

A Tent of Learning

Synodal Conversation and Conversion in Receptive Ecumenism

Saturday 23rd September 2023

Hosted by

The Society for Ecumenical Studies, in conjunction with
the Centre for Catholic Studies, Durham University, and the London Jesuit Centre

Venue

London Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount St, London W1K 3AY

Please note: this pitching of pilgrim tent for a day of conversation and exploration about the interrelationship between ecclesial conversion and renewal and pathways in Receptive Ecumenism extends the work of the June 21st – 23rd Durham symposium, ‘Learning on the Way: Receptive Ecumenism and the Catholic Synodal Pathway’. Seven tradition-specific briefing papers were distributed and reflected on by all the participants in advance of the June symposium and are now available at: <https://tinyurl.com/CCSLotW>. All who are intending sharing in ‘A Tent of Learning’ will benefit by closely engaging these briefing papers in advance of our time pitching tent together.

10:30	Registration, with refreshments available
11:00	Welcome and Opening Prayer Welcome and logistics: <i>Rev Dr Dominic Robinson</i> , SJ, Vice-chair of the SfES, and Parish Priest of Farm Street Church Opening Prayer: <i>Rev Dr Alison Evans</i> , Secretary of the SfES
11:10-11:30	Introduction to A Tent of Learning <i>Prof Paul D. Murray</i> and <i>Dr Gregory Ryan</i> , Centre for Catholic Studies, Durham University, Co-convenors and Co-organisers of the Durham <i>Learning on the Way</i> symposium
11:30-13:00	Panel Sessions (3x30 mins) Chair: Prof. Paul D. Murray
11:30-12.00	Panel 1: Possible Receptive Learning about Synodality in the Methodist Church of Great Britain and in the Pentecostal Tradition Synodality in the Understanding and Practice of the Methodist Church in Great Britain <i>Rev. Dr Liz Kent, Director, Wesley Study Centre, St John's College, Durham</i> (10 mins) Synodality in the Understanding and Practice of the Pentecostal Tradition <i>Prof. Wolfgang Vondey, Professor of Christian Theology and Pentecostal Studies, University of Birmingham</i> (10 mins) Moment of silence Plenary discussion (10 mins)
12.00	Brief pause and stretch (5 mins)

12:05-12:35	Panel 2: Possible Receptive Learning about Synodality in the Baptist Union of Great Britain and in the Church of England Synodality in the Understanding and Practice of the Baptist Union of Great Britain <i>Rev. Prof. Paul S. Fiddes, FBA, Professor of Systematic Theology, Oxford, and Principal Emeritus and Senior Research Fellow, Regent's Park College, Oxford</i> (10 mins) Synodality in the Understanding and Practice of the Church of England <i>Rev Dr Julie Gittoes, Vicar of St Mary's and Christ Church Hendon, Area Dean of Barnet</i> (10 mins) Moment of silence Plenary discussion (10 mins)
12.35	Brief pause and stretch (5 mins)
12:40-13:10	Panel 3: Possible Receptive Learning about Synodality in the United Reformed Church and in the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain Synodality in the Understanding and Practice of the United Reformed Church <i>Rev. Philip Brooks, Deputy General Secretary for Mission, former Secretary for Ecumenical and Inter-faith relations, and Co-Chair of the URC/Catholic Dialogue</i> (10 mins) Synodality in the Understanding and Practice of Quakers in Britain <i>Clare Scott Booth, former Clerk of Britain Yearly Meeting (2019-2021) and Elaine Green, Clerk of the Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations</i> (10 mins) Moment of silence Plenary discussion (10 mins)
13:10-14:00	Lunch
Afternoon sessions chaired by Dr Gregory Ryan	
14:00-14:15	Catholic Reflection on Panel Discussions Dr Clare Watkins, Reader, Coordinator of the Theology and Action Research Network, and of the UK Practical Theology Network, Research Centre for Practical Philosophy, Theology and Religion, University of Roehampton (10 mins) Immediate questions, comments, and clarifications (5 mins)
14:15-14:30	Small-group discussions (on the conversations of the day as a whole thus far)
14:30-15:00	Plenary (full panel in conversation with each other and the room)
15:00-15:10	Short stretch and comfort break
15:10-16:00	Keynote Lecture <i>Listening, Conversion, Synodality, and Receptive Ecumenism</i> Rev Dr Callan Slipper, Chair of the SfES (30 minutes) Buzz and Plenary discussion (20 mins)
16:00-16:15	Reflection on the Day <i>Fr Dragos Herescu, Principal of the Institute for Orthodox Studies, Cambridge</i>
16:15-16:20	Closing Prayer Rev Dr Dominic Robinson, SJ, Vice-chair of the SfES
16:20-17:00	Drinks Reception