
*We pray for each other.*

I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. Rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of hands.

*Phil. 1.6 & 2 Tim. 1.6*

**The one who calls you is faithful.  
By God's power at work within us  
God is able to accomplish abundantly  
far more than all we can ask or imagine.  
To God be the glory in the church  
and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.**

*1 Thess. 5.24 & Eph. 3.20-21*

*We sing together:*

**Hope of our calling: hope through courage won;  
By those who dared to share all Christ had done.  
Saints of today, Christ's banner now unfurled,  
We bring his gospel to a waiting world.**

**Hope of our calling: hope with strength empowered,  
Inspired by all that we have seen and heard;  
This call is ours, for we are chosen too,  
To live for God in all we say and do.**

**Hope of our calling: hope with grace outpoured,  
From death's despair the gift of life restored;  
Our call to serve, to wash each others' feet,  
To bring Christ's healing touch to all we meet.**

**Hope of our calling: hope by faith made bold;  
To sow God's righteousness throughout the world;  
Bring peace from conflict, fruitfulness from weeds,  
The kingdom's harvest from the kingdom's seeds.**

**Hope of our calling: Spirit-filled, unbound,  
Old joys remembered and new purpose found,  
Our call refreshed by sacrament and word,  
We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

*Tune: Woodlands*

### **The Blessing & Dismissal**

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples,  
"I have seen the Lord".

**All Amen.**

**Thank you for coming today.  
We hope also to see you again tomorrow!**

# **Celebration Eucharist**

## **Saturday 9 November at 3pm**

### **Ely Cathedral**

**President: Bishop Dagmar**  
**Preacher: Canon Jessica Martin**  
**Music: Ely Cathedral's girl choristers**  
**conducted by Sarah MacDonald**

Celebratory refreshments will be served after the service in the Lady Chapel. The Li Tim-Oi Foundation (named for the first woman priest in the Anglican Communion) and the Lambeth Palace archivists who compiled the current exhibition in Lambeth Palace Library ***Women and the Church of England***. A short video will be shown in the Lady Chapel after the service, interviewing some of our own diocese's first cohort of women entering priestly ministry.

*All are very welcome; no need to book, just come.*

**The image on the cover** is a detail from the east window at Great St Mary's (above and behind the high altar). It shows, from left to right, the Annunciation, the visit of Mary and Joseph to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the angels telling the news of Jesus's birth to the shepherds. The text along the bottom reads 'Behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb and bring forth a Son, and shalt call his name Jesus' (*Luke 1:31*). Picture credit: Cipher Arts Ltd