**Clergy Conference 2024 - Programme**

‘The Hope of Our Calling’

Restore - Refresh – Renew

High Leigh Conference Centre

**Conference Prayer**

Loving Lord Jesus,

you called your first disciples to follow you

and gathered them around you.

be with us as we gather in your name

to hear your Word and celebrate your love.

Loving Father God,

in returning and rest we shall be saved,

and your arms are always open as we return to you;

be with us as we step back from our ordinary lives,

and draw us back to the centre of our calling.

Loving Holy Spirit,

you descended on Christ at his baptism,

and led him out into the wilderness to pray;

be with us as we are sent out in Jesus’ name

to love and to serve you in all we do.

Loving God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
all praise be to your Holy Name. **AMEN**.

**Welcome Letter**

Dear Friends,

It’s my pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 Winchester Clergy Conference. Thank you for the commitment to this week – we have so much to be thankful for in Christ! I am so grateful to those whose prayerful commitment and wisdom lie behind the planning for a profound and memorable few days.

As we pray, eat, study and break bread together, it is my prayer that we will be drawn deeper in our relationship with God and with each other and so to serve Him and all those in our Diocese.

It is deeply significant that this Conference also marks the first week of public ministry for our Diocesan Bishop, Philip Mounstephen. Our churches are holding Philip and each one of us in their prayers this week.

I have found myself praying through Philippians 3 as I am preparing for this Conference – with the deep call to rejoice in the Lord, the surpassing worth of knowing Christ and the commitment to all that ‘God has called us to in Christ Jesus’.

Bishop David

*Bishop of Basingstoke*

**Keynote Speaker**

**Bishop Graham Tomlin**

The Rt Revd Dr Graham Tomlin is Director of the Centre for Cultural Witness, based in Lambeth Palace. He was Bishop of Kensington from 2015-22. Formerly, he was the founding Dean of St Mellitus College where he remains President and before that, Vice Principal of Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, where he taught Historical Theology within the Theology Faculty of Oxford University. He is the author of many books and was the Vice Chair of the Archbishop of Canterbury’s Commission on Housing, Church and Community.

**Evening Events**

**Drinks Reception**

You are warmly invited to join together on Monday evening for the drinks reception. Your drinks token, included in the welcome pack, is redeemable at the bar.

**An Evening with Paul Kerensa**

On Tuesday, enjoy an evening of stand-up comedy with Paul Kerensa - comedian, writer and broadcaster. He has written for BBC sitcoms such as the British Comedy Award-winning BBC sitcom *Miranda* and the RTS Award-winning *Not Going Out*, starring Lee Mack, as well as entertainment shows like BBC’s *Top Gear*, ITV’s *Royal Variety Performance* and C4’s *TFI Friday*, *BBC Music Awards* and BBC1’s *Buble at the BBC.*

**Monday 15th January – “Gathering”**

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| 2 PM | Arrival and Registration |
| *Reception (12)* |  |
| 3 PM | Room Check-in |
| *Reception (12)* |  |
| 3:30 PM | Welcome from Bishop Philip and |
| *Yew Tree Hall (23)* | Opening Eucharist |
| 4:45 PM | Tea & Coffee |
| 5-6 PM | Keynote Speaker - Graham Tomlin |
| *Yew Tree Hall (23)* |  |
| 6 - 7 PM | Dinner |
| *Dining Room (6)* |  |
| 7:15 PM | Evening Worship |
| *Yew Tree Hall (23)* |  |
| 7:45 - 9 PM | Drinks Reception |

*Bar (1), Garden Lounge (8),  
Woodlands Lounge (22)*

**Tuesday 16th January – “Returning to the centre of our calling”**

7:30 AM Morning Communion

*Yew Tree Hall (23)*

8 - 9 AM Breakfast Buffet

*Dining Room (6)*

9:15 AM Keynote Speaker - Graham Tomlin

*Yew Tree Hall (23)*

10 - 10:30 AM Tea & Coffee

10:30 AM - 12 PM Seminars and Workshops Session 1

*Various*

12 - 1 PM Lunch

*Dining Room (6)*

1 - 2:30 PM Seminars and Workshops Session 2

*Various*

2:30 - 3 PM Tea & Coffee

3 - 4:30 PM Seminars and Workshops Session 3

*Various*

4:45 - 6 PM ‘In Conversation with Bishop Philip’

*Yew Tree Hall (23)* Join Dean Catherine Ogle in conversation with Bishop Philip for an opportunity to get to know him better.

6 - 7 PM Dinner

*Dining Room (6)*

7:15 PM An Evening with Paul Kerensa

*Yew Tree Hall (23)*

9 PM Night Prayer

*Yew Tree Hall (23)*

**Wednesday 17th January – “Looking to the future”**

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| 7:30 AM  *Yew Tree Hall (23)* | Morning Worship |
| 8 - 9:30 AM | Breakfast Buffet |
| *Dining Room (6)* | *9:30 AM Room Check-out Deadline* |
| 9:30 AM | Keynote Speaker - Graham Tomlin |
| *Yew Tree Hall (23)* |  |
| 10:30 - 11 AM | Tea & Coffee |
| 11 AM - 12 PM | Deanery Groups Reflection Time |
| 12 - 1 PM | Closing Eucharist and Address by the |
| *Yew Tree Hall (23)* | Bishop of Winchester |
| 1 - 2 PM | Lunch |
| *Dining Room (6)* |  |
| 2 PM | Departure from Venue |

**Clergy Conference Workshops**

On Tuesday 16th we will be offering three workshop sessions - you are encouraged to choose free time for one of these sessions at a time that suits you. Each workshop will be offered twice over the course of the day.

**A Stand-Up Comedian’s Guide to Preaching (Session 2 & 3) Paul Kerensa**

In this 90min workshop, comedian/writer/teacher Paul Kerensa will suggest some techniques and tactics for getting comedy right in your preaching. When/how to best use humour, finding the right style of humour for you, good public speaking practice, and much more. Bring questions, a pen/paper/mobile/laptop for scribbling things down, and perhaps a joke or a tale, or neither - or at least the will to try and work with one. Paul will introduce some ideas then we'll, yes, give it a go! All in a warm welcoming environment - so the main thing to bring, and be, is yourself.

*Paul is a writer, broadcaster, comedian and author. He writes and script-edits for many comedies for BBC TV, Sky and other channels, and has been described as "Ingenious" by the Evening Standard. Paul is also one of the few to perform stand-up at both comedy clubs and churches, in bearpits and pulpits, as well as contributing regular "Pause For Thought" slots on Chris Evans' Radio 2 Breakfast Show. In 2013 Paul authored the book So A Comedian Walks Into A Church: Confessions of a Kneel-Down Stand-up, which was followed in 2014 by Genesis: The Bibluffer's Guide.*

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| **Modern Monasticism: The Quest to Follow Benedict’s Rule and Live a Prayerful, Balanced, Contemporary Christian Life**  **(Session 1 & 3)**  **Winchester Cathedral**  Come and join a workshop exploring how the ancient Rule of Benedict can inform values, priorities and practices in contemporary cathedrals, churches and the lives of individual Christians. Cathedral clergy will be offering an interactive workshop to share experience of living with The Rule and how this influences the development of Cathedral plans.  **Catherine Ogle** |
| *Catherine has been Dean of Winchester since 2017 and enjoys the challenges and opportunities of leading our great, historic Cathedral with its Benedictine foundation. Before this she was Dean of Birmingham and before that, for ten years, Vicar of Huddersfield. Her early ministry was in West Yorkshire with a curacy in South Leeds and a four-year period of secondment as a journalist at BBC Leeds. Catherine was among the first women to be ordained priest in the Church of England in 1994.*  **Andy Trenier**  *Andrew is a Precentor and Sacrist at Winchester Cathedral. Andrew has particular responsibility for the organisation, development and delivery of the liturgy and music of the Cathedral and the support of the Cathedral’s congregations.* |

**Gary Philbrick**

*After a degree in Music and a period of teaching in a primary school, Gary was ordained in 1986, and has served in the Parishes of Maybush, on the Western edge of Southampton, Fawley, on the Eastern edge of the New Forest, Swaythling, on the northern edge of Southampton, where he was Area Dean of Southampton from 2007 – 2013, as Rector of the Avon Valley Churches around Fordingbridge, on the western edge of the New Forest, from 2013-2022, as Area Dean of Christchurch from 2013, and as an Honorary Canon of Winchester Cathedral since 2009. Gary currently serves as the Assistant Archdeacon of Winchester, Chaplain of Winchester Cathedral, and as Area Dean of Christchurch.*

**Liz Stuart**

*Liz is a non-executive member of the Cathedral Chapter and associate priest at the Parish of St Matthew and St Paul, Winchester. She has recently retired as Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Winchester. She has taken life vows in the Single Consecrated Life and has a deep commitment to Benedictine life and spirituality.*

**Tess Kuin Lawton**

*Revd Canon Dr Tess Kuin Lawton has been Canon Missioner at Winchester Cathedral since 2021, working in the area of faith development. She was a school chaplain and teacher for 15 years and chaplain, fellow and tutor of Worcester College Oxford for five years. Tess was also NSM incumbent of a rural parish in the Cotswolds and NSM Area Dean of Witney. This Petertide she led the priests' ordination retreat for the Diocese of Oxford, on 'searching for signs of God's new creation'.*

**Digital Storytelling: How to Use Digital Channels to Tell the Stories of Your Faith, Church and Community (Session 1 & 3)**

**Jemima Lewis**

Digital platforms, such as your church website, e-newsletter and social media, can feel like a bit of chore for busy clergy. But in a world in which the majority of people use social media (84.4% of the UK population in 2023) we can begin to see these digital spaces as exciting opportunities for Christian engagement, dialogue and storytelling.

*Jemima Lewis is the Head of Communications for the Diocese of Winchester and Associate Priest at St Mary’s & St Swithun’s Kings Worthy. She has had a career in communications strategy, editing and journalism, having previously worked for the Church Times, the Telegraph and for clients such as the African Green Revolution Forum and the Department of Energy and Climate Change.*

**Growing Faith: Churches, Schools and Homes Working Together (Session 1 & 2)**

**Lucy Moore**

It’s never been a better time than now to be a leader in the church of England who longs to be part of a church that’s growing younger. (Seriously!) Growing Faith is less an initiative and more of a lens through which to see the way we work with under-16s, as we make space for all ages to get to know, love and follow Jesus. So what is Growing Faith and how might it look in your own context? How can the support offered through the Growing Faith Foundation at a diocesan level and nationally support mission and ministry among children, young people and their families in your parish?

*Lucy is Head of the Growing Faith Foundation for the Church of England, helping schools, churches and households to work together for the spiritual flourishing of all children and young people. She is the founder of Messy Church and developed it through her work at BRF until early 2022. She worked as a secondary school teacher of languages and subsequently in many primary schools across the UK through the Barnabas in Schools RE programme, bringing the Bible to life through storytelling and drama. She lives with her husband in the Peak District in a draughty vicarage and enjoys walking the dog and joining in village life.*

**‘The Good, the Bad and the Ugly’ - The Joys and Challenges of Team Working and Leading (Session 2 & 3)**

**Karen West**

Meredith Belbin, the well-known writer and researcher on teams, has based all his work on the notion that ‘no single person is perfect, but a team can be’. As Christians we would no doubt disagree and cite Jesus, although in our human workplaces we can probably see what Belbin is getting at. Much of what we are tasked to deliver in our work and ministry is achieved through collaboration, so it is important to learn what we can from Jesus and other Biblical characters, as well as from Belbin and other ‘gurus’ in this field, such as Patrick Lencioni (as it happens, also a committed Christian) and other team-working ‘gurus’ in this field.

Whether a one-off project or continued responsibility for a team of colleagues and volunteers, no matter how wide our experience of team working and leading, there is always more that can be learned. The subject of team development and team dynamics is a vast one. But there isn’t one straightforward answer to what makes for a high performing team, although models and frameworks can help to identify many of the elements and behaviours that need to be in place.

*Following an early career in local government and career guidance, Karen spent fifteen years working at the Civil Service College/National School of Government. Karen then went on to spend six years at Lambeth Palace as the first lay Advisor on Bishops’ Ministry to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. In this role, she supported new bishops, planned annual programmes for ongoing development, and put in place early support for the first female bishops. Between 2017 and 2021, Karen worked independently as a coach, designer and facilitator of leadership and personal development programmes within the public and third sectors. After this, Karen was ordained and was appointed Resident Vicar for Silchester in 2023.*

**Anna’s Story: Ageing Well and How the Church Can Help (Session 2 & 3)**

**Debbie Ducille**

The UK population now comprises more people over the age of 60 than under the age of 18, for the first time ever; what is the church saying about old age, both positively and negatively? How can we as Christians serve older people through the provision of good spiritual care, whilst combatting ageism and exclusion, and honouring the contribution of older people in our churches and communities?

Using Anna’s story from Luke’s gospel as a starting point, Debbie will facilitate conversation about our attitudes to ageing, offer a presentation about Anna Chaplaincy as a compassionate, flexible ministry model, and leave room to discuss what practical, contextual responses might look like.

*Debbie Ducille is a member of BRF’s national Anna Chaplaincy team, heading up strategic work with UK church denominations and enabling the rapidly expanding network. She brings a range of experience that includes roles in education, the voluntary sector and church ministry. She is passionate about vibrant relational life in the church, stemming from her own desire to network and connect with people and groups. She is also committed to pioneering reflective and strategic ways to think, live and act together.*

**Out of the Box Reflective Storytelling (Session 1 & 3)**

**Erica Roberts, Penny Thatcher & Sheena Williams**

It seems that as humans, we have always made meaning and understood ourselves through story. Jesus was a master storyteller, encouraging all who followed him to find meaning and truth in the stories he told about God’s kingdom. In this workshop, we will explore how story and play can contribute to personal and community wellbeing, using OutoftheBox, a form of Deep Talk.

While we’ll share something of how these stories are used in many settings, including churches, schools, workplaces, spiritual accompaniment and chaplaincies, most of all we invite you to come prepared to enter into the story and be changed by it.

**Erica Roberts**

*After a career as a Paediatric Oncologist, it was a surprise and delight to hear God’s call to ordained ministry. Since 2014, I’ve had the exciting role of City Chaplain for Older People in Southampton, with the privilege of supporting the spiritual well-being of the older person through the charity* [*Caraway*](http://www.caraway.uk.com/) *that we launched in 2018. It’s been an enormous learning curve partnering with organisations across the city and of course our local church. I love to engage with our faith narrative through story, whether preaching, training or delivering ‘Out of the Box’ as in this workshop. Walking on a deserted beach, sea-swimming or curled up with a good book all sustain me, but it’s the laughter around a table full of family and friends where I find my greatest joy.*

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| **Penny Thatcher**  *I am coming to the end of my curacy which I have served with the Parish of Chandler's Ford and* [*Caraway*](http://www.caraway.uk.com/) *with a focus on understanding and supporting the spiritual needs of older people. As part of my journey, I have come to appreciate the significance of storytelling, not just in terms of expressing my own story but as a lens through which to look at and ponder life and faith with others in a creative way. I have a professional background in HR and a passion for encouraging whole life balance in myself and those around me. For me that includes finding times of stillness, silence and solitude alongside times of gathering, sharing and celebration.* |
| **Sheena Williams**  *I currently serve as the Rector of the Parish of North Stoneham and Bassett, three churches on the northern edge of Southampton. I am passionate about the value of imaginative storytelling as a means of Christian formation and growth in faith. This means that in practice I want to use those gifts of God with all ages, and try to ensure that adults do not see ourselves as having outgrown them! I use Godly Play and Out of the Box in worship in church, in reflective practice work with Ordinands and ministry trainees, and on Quiet Days. My love of good stories means that in my spare time I am often found at the theatre, the cinema or engrossed in a novel.*  **Understanding Gen Z (Session 1 & 2) Jack Percey & Louise Weatherall**  If you think ‘lit’ is something that you did to the Paschal Candle earlier in the year or ‘slay’ is a word used to describe what Michael and the angels did to the great dragon in Revelation 12 then join us for a workshop to understand Generation Z.  A huge aim of the Church of England is to increase the amount of teenagers in our churches, but how do we do that as well as reaching young adults who are desperately seeking meaning and purpose? There’s a huge opportunity for the gospel amongst these adults and young people who have had no experience of church before, so let’s understand them better. |

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*Louise Weatherall and Jack Percey are both part of the staff team at Christ Church Winchester (Louise is the Student Minister and Jack is the Creative Ministry Lead). They are both in their mid-twenties and love working together with their volunteer team to invest in students at the University of Winchester. They’ve been working in this area for five years, and would love to share stories, insight, and wisdom they have on how to reach this generation. Outside of work, Louise loves a big packet of crisps and dreams of one day owning a sausage dog with her husband Michael. Jack loves cooking, getting creative and is busy planning a wedding with his fiancé Meg.*

**Prophetic and Playful: Practicing the Presence (Session 2 & 3)**

**Sarah Yardley**

Join us for a workshop as we explore how we develop our prophetic voice by spending time with Jesus.

Sarah will explore the biblical and practical vision of what it looks like to be people of prophetic kindness, and give space for us to playfully and prayerfully explore prophetic gifting.

*Sarah Yardley is a follower of Jesus who is passionate about faith, travel, reading, coffee, and community. She grew up at Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa in California, served at Reality Carpinteria, and currently lives in the United Kingdom, serving full-time with Creation Fest UK. She loves discovering what it means to follow Jesus and inviting others to know and follow Him*

**Ministering From the Well of Vocation and Spirituality – Being Refreshed, Renewed and Resourced (Session 1 & 2)**

**Julia Mourant**

Ministering from the well of vocation and spirituality – being refreshed, renewed and resourced.

An opportunity to reflect on vocation as a life long invitation as well as a framework for ministry in particular contexts. Does vocation change? Are we changed by our vocation?

*Julia Mourant is Programme Leader for the Course in Spiritual Direction at Sarum College, where she’s also a member of the team engaged with those in training for lay and ordained ministries. Julia is an Anglican Priest and has over 30 years experience of spiritual direction conversations, courses and supervision. She has also held posts in pre and post ordination training, lay training and vocations and was Director of Ordinands in Winchester Diocese until 2015. Julia is furthermore an author of books discussing spiritual direction.*

**Free Time**

If you’d prefer not to attend one of the workshops during these sessions, you are under no obligation to do so!

You are welcome to explore the Conference Centre, meet with one of the Conference Chaplains, or simply spend some time in peaceful reflection at the Chapel Barn. More information on the following page.

**A Time for Prayer and Reflection in the Chapel Barn**

**About the Community of Hopeweavers**

We are a community of people from very different backgrounds and localities who are seeking to live intentionally, using stillness, silence and creativity to connect with God and be resourced to weave hope into everyday life and lives. A number of the clergy in our diocese are members of the Community.

Sanctuary Space is our name for a time of retreat, such as a Quiet Day or Morning. We have found these spaces of quiet reflection and creativity to be incredibly valuable in our own spiritual journeys and so we choose to host a number of different Sanctuary Spaces, offering all the opportunity to experience stillness, silence and space to pray and be creative alongside others.

**Chapel Space at the Clergy Conference**

The Chapel Barn at the Clergy Conference offers various prayer stations and reflective resources from Hopeweavers Sanctuary Spaces, including an art space, maps, and creative prayer stations. Participants are encouraged to use the space as they find helpful for prayerful reflection, with prompts available at the stations. LED candles are provided.

Please keep this a quiet, prayerful, reflective space.

**Conference Chaplains**

Chaplains will be available throughout the conference. They can be identified by the white lanyard they’ll be wearing. Please feel free to approach them at any time.

If you would prefer to arrange a dedicated time to speak to a chaplain, there will be a signup sheet on the door of Beech Room 1. Sessions can be booked by marking a timeslot with a cross – these sessions will remain anonymous.

**Geoff Annas**

I am delighted to be at another Winchester Clergy Conference! Having served on the Old Kent Road in Southwark Diocese, I came to leafy Thornhill in 1994 and had the privilege of being Vicar until 2010 when I moved to Lichfield as Bishop of Stafford. Retiring at the end of 2019, Ann and I returned to Southampton and now have time to enjoy being grandparents!

Lockdown during Covid has had a big impact on us all and I am also aware that there were many changes while I was in North Staffordshire – not least in terms of clergy coming and going. I am therefore looking forward to seeing ‘old’ friends but hopefully making some new ones too during this Conference.

**Peggy Jackson**

I am a retired Anglican priest, now living in Fordingbridge. I was among that first generation of women to be priested in 1994, after seven years as a deacon. I then served in a variety of parish roles in the dioceses of Derby, St Albans and Southwark, before moving to the Church in Wales in 2009 to be Archdeacon of Llandaff. In Southwark I was also Dean of Women’s Ministry and an Area Dean.

In earlier life I was a chartered accountant in public practice. Retirement has brought me more time for doing what I most enjoy: time with family and friends, local history and flying (private planes).

**Norman Boakes**

Norman was ordained in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon and, after two appointments there, came to Winchester Diocese in 1978. He has served in higher education and hospital chaplaincies, two very different parishes and completed his paid ministry in two different appointments related to the training and development of ministers.

In retirement, he is an Assistant Priest in the Parish of North Stoneham and Bassett. He enjoys reading, eating, drinking wine, music, the theatre, heritage railways, modern architecture and travel.

**Useful information**

**Check-in –** please arrive at the Conference Centre from 2pm, with room check-in from 3pm. Upon arrival, you will receive welcome refreshments.

**Check-out –** Check-out from bedrooms on departure day is 9:30am. There is a luggage store should you wish to use it.

**Tea/Coffee –** Freshly ground coffee machines are available from 8am – 8pm every day. Quality teas and hot chocolate are also included and are available between these times. Please note, tea and coffee facilities are available in bedrooms and supplies will be replenished daily by housekeeping between 9am and 3pm.

**Bar -**The standard opening time for the bar is 6pm, with last orders at 10.30pm. There will be a drinks reception on the first evening.

**Wi-Fi –** There is free Wi-Fi for all guests in all areas of the centre. To access the Wi-Fi, please select CCTWIFI. There is no password required, simply type in your email address and agree to the terms and conditions to get connected.

**Centre Map -** [high-leigh-site-map.pdf](https://www.cct.org.uk/downloads/high-leigh/high-leigh-site-map.pdf)  [(cct.org.uk)](https://www.cct.org.uk/downloads/high-leigh/high-leigh-site-map.pdf)

**Diocesan Staff** - Diocesan Staff supporting and facilitating the event will be in The Boardroom.

**Parking** – There is enough parking for roughly 100 cars on site. Parking is available on-site on a first come first served basis.

**Electric Car Charging** – There are 4 electric car charging spaces available on site. Please ensure to vacate the space for someone else's use, once your car is suitably charged. You can find them at the end of the accommodation block near the Chapel Barn.

**Bedrooms** – All rooms are ensuite and come with one hand-towel and one regular towel per guest. All rooms have hairdryers.

**In Case of Emergency** – A duty manager from High Leigh will be available between 7.30am and 11.30pm from reception, or you can call 01992 463016 (Option 2). Outside of these times, emergency contact details will be posted at reception. The Diocesan Staff team supporting the event can be contacted on 07748 190448. Due to capacity Diocesan Staff are staying at the Premier Inn approx. 10 minutes away so are not available for immediate assistance during the night. Should this be required please refer to the emergency contact details posted at reception.





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| **Notes...** |  |

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**The Hope of Our Calling**

**Join us, as together we:**

* Build relationships
* Enjoy a time of fellowship, learning, refreshment and worship
* Hear from our new Diocesan Bishop

**A Huge Thank You to All** ank you to everyone who has been involved in making the Thank you to everyone who has been involved in making the conference happen. In particular those involved with leading the worship, the community of HopeWeavers, our wonderful chaplains, Bishop Graham and all the workshop leaders. Our aim was for a varied but unpressured programme allowing space for all attendees to feel refreshed, renew connections with colleagues and make new ones.

We hope and pray that the conference has been a refreshing worthwhile time for you and would value any feedback to help plan future events.

The final thank you is to all attendees and those who prayed for this time together.

**Loving God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, all praise be to your Holy Name. Amen.**