



A Pastoral Letter on Intercultural Mission and Racial Justice

Dear Bishops of the Church of England,

We, the ANIC family, are meeting to observe the **UN Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** on **21 March 2026** by participating in the third Anglican Intercultural Mission Conference (the Primer) in Wolverhampton. We write to you, the Bishops of the Church of England, with gratitude, hope, and urgency.

We give thanks for the faithfulness of our Church, for its witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and for the many signs of grace we see across our dioceses, parishes, chaplaincies, and communities. We rejoice in the growing cultural diversity of the Church of England and in the gifts that UKME and GMH Anglicans bring to the life, worship, leadership, and mission of the Church.

Yet we also write with honesty. Too many of our clergy, lay leaders, and young people still experience exclusion, tokenism, under-representation, and the pain of racial injustice. Too often, interculturality is spoken of warmly but not embedded deeply. Lament remains necessary, but lament alone is not enough. The gospel calls us beyond regret into repentance, renewal, and action.

Theologically, we affirm that the Church is the one Body of Christ, gathered from every tribe, language, people, and nation. Our unity in Christ does not erase difference; it redeems it, honours it, and gathers it into God's mission. Pentecost is not a footnote to the Church's life; it is its enduring pattern. To be Anglican is to be part of a global communion, and to be faithful in England today is to embrace the intercultural reality of God's kingdom.

Pastorally, we ask you to continue encouraging clergy and congregations to become communities of belonging, where every person is seen, heard, nurtured, and able to flourish in their calling. Advocacy must now follow conviction. We urge every diocese to strengthen representation, review structures, invest in intercultural leadership, support anti-racism and formation, and create clear pathways for the participation of UKME and GMH children, young people, and adults at every level of church life.

We ask for your episcopal leadership in helping the Church of England move from welcome to belonging, from diversity to shared life, and from lament to action.

Yours in Christ,

The Rt Revd Dr Tim Wambunya,

Bishop of Wolverhampton and ANIC Founder Chair

For Third Anglican Intercultural Mission Conference