

CMD Courses and Resources

A selection of upcoming Continuing Ministerial Development (CMD) Opportunities and resources for clergy and Licensed Lay Ministers

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January

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Exploring Resources for Engaging with Children, Young People and Families (Multiple Dates)

Date and Time: **Wednesday 7 January 10:30am-12pm, Friday 23rd January 10:30am-12pm or 2pm-3:30pm, Wednesday 28th January 2pm-3:30pm**

Location: Church House, Leeds, LS1 2EX

Organiser: Diocese Children, Young People and Families Team

Overview: An interactive session for you to test out some different resources for engaging with children, young people and families

Book your place: Please email childrenyouth@leeds.anglican.org

Online Workshop: Preaching at Weddings

Date and Time: **Monday 12 January 10:30-1pm**

Location: Zoom

Theological Institution: College of Preachers

Leader: The workshop will be led by the Revd Jennifer Brown. Jennifer is Rector-designate of the parish of Abingdon-on-Thames and former Director of Training for the College of Preachers. She is also an experienced theological educator.

Workshop Content: This workshop will consider the Christian theology of marriage, what preachers hope to achieve through the sermons preached at weddings, biblical texts suitable for weddings, and how to craft a wedding sermon. This workshop is ideal for those starting out in their preaching ministry, and is also suitable for experienced preachers who want to refresh their preaching at weddings.

Cost: general, £15; ministry student, £12

Book your place: [Preaching at Weddings: a preaching workshop Tickets, Mon, Jan 12, 2026 at 10:30 AM | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/preaching-at-weddings-a-preaching-workshop-tickets-29000110111). When prompted, enter the password Preach121. Booking closes on 8 January 2026.

Training Course: Conflict Transformation in the Church

(Note: Booking deadline is Monday 15 December 2025)

Date and Time - Preliminary Meeting: Tuesday 13 January 7-8pm (obligatory)

Date and Time – Two days: Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 January 9am – 5.30pm

Location: Preliminary meeting is on zoom. Training course is at College of the Resurrection, Stocksbank Road, Mirfield, WF14 0BW

Theological Institution: College of the Resurrection

Facilitator: Paul Hutchinson, former director of the Corrymeela Peace Centre and founder of Imagined Spaces.

Course Content: The sessions will be a combination of tutor input, individual and group exercises and reflective practice.

Cost: £250, which includes lunch and tea breaks. Accommodation and further meals can be booked separately.

Number of Places: Maximum of 10 allocated on a first come first served basis.

Booking Deadline: 15 Dec

Further Information and Bookings: email dbertschmann@mirfield.org.uk

Theology Book Reading Group

Date & Time: **Thursday 15th January 2026 starting at 2pm**

Location: Residence of Kevin Ward, 8 North Grange Mews, Leeds, LS6 2EW. To contact Kevin about location

/ parking / directions: telephone 0113 278 7801; email trskw@leeds.ac.uk

Public Transport: Buses from Albion Street (opposite St John's Centre): Numbers 1, 6, 8, 27, 28. The N Grange Road bus-stop is two stops after Hyde Park. Cross the road and walk along N Grange Road. The Mews is about 150 metres on the right. A block of 12 Georgian style houses. No 8 is in the far corner.

Directions: N Grange Road is between Hyde Park and Headingley. Turn right off Headingley Lane about 2 km NW of the city centre. Just past the Dry Cleaning Shop on the right.

Parking: If you are coming by car, please park on North Grange Road. The parking in the Mews is reserved for residents. There is plenty of free parking on N Grange Road, both before you get to the Mews on the left, and afterwards on both sides of the road.

Book for Discussion: *Is This All There is?: On Resurrection and Eternal Life* by Gerhard Lohfink (There are currently some bargain hardback copies available on Abe)

Who is this for? Absolutely anyone who is interested can join

Neurodiversity and Children's Ministry

Date and Time: Saturday 24 January 9:30am-12:30pm

Location: St George's Church, Great George Street, Leeds, LS1 3BR

Organiser: Diocese Children, Young People and Families Team

Overview: Join us for a morning to explore how we can support neurodiverse children and young people within our churches

Cost:

Book your place: Please email childrenyouth@leeds.anglican.org

Lecture-Isabelle Hamley

Date and Time: Saturday 24 January 10am-12pm

Location: St Mark's Church, Leeds Road, Harrogate (& Zoom option)

Theological Institution: Harrogate School of Theology & Mission

Leader: Isabelle is Principal of Ridley Hall, a role that combines her passion for Christian formation for the whole people of God, her love of Scripture and commitment to nurturing Christian community. Isabelle's first love is Scripture, and the Old Testament in particular. She has written extensively about the book of Judges, and around questions of justice, violence and otherness. She is now writing a commentary on the book of Ruth.

Theme: Happy are those: happiness, wellbeing and the life of faith in the Psalms

Cost: £10 (Including breakfast and refreshments). Students £7, Under 18s free. Zoom live-stream £5 per person, must be purchased online in advance

Book your place: [Live Lecture: Isabelle Hamley - 'Happy are those...' Tickets, Sat, Jan 24, 2026 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/live-lecture-isabelle-hamley-happy-are-those-tickets-28000000311)

Online Workshop: Preaching in Lent

Date and Time: Monday 26 January 2-4:30pm

Location: Zoom

Theological Institution: College of Preachers

Leader: This workshop will be led by the Revd Dr A.K.M. Adam. Dr Adam is a lecturer in New Testament at Oxford University and a Church of England parish priest in the Oxford Diocese.

Workshop Content: In this workshop, we'll explore some of the Lenten themes found in the gospels of Matthew and John, and the ways in which they point us through Lent, toward the resurrection, and how we can effectively communicate these in our preaching in the season of Lent.

Cost: general, £15; ministry student, £12

Book your place: [Preaching in Lent: a preaching workshop Tickets, Mon 26 Jan 2026 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/preaching-in-lent-a-preaching-workshop-tickets-mon-26-jan-2026-at-1400-eventbrite) When prompted, enter the password Preach261. Booking closes on 22 January 2026.

Science and the Contemplative Life

Date and Time: **Tuesday 27 January 1-2pm**

Location: Online and in person, Shasha Suite, Woolf Building, Westminster College

Institution: The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion

Leader: Dr Pui Him Ip.

Abstract: Monks contemplate. Philosophers contemplate. But do scientists contemplate? And should scientists contemplate? This seminar introduces and motivates three core questions underlying the new [Faraday Institute Research Hub on 'Science as a Contemplative Activity'](#) launched in April 2025. First, why should science return to its contemplative roots today? Second, how did early Christians situate the study of nature within their account of human spiritual progress? Third, what might it look like to contemplate in a contemporary scientific context? I will illustrate how our Research Hub in addressing these questions will bring together theological and philosophical accounts of modernity, early Christian reflections on spiritual progress, and contemporary sociological study of natural scientists, to develop a renewed understanding of science as a contemplative activity.

Cost: Free

Book your place: See [Dr Pui Him Ip – Science and the Contemplative Life | Faraday Institute for Science and Religion](#) for more details

Ministry with Children and Young People

Date and Time: **Saturday 31 January (two different times and places)**

Location: St James, Silsden, BD20 0PB 9:30am-12:30pm or St James Woodhall, LS28 8RA 9:45am-1pm

Organiser: Diocese Children, Young People and Families Team

Overview: Whether you have been working with children and young people for a long time or you are just starting out, this course is designed to help you develop and refresh skills and knowledge so you can serve children and young people well.

Book your place: Please email childrenyouth@leeds.anglican.org

February

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Compass Facilitator Training Session

Date and Time: **Monday 2 February 7:30pm**

Location: Online

Organiser: Barnabas Team

Overview: The Diocese of Leeds is offering extra support for running Compass, our tool for helping parishes figure out their next steps in mission.

Compass is a process that churches can do over a few hours to come up with a simple plan to do something different, new or to refocus on what already is working. It doesn't adopt a one size fits all approach, but builds on the strengths, weaknesses and unique challenges a church might face to help them make a plan that is possible. Find out more about Compass [here](#). To help you run Compass, you may need a facilitator. That is, someone who can learn the Compass material, who is able to ask the right questions and assist you by reflecting back what they have heard. If you would like to be a facilitator, then we are running a short training session.

Book your place: If you would like to register your interest to join this session, do please drop us a line at barnabas@leeds.anglican.org

Personal Growth and Leadership-clergy taster session

Date and Time: **Saturday 7 February 9:30am-12:30pm**

Location: Fountains Church, Bradford

Organiser: Barnabas Team

Overview: Personal Growth and Leadership is a unique, home-grown course which creates space for individuals to find fresh ways to grow in confidence and lead with vision. It is designed for clergy and lay leaders to journey together. Over six months, we create space for personal development while exploring what growth looks like in a church context. We'd love to invite you to experience a taster session and see how this course could benefit you and your ministry. It's always easier to invite others when you've seen it for yourself! Join us on Saturday, 7 February at Fountains Church, Bradford, starting with coffee at 9:30, and the main session starting at 10am and finishing by 12:30pm. Come and discover practical tools, inspiring ideas, and a supportive community committed to growth.

Book your place: Email barnabas@leeds.anglican.org to let us know you're coming or to find out more.

Online Workshop: Preaching Easter to Pentecost

Date and Time: Saturday 7 February 10:30-1pm

Location: Zoom

Theological Institution: College of Preachers

Leader: This workshop will be led by The Revd Martin Little, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Headington Quarry, Oxford. Martin has previously ministered in an area of significant social deprivation within Somerset where, together with The Revd Jo Stobart, he was part of the initiative Grass Roots Theology, bringing free open-access theology days to locations around Somerset.

Workshop Content: Easter is the great festival of the Christian Church - the heart of the good news of Jesus. But the story of Easter doesn't end at Easter. In this workshop, we will explore how to preach for the three festivals of Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost, and will also look at the post-resurrection encounters that take us through the season of Eastertide.

Cost: general, £15; ministry student, £12

Book your place: [Preaching Easter to Pentecost: A preaching workshop Tickets, Sat, Feb 7, 2026 at 10:30 AM | Eventbrite](#) When prompted, enter the password Preach072. Booking closes on 4 February 2026.

Faith, Refugees and Migration: A Research Symposium

Date and Time: Tuesday 10 February 9am-5pm

Location: Woolf Institute, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0UB

Theological Institution: Woolf Institute

Overview: The Woolf Institute invites you to join us for a one-day interdisciplinary research symposium exploring the theme Faith, Refugees and Migration, to be held on Tuesday 10th February 2026. Across the globe, migration and displacement continue to shape societies and challenge political, ethical, and social frameworks. Questions of belonging, identity, and hospitality have come to occupy a central place in public debate, while religious communities have been both participants in, and respondents to, these shifting realities. This symposium seeks to provide a space for thoughtful, rigorous, and constructive dialogue on how faith leaders and communities engage with issues of migration, asylum, integration, and diversity. Welcoming presentations across academic disciplines and practitioner perspectives, the symposium will explore how faith informs responses to the movement of people, and discuss how best to foster collaboration and deepen understanding of the ethical and social dimensions of migration in the modern world.

Cost: General admission: £30. Student: £20. Registration closes 5pm 23rd January

Book your place: [Faith, Refugees and Migration Registration, Tue 10 Feb 2026 at 09:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Online Workshop: Preaching with Power: How to Prepare & Deliver Effective Sermons

Date and Time: **Thursday 12 February 10:30-1pm**

Location: Zoom

Theological Institution: College of Preachers

Leader: This workshop will be led by The Revd Samuel A Thomas, MTh, FRSA who is an ordained bishop and pastor in the New Testament Church of God (UK) Pentecostal denomination, with over 30 years preaching experience.

Workshop Content: Powerful preaching enables us to reach hearts and minds, to challenge, to comfort, and to present the good news of Jesus in a persuasive way. A powerful sermon requires careful preparation, clear structure, and effective delivery. This workshop will look at how we as preachers can prepare and deliver sermons that enable us to preach with power. In our preparation and delivery, Holy Spirit is present with us.

Cost: general, £15; ministry student, £12

Book your place: [Preaching with Power: How to prepare & deliver effective sermons](#)
[Tickets, Thu, Feb 12, 2026 at 10:30 AM | Eventbrite](#) When prompted, enter the password Preach122. Booking closes on 9 February 2026.

Safe Practice Workshop

Date and Time: **Thursday 12 February 10am-12pm**

Location: Church House, 17-19 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2EX

Organiser: Diocese Children, Young People and Families Team

Overview: This interactive workshop is recommended for everyone, clergy, volunteers, leaders and PCC members, wanting to follow safe practice in their mission and ministry with children, young people and families.

Book your place: Please email childrenyouth@leeds.anglican.org

YSE-Monthly Mondays (Feb-Dec)

Date and Time: **Monday evenings starting 23 February to 14th December 7pm-9pm**

Location: Online

Organiser: Diocese Children, Young People and Families Team

Overview: The Youthscape Essentials course, delivered monthly on Monday evenings from February 2026.

Book your place: Please email childrenyouth@leeds.anglican.org

21st Century Archaeological research and Early Christianity

Date and Time: **Tuesday 24 February 1-2pm**

Location: Online and in person, Sasha Suite, Woolf Building, Westminster College

Institution: The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion

Leader: Prof. Ken Dark

Abstract: After more than a century and a half of largely unscientific 'Biblical Archaeology', in the last two decades, mainstream scientific archaeological research has been transforming our understanding of the earliest Christians in the Holy Land. This lecture will outline some of these exciting twenty-first-century discoveries, shedding new light on Nazareth and its surroundings, urban settlement around the Sea of Galilee, the earliest churches, and re-dating the origins of Christian pilgrimage. The implications of each of these for understanding the early Christian world, and even – at Nazareth and on the shores of the Sea of Galilee – for the interpretation of the Gospels themselves, go far beyond the topographical identifications of earlier archaeologists working in this region, offering new insights into both the New Testament narrative and pre-Constantinian Christian life in this region.

Cost: free

Book your place: [see Prof. Ken Dark – 21st Century Archaeological Research and Early Christianity | Faraday Institute for Science and Religion](#) for more details

Seminar-Unlocking the wisdom of John's Gospel

Date and Time: **Saturday 28 February 10am-12pm (breakfast available from 9:30am)**

Location: Woodlands Methodist Church, Harrogate

Theological Institution: Harrogate School of Theology & Mission

Leader: Rev Ian Johnston will chair this seminar, looking at John 3 through the lens of David Ford's excellent commentary.

Cost: General Admission £8, Under 18s free

Book your place: [HST&M Seminar: February 2026 - 'Unlocking the wisdom of John's Gospel' Tickets, Sat 28 Feb 2026 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Intercultural Leadership Training

Date and Time: **Saturday 28 February 9.30am-4.30pm**

Location: Leeds Trinity University Campus

Institution: Leeds Church Institute

Leader: Paul Lancaster

Overview: Join us for an awesome in-person workshop designed to boost your leadership skills across cultures! Whether you're working with diverse teams or just curious about intercultural dynamics, this training has got you covered. Expect engaging activities, real-life examples, and lots of fun networking. Don't miss out on this chance to grow your skills and connect with others.

Cost: Free

Book your place: [Free Intercultural Leadership Training Tickets, Sat 28 Feb 2026 at 09:30 | Eventbrite](#)

March

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The Human Stakes of Artificial Intelligence

Date and Time: **Tuesday 10 March 1-2pm**

Location: Online and in person, Shasha Suite, Woolf Building, Westminster College

Institution: The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion

Leader: Dr Nathan Mladin

Abstract: Beginning with the anthropomorphic design of conversational AI, this talk examines some of the philosophical and ideological undercurrents shaping AI development, particularly transhumanist and posthumanist thought, and explores what is anthropologically and ethically at stake.

Cost: free

Book your place: See [Dr Nathan Mladin – The Human Stakes of Artificial Intelligence | Faraday Institute for Science and Religion](#) for more details

The Romero Lecture 2026-Justice and Peace Commission in the Diocese of Leeds

Date and Time: **Wednesday 11th March 7pm**

Location: Venue to be confirmed

Institution: Leeds Church Institute

Leader: In 2026 the Romero Lecture will be given by Todd Walatka, Teaching Professor in the Department of Theology at Notre Dame University in the USA. He has recently published a book called “Words of Life: the Preachings of St Oscar Romero”.

Book your place: Keep an eye on the website for more info [Leeds Church Institute | Educational events, resources and Leeds city engagement](#)

Online Workshop: Preaching with the Lectionary

Date and Time: **Thursday 12 March 10:30-1pm**

Location: Zoom

Theological Institution: College of Preachers

Leader: This workshop will be led by the Revd Dr Stephen Wright.

Workshop Content: For preachers in those denominations that use the lectionary, it can be a powerful tool. But the lectionary can also sometimes feel restrictive. This workshop will look at how we can best use the lectionary to create meaningful sermons that bring the scriptures to life for our congregations today.

Cost: general, £15; ministry student, £12

Book your place: [Preaching with the Lectionary: a preaching workshop Tickets, Thu, Mar 12, 2026 at 10:30 AM | Eventbrite](#) When prompted, enter the password Preach123. Booking closes on 9 March 2026.

Online Workshop: Preaching and Poetry

Date and Time: **Monday 16 March 10:30-1pm**

Location: Zoom

Theological Institution: College of Preachers

Leader: Revd Dr Michael Hopkins

Workshop Content: This workshop will explore how poetry and preaching are related, and how we can use poetry in preaching and preach poetically. Poetry has always been part of God's way of speaking: woven through the psalms, the prophets, and even the words of Jesus himself. Yet in our preaching, poetry can often be overlooked or flattened into prose. This workshop will explore how poetry can deepen our preaching: by sharpening imagery, stirring the imagination, and helping us proclaim God's truth in ways that touch both heart and mind.

Book your place: [Preaching and Poetry Tickets, Mon, Mar 16, 2026 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#) When prompted, enter the password Preach163. Booking closes on 12 March 2026

Nonviolent Approaches to Conflict

Date and Time: **Sunday 15th March 2pm-6pm**

Location: Quaker Meeting House, Woodhouse Lane, LS2 9DX

Institution: Leeds Church Institute

Leader: Nicolas Paz, Director of CNI (Catholic Nonviolence Initiative)

Workshop Content: Pax Christi in the Leeds Diocese in conjunction with Quakers in Leeds. A practical workshop that will explore various nonviolent tools and techniques that can be applied in conflict situations of all sorts.

Cost: £10

Book your place: [Nonviolent Approaches to Conflict Tickets, Sun, Mar 15, 2026 at 2:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Lecture- Janet Williams

Date and Time: Saturday 21 March 10am-12pm

Location: St Mark's Church, Leeds Road, Harrogate (& Zoom option)

Theological Institution: Harrogate School of Theology & Mission

Leader: Janet studied Classics and Philosophy at Oxford University before competing a Masters Degree in Patristic Theology at Oxford, and a PhD in Religious Studies with the University of Winchester. She joined St Hild theological college as Vice Principal in summer 2018 and lives in Mirfield.

Theme: Julian of Norwich and the Last Judgement

Cost: £10 (Including breakfast and refreshments). Students £7, Under 18s free. Zoom live-stream £5 per person, must be purchased online in advance

Book your place: [Live Lecture: Janet Williams- Julian of Norwich and the Last Judgement Tickets, Sat 21 Mar 2026 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Online Workshop: How to use Humour in Preaching

Date and Time: Monday 23 March 10:30-12 noon

Location: Zoom

Theological Institution: College of Preachers

Leader: This workshop will be led by Paul Kerensa. Paul is a writer, comedian and broadcaster, working in TV, radio, print and the stage.

Workshop Content: You may already use humour in your preaching. You may have run a mile from it. You may know what style of humour works for you. You may have no idea. Let's look at some ideas for writing comedy and using it in your storytelling - as we bring the greatest story ever told to fresh ears. Come ready to write and get creative - and bring some jokes or tales if you like... but no pressure!

Cost: general, £12; ministry student, £10

Book your place: [How to Use Humour in Preaching: A Preaching Workshop Tickets, Mon, Mar 23, 2026 at 10:30 AM | Eventbrite](#) When prompted, enter the password Preach233. Booking closes on 19 March 2026.

April

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Having Difficult Conversations

Date and Time: **Tuesday 14 April 9:30-12:30pm**

Location: Online

Theological Institution: CPAS

Overview: Most church leaders would agree that Difficult Conversations are not their favourite thing about their role! There can be a temptation to avoid or put off tricky conversations, but this can end up undermining trust and hampering the mission and ministry of the church. This online morning will help to take away the fear of difficult conversations, helping you to embrace them well prepared and with some tools to employ. If we can learn to speak the truth in love then relationships can be maintained and grown, and we can move forward into all that God is calling us to pursue.

Cost: £25. Bookings close 12th January

Book your place: [Having Difficult Conversations \(April 2026\) | CPAS - Making Mission Possible](#)

Safeguarding in Charismatic Christian Worship Culture

Date and Time: **Wednesday 15 April 4-5pm**

Location: The Skell Building, SK127, York St John University

Institution: York St John University-Centre for Religion in Society

Overview: Many people value charismatic worship as a place where they encounter God in a transformative and deeply meaningful way. But we have also become aware of a repeated pattern of abusive behaviours being facilitated in these spaces. I'll be talking about my research so far which is evaluating the worship culture in four London charismatic evangelical C of E churches using Justin Humphreys and Lisa Oakley's safeguarding evaluation framework. The analysis so far is based on live streamed services augmented by visits to the churches themselves and suggests that a) charismatic worship culture has a tendency to facilitate a very unhealthy safeguarding culture BUT b) some churches are demonstrating ways of doing it better.

Preaching to the Non-Religious

Date and Time: **Wednesday 15 April 6:30pm-8:30pm**

Location: Online via Zoom

Theological Institution: College of Preachers

Overview: All preachers will have moments when their congregations will include those who are non-religious. How can we preach in ways that will speak to them and communicate the gospel effectively? In this workshop, we will explore this question, looking at language and style of preaching and how we can reach the non-religious with an invitation to hear and respond to the Good News. This workshop will be led by the Revd Dr Gus Tanner-Ihm.

Cost: General £15, Ministry Student £12. Booking closes 10 April

Book your place: Click link [Preaching to the Non-religious Tickets, Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 6:30 PM | Eventbrite](#) when prompted enter the password Preach154

Wilding Disciple-making and Mission

Date and Time: **Saturday 18 April 10am-12pm**

Location: Woodlands Methodist Church, 71 Wetherby Road, Harrogate, HG2 7SG

Theological Institution: Harrogate School of Theology & Mission

Overview: We are delighted to invite the Rev'd Ben Askew to deliver April's Seminar. Over the last few years there has been a growing interest in the idea of re-wilding. This broad term describes a commitment to letting natural processes lead land management and conservation. It has led many households to discover wildflowers in the lawn during 'no mow may', to the reintroduction of keystone species into eco-systems, and to a re-discovery of the abundance of creation, when allowed space and freedom. I'm keen to learn from this ecological movement, partly because so much of my faith has been grown by enjoying wilder spaces, but also because I think we might find that God's wild Spirit works in surprising and re-energising ways among us as we ease back from control and learn unforced rhythms of grace.

Cost: General £8, Under 18s free

Book your place: [HST&M Seminar: April 2026 - 'Wilding Disciple-making and Mission' Tickets, Sat 18 Apr 2026 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Exploring Accessibility in Worship

Date and Time: Saturday 25 April 9:30am-12:30pm

Location: Online via Zoom

Organiser: Transforming Worship Yorkshire

Overview: A morning conference exploring how we create inclusive environments in our churches that allow everyone to fully participate, feel valued, and engage in worship. The morning will include workshops on neurodiversity, dementia, and using liturgical space.

Cost: £5

Book your place: Email canonmichael@riponcathedral.org.uk

Lessons for the Preacher to Learn from Jack Reacher

Date and Time: Monday 27 April 2pm-4:30pm

Location: Online via Zoom

Theological Institution: College of Preachers

Overview: We, as preachers, have a lot to learn from the discipline of keeping our content and presentation tight, stripped of padding, focused on the idea. The Jack Reacher style of communication has pace, vividness, and engagement while avoiding jargon, showmanship and ego. All of which makes for good communication. Attention-grabbing without being overly dramatic, it is an effective and direct form of communication. In this workshop, we will explore how we, as preachers, can learn to harness this style of communication to convey the great truths of the Gospel. This workshop will be led by Laurence Twaddle. Now retired, Laurence was for many years a Church of Scotland minister whose ministry covered parishes in town and countryside and latterly eight years in Geneva. In the course of his ministry, he supervised several new ministers in training. He is a regular contributor to *The Preacher* magazine.

Cost: General £15, Ministry Student £12. Booking closes 23 April

Book your place: Click link [Lessons for the Preacher to Learn from Jack Reacher Tickets, Mon, Apr 27, 2026 at 2:00 PM | Eventbrite](#) when prompted enter the password Preach274

May

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It's not all about the money...Building generosity in your church

Date and Time: **Thursday 21 May 7-9pm**

Location: Church House, 17-19 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2EX

Organiser Diocese Stewardship team

Overview: It's not all about the money, there is so much more to generous living and discipleship. This evening session will involve identifying the different groups of people attending your church, from visitors and new members to those who have been involved for 50+ years, and encouraging whole-life generosity, meeting them where they are. This session will provide opportunities to discuss how best to support volunteers and equip people to start sharing their time, talents and treasure with the church community.

Book your place: [It's Not All About The Money - Building Generosity in Your Church Tickets, Thu, May 21, 2026 at 7:00 PM | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/its-not-all-about-the-money-building-generosity-in-your-church-tickets-359070000067)

Wellbeing Resources

Diocesan Webpage: Wellbeing, Counselling and Support for Clergy

This is where you will find the most up-to-date information about resources to support clergy wellbeing.

<https://www.leeds.anglican.org/how-we-can-help/supporting-clergy/wellbeing-counselling-and-support-for-clergy/>

Some, but not all, of the resources listed on the website are reproduced below.

Employee Assistance Programme (EAP):

The employee assistance programme offers a range of services such as:

- **24-hour helpline:** share a problem with someone who listens to you with care before getting actionable advice.
- **Telephone counselling:** work through your problems with a qualified therapist accredited by the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP).
- **Face-to-face counselling sessions:** speak with a qualified professional in a private and confidential setting near you
- **The My Healthy Advantage app and online portal:** a comprehensive library of resources to help you get through life's challenges.
- **And much more...**

This is all free and totally confidential. No one at the Diocese will be able to see your name or any record of conversations. Why not take a look?

What can I use this service for?

 Family issues	 Financial information	 Legal information
 Medical information	 Relationship advice	 Housing concerns
 Alcohol or drug issues	 Childcare support	 Stress & anxiety
 Gambling issues	 Domestic abuse	 Retirement
 Consumer issues	 Tax information	 Bereavement

24/7 Confidential Support

Your call will be handled by an experienced therapist or advisor, who will offer support in a friendly, non-judgemental manner.

To Access the EAP:

- You can access the EAP by telephoning 0800 028 0199 or by using Wisdom, either via the app, or [Wisdom desktop site](#).
- To access their online resources you will need a username and password. To obtain these please contact: [The HR Team](#)

Clergy Transitions Service

The Clergy Transitions Service (CTS) **provides confidential, personal support for Clergy who are at a vocational crossroad, or who are looking for a fresh opportunity.**

The CTS caters for all backgrounds and traditions in the Church of England – from Clergy currently in parochial posts, sector ministry, new forms of church and mission agencies, as well as ordained people currently employed or engaged in contexts other than the church. It is open to those currently serving in self-supporting posts, who are seeking a stipendiary role.

As well as practical help with developing a personal profile, job applications, and interview skills, the Service can work with individuals to develop a deeper understanding of their strengths and talents. By encouraging participants to develop greater self-awareness, reflect on personal values and think prayerfully about context and culture CTS can support the process of transition.

The CTS opens access to a wide range of resources to support a lifelong, fulfilling service to the Church, including access to a network of practitioners inside and outside the Church.

There is a cost of £400 plus VAT for an individual to use the Clergy Transitions Service for up to a year. If you wish to access this service you will either need to pay for this yourself, or apply to the Director of Ministry Formation (Steve Proudlove) or your area Clergy Development Officer to use your CMD grant. The CDO you contact will treat your accessing the service as completely confidential – but cannot authorize your use of your CMD pot to pay for this unless he/she knows who you are.

If you wish to take advantage of this service, please:

- ✓ Email clergy.transitions@churchofengland.org
- ✓ Click the link to find out more [The Clergy Transitions Service | The Church of England](#)

If you want to proceed further after your initial meeting:

- Contact your CDO to say that you wish to use your CMD grant to pay for this.
- Once your CDO approves the use of your CMD pot to fund this service, pay the invoice directly and then claim a refund using the standard CMD Claim form.
- If you do not have sufficient funds in your CMD pot, you will have to pay the extra.

Clergy Support Trust

Who are we? Clergy Support Trust is the largest charity focused on the wellbeing of Anglican clergy and their families, supporting thousands of households across the UK, Ireland, Diocese of Europe and Diocese of Sodor and Man.

Independent from the Church, inclusive and impartial we were originally founded in 1655. We have never been more needed than today providing an expanding range of grants and support services.

How we serve: Perhaps best-known for providing financial grants we also offer mental and physical health support through a visiting caseworker team, and work with specialist partners to deliver essential services, like counselling and occupational therapies.

We also provide funding towards the work of organisations that directly support clergy households.

Grants available: Financial support, emergency, wellbeing, health, debt support. Click the following link to check your eligibility: [Eligibility | Clergy Support Trust](#)

Find out more: [Helping Anglican clergy and their families in times of need | Clergy Support Trust](#)

Alongside Scheme

Would you value a companion who can support you in ministry, share their wisdom and experience, and pray for both your personal flourishing and for the ministry to which you have been called?

Provider: ReSource (Charity Number 1180394). ReSource exists to support local churches in spiritual renewal. With Anglican roots, we work in the Church of England and beyond, with a particular focus on 'little, local, ordinary' churches and their leaders, lay and ordained.

What is it? The Alongside Scheme supports church leaders in the whole of their lives, both their ministry context and their personal life of prayer. Prayerful, personal support for church leaders.

A trained ReSource Companion undertakes to meet with a church leader on a mutually agreed pattern, online and/or in person, and also commits to pray for the church leader in between their meetings.

As a prophetic voice and critical friend, the ReSource Companion offers:

- a commitment to pray regularly for the church leader
- objectivity from an outside context
- the wisdom of their own ministry experience
- the courage to ask searching questions
- the giftedness to offer wise counsel where that might enrich a leader's life and ministry

Find out more here: [Alongside Scheme — Resourcing Renewal](#)

Frances Ashton Charity

Help for serving and retired members of the Clergy of the Church of England and widows/widowers thereof.

Since 1747 Frances Ashton's Charity has been helping those who spend their lives serving God and their parish. The Frances Ashton Charity will consider a modest grant for almost any purpose which is causing financial hardship. For example, we could help with:

- The cost of a new pair of glasses
- A respite care break for a disabled family dependent
- The cost of a family holiday
- The cost of repairing a broken boiler

Particular priorities for support include unforeseeable emergencies, medical or care needs for the applicant or their dependents. Whilst the trustees meet formally twice a year, we try to respond to requests as and when received, especially when hardship is immediate. There are a few exceptions where the Charity is unable to help, for example parish expenses or private education.

If you are serving, retired or a widow/widower of a member of the clergy of the Church of England and you have a hardship, please ask us for an application form and the full guidance notes. For an application form and guidance please contact us, or download a form from our website.

Tel: 07775 717 606

Email: francesashton@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.francesashton.co.uk

Library Access

Holden Library at the University of Leeds

Clergy, those training for ordination, Licensed Lay Ministers and those training for Licensed Lay Ministry may all access Holden Library.

Further Information & Joining Instructions: You can register online before visiting or, in person. More information here: [Local clergy](#) | [Who can use the Library](#) | [Library](#) | [University of Leeds](#)

What you can access: You can borrow up to 10 items from the University Library, including the Holden collection.

You may also have access to e-resources from guest PCs within the library buildings.

If you cannot visit the libraries in person, you can request a postal loan for books or an electronic version of journal articles we subscribe to. Please email the Document Supply team to arrange this.

Church Army Library

Content: A library of 15,000 theological books, journals and articles; the most significant theological library in South Yorkshire, with a particular focus on mission and evangelism. Alongside books on theology and mission are collections relating to diverse areas including world religions, ethics, feminist theology, fresh expressions of church, lifelong learning and ministry among children, young people, older people and the homeless.

Location: Wilson Carlisle Centre, 50 Cavendish Street, Sheffield, S3 7RZ

About the Venue: There are desks for quiet study and free WiFi. Our library is open to those looking for a tranquil place to work, away from the distractions of everyday life.

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 9am-5pm. Elena Walker, Library Administrator, is usually in the Library on Wednesdays to offer help and support.

Membership Fees: Membership without borrowing rights is £10 a year. Annual membership with borrowing rights is just £30.

Further Information: Click the following link for their website [WCC Library - Church Army](#)

Resources

Association for Promoting Retreats

Want to take a retreat but not sure where to look? Don't have time to go through each retreat centre's website? Well, the Association for Promoting Retreats put all the centre's events in one place. You can search by location and see what is near you or in a place you have always wanted to go!

The Association for Promoting Retreats was founded in 1913 by group of clergy and laity keen to encourage and promote the attending of retreats in the Church of England. In the latter part of the 20th century, other denominational retreat groups grew also formed, which in turn led to the establishment of the Retreat Association in the 1980s.

APR also have a bursary scheme to help and encourage more people to go on retreat, particularly if they cannot afford the full cost themselves. To find out more, click the following link: [Association for Promoting Retreats -](#)

Otley Christian Resources Hub

Otley Christian Resources Hub **aims to help local churches in their work with children, young people and families** via enabling, encouraging, resourcing and training. You are welcome to visit The Hub to see the resources. Please see contact details.

Resources to Borrow: interactive resources for children, families and community groups including story bags / baskets, Godly Play, All About the Bible, Christmas / Easter, Prayer Activities.

School and Community Projects

- 96 Open the Book stories for use in primary schools
- What's the Story: a unique opportunity to share the stories of Christmas and Easter with schools, families and community groups

Website & Latest Newsletter: www.ocrh.org.uk

Contact Details: 07592296356

Retreats 2026

Slippers, Boots and a Good Book! Clergy Reading Retreat

Date: 2-6 February

Location: Parcevall Hall, Appletreewick, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 6DG

Leader: Revd Canon Marion Russell

Retreat Content: Bring a book, or a few, of your own choice, take time to ponder, explore the local walks, gardens and beautiful scenery. There will be gentle conversation and companionable silences, and a sustaining rhythm of prayer morning and evening. Guided by Marion Russell, vicar and member of the diocesan ministerial development and formation team.

Cost: £396

Book your place: To book your place, please contact the Hall on 01756 720213 or by email at admin@parcevallhall.org.uk

Through Solitude and Contemplation Retreat

Date: 13-15 March

Location: Parcevall Hall, Appletreewick, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 6DG

Leader: Bishop David Hawkins

Retreat Content: On this retreat, we will seek God through solitude and contemplation. There will be teaching on the Orthodox tradition, the role of the Poustinia and the science of silence. There will be opportunity for periods of personal private retreat in the Poustinia and also shared contemplative worship.

Cost: £198

Book your place: To book your place, please contact the Hall on 01756 720213 or by email at admin@parcevallhall.org.uk

Life in its fulness Lent Retreat

Date: 23-26 February

Location: Parcevall Hall, Appletreewick, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 6DG

Leader: Dean John Dobson

Retreat Content: The focus of the Lent Retreat is being called into fulness of life by the words of Jesus. In seven addresses over the four days of this Lenten retreat, Dean John will help us to explore how the words of Jesus speak directly to us now, inviting us to enjoy his gift of life in its fulness.

Cost: £297

Book your place: To book your place, please contact the Hall on 01756 720213 or by email at admin@parcevallhall.org.uk

Falling Upwards

Date: 17-19 April

Location: Parcevall Hall, Appletreewick, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 6DG

Leader: Revd Dilly Baker

Retreat Content: Inspired by the writing of Richard Rohr, this retreat offers you the chance to map an engaged Christian faith that is characterised by radical compassion, both for yourself and the world. Together we will explore what it might mean to work with the 'failings and fallings' of our lives in such a way as to discover a deeper and more authentic way of living. Led by Dilly an experienced retreat leader and life coach.

Cost: £235

Book your place: To book your place, please contact the Hall on 01756 720213 or by email at admin@parcevallhall.org.uk

Pathways Into Prayer

Date: 13-15 February

Location: Scargill House, Kettlewell, North Yorkshire, BD23 5HU

Speakers: Annie Nash and Heather Mole

Retreat Content: This week you're invited to retreat from the busyness and constant distractions of daily life, to slow down, take a step back and carve out some time for you and God as we explore together different pathways into prayer. We'll offer you some tools to engage in contemplation, doodling, imagination, movement, visual art, music, collage, nature and silence. Encounter God afresh in body, mind and spirit as we respond to the invitation of Jesus in Matthew 11:28- 29: Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life... Learn the unforced rhythms of grace.' (The Message)

Cost: £168.50 (House full board)

Book your place: To book your place, please see the [Scargill Movement Website](#)

Voices of Hope in Troubled Times

Date: 16-20 March

Location: Scargill House, Kettlewell, North Yorkshire, BD23 5HU

Speaker: Micheal Mitton

Retreat Content: A week during which Michael will explore the witness of five Christian leaders and writers down the ages, who speak empowering words of hope to our present troubled times. There is much to make us anxious in our troubled world, and we need a robust spirituality to flourish when times are hard. During this week, Michael will draw from the wisdom of five people whom he has found to be eloquent voices of hope, helping him to journey deeply and honestly with God: Patrick of Ireland, Clare of Assisi, William J Seymour, Phyllis Tickle and Frederick Buechner. Using their stories, together with insights from Scripture, poetry and music, Michael will explore how we can deepen our roots in God, so that we can thrive and adventure in a world of many challenges.

Cost: £338 (House full board)

Book your place: To book your place, please see the [Scargill Movement Website](#)

Creating Church for Grown Ups

Date: 23-27 February

Location: Scargill House, Kettlewell, North Yorkshire, BD23 5HU

Speaker: Dave Tomlinson

Retreat Content: This course explores how the church might be more compelling and inclusive, more spiritually intelligent, more connected, and more grown-up and relevant to the needs of a broken world. With multimedia presentations and stimulating talks, this retreat considers how the church might change and evolve to reconnect with the spiritual longings and aspirations of society.

Cost: £326 (House full board)

Book your place: To book your place, please see the [Scargill Movement Website](#)

Resurrection Encounters

Date: 13-17 April

Location: Scargill House, Kettlewell, North Yorkshire, BD23 5HU

Speakers: Andreas Andersson and Phil Stone

Retreat Content: The resurrection of Jesus transforms the life of the disciples and, through the Spirit, brings life to the church and the whole cosmos. Resurrection heralds hope, big time! When Jesus meets his friends in their despair and doubt, the life, light and love he brings transforms the presence of pain and suffering.

Andreas and Phil will explore a few of those resurrection encounters to see how they might bring life, hope and joy into our lives and to the world.

Phil is Director at Scargill House and Andreas is a musician and pastor and was previously chaplain at Scargill house.

Cost: £338 (House full board)

Book your place: To book your place, please see the [Scargill Movement Website](#)

Pre-Lent Clergy Retreat

Date: 9-13 February

Location: House Of The Resurrection, Stocksbank Road, Mirfield, West Yorkshire, WF14 0BN

Leader: Fr George Guiver CR

Retreat Content: The Pre-Lent clergy retreat begins with Supper on Monday 9th February, though you are welcome to arrive any time from 3 pm to settle in. Evensong is at 6 pm and Supper is at 6.45 pm. The retreat ends after breakfast on Friday 13th February.

This is a preached, silent retreat.

Cost: £392 in a standard Retreat House room with shared bathrooms; £445 in an en-suite room.

Book your place: To book your place, please see the [Community of the Resurrection website](#)

Lay Lent Retreat

Date: 20-22 February

Location: House Of The Resurrection, Stocksbank Road, Mirfield, West Yorkshire, WF14 0BN

Leader: Br Steven Haws CR

Retreat Content: This silent retreat begins on Friday 20th February, with arrivals from 3.00 pm in the afternoon. Evensong is at 6.00 pm and Supper at 6.45 pm. It ends after lunch on Sunday 22nd February.

You will receive a printed programme on arrival.

Cost: £196 in a standard Retreat House room with shared bathrooms; £223 in an en-suite room.

Book your place: To book your place, please see the [Community of the Resurrection website](#)