

Cathedrals, Mission, and the Power of 'Place', Past, Present and Future



The Guard Room and
State Drawing Room,
Lambeth Palace

Tuesday
November 14 2017
10.00 – 4.30 pm

You are warmly invited to attend this conference which will be held under the chairmanship of the Rt Revd John Inge, lead bishop for cathedrals and church buildings.

Sessions will include presentation and discussion of research carried out in the three-year Arts and Humanities Research Council funded project, *'Pilgrimage and England's Cathedrals, Past and Present'*, a collaboration between the Church of England and the Centre for the Study of Christianity and Culture at the University of York.

At the heart of this project lies a new, wide-ranging interdisciplinary analysis of the role of 'sacred places' past and present. How did visiting such places help to effect spiritual transformation in the past and what are the implications of the revival of interest in these sites today? Why are pilgrimage and visiting cathedrals both more popular in England now than they have been at any point since the Reformation, and what does this mean for future **mission, ministry and management**?

The project combines detailed historical and theological research into ways in which medieval buildings shaped and enhanced learning and response, with in-depth analysis of the experience of visitors, pilgrims, 'potential pilgrims', staff, and volunteers today, from social science and religious studies specialists.

The conference will bring together Chapter members, education and visitor department staff, members of CFCE, senior staff from the Church Buildings Division, Historic England, and other advisory bodies.

Panel sessions will raise common issues, showcase initiatives from across the country, and consider challenges, opportunities and strategies for future mission. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. A detailed programme will be circulated in due course.

Revd Dr Dee Dyas
Director, Centre for the Study of Christianity & Culture

Attendance is by invitation. If you are unable to come, it would be very helpful if you could nominate a named replacement to ensure that all cathedrals are fully represented.

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