



The Diocese of  
**Southwark**

## The Diocese of Southwark Anti-Racism Charter: Living out our calling to be Christ centred and outward focused

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to the Diocese of Southwark's Anti-Racism Charter (ARC) pack! I hope you will find it a useful resource to be used and shared in your churches and communities.

Enclosed you will find the Charter itself, which sets out our commitment to being an anti-racist diocese and how we intend to achieve this. In this pack there are also postcards illustrating some of the ARC's key principles, a parish study resource and case studies from churches and schools that show how our churches and wider diocesan family are working towards a racial justice.

The pack is also available online at [southwark.anglican.org/antiracism](https://southwark.anglican.org/antiracism)

In Southwark Diocese, we rejoice in our rich diversity – God's gift for the enrichment of his Church and his world. We are the third largest diocese in the Church of England, covering most of south London and east Surrey – and one of the most ethnically diverse dioceses in the United Kingdom. In March 2021 when our Diocesan Synod unanimously approved the charter, we made a commitment to be an anti-racist diocese.

The issue of anti-racism is crucial to our calling as Christians and across our diocese we have been active and intentional in adopting the principles of this Charter through a wealth of work in the area of racial justice.

In seeking to continue to live out our commitments to racial justice, we have now welcomed Weisi Dennis as Racial Justice Development Officer and Reginald Amoah as Racial Justice Training Officer to our diocesan staff team. Both roles are intended to make a real difference to supporting parishes in the progress of this work. Through their work and my role as national co-lead Bishop for Racial Justice, we are working to change the picture nationally, too – advancing racial justice for all.

Over the past two years, and in consultation with churches, we have developed a parish study resource designed to make the ARC more accessible and to invite people into conversations and reflection about the theology that underpins it. This is also available online at [southwark.anglican.org/ARC-parish-study-guide](https://southwark.anglican.org/ARC-parish-study-guide) and free copies are available for parishes to order from the diocesan team.

Increasing the diversity among our clergy and lay leaders continues to be a priority as part of our *Southwark Vision* – and we have been enormously encouraged and proud of the marked increase in candidates from GMH backgrounds being recommended for ordination training. We have also expanded our already-established work in the area of vocations with the appointment of The Revd Canon Roxanne F. Eversley as our Dean for Cultural Diversity. This role focuses on building a Church for all which reflects God's diverse community and seeks to transform unjust structures of society.

As you use this resource, may I encourage you to reflect on Paul's words from Galatians 3:28: *"There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."* Amen, come Lord Jesus!

Yours in faith,

**Bishop Rosemarie**

**Christ  
Centred  
Outward  
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