BIAPT
THE BRITISH & IRISH ASSOCIATION FOR PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

2025 Annual Conference
8-10 July 2025
Highgate Conference Centre

From Age to Age: Practical Theology through the Life Cycle

Call for Papers

Our conference theme this year offers potential speakers a number of opportunities to explore the place of Practical Theology in relation to various stages of life. We welcome a wide spectrum of interpretation and engagement on the theme of age from a variety of Practical Theology perspectives. Perhaps you have interviewed a group or individuals to explore childhood, youthfulness or ageing, or produced an ethnographic study of the experience of generations working together or indeed explored the conflict between those of different ages from a theological perspective. It might be that you've focussed on what church is like for those at a certain age, explored or challenged the idea of ageing gracefully with people or viewed age or youth through the lens of a local community or a particular faith, we would love to hear you share your research and thinking with us. We offer below a number of potential themes and are open to other topics.

- How faith communities deal with children, the middle-aged or the elderly
- The experience of faith or spirituality at various ages
- How the spiritual lives of those of a particular age give us new insight
- Intergenerational versus generation-specific mission
- How different age groups engage with issues of the climate crisis
- The justice issues around being "too young" or "too old"
- The insights into age from various cultures and faiths
- Issues of power in the interplay between various generations
- How a change in age demographics affected a community, group of people or individual
- How the concept of maturity affects the perception of children and young people
- How faith changes with age
- How your own perceptions of yourself have changed at different ages

We will consider papers on other topics though we will give priority to good quality papers which reflect our theme.

We welcome 200 – 300 word abstracts for 20 minute papers, from a range of disciplines and religious and spiritual traditions and emerging themes in non-religion.

The conference is committed to ensuring an inclusive environment for discussion and the dissemination of work.

Please submit your abstract as a Word document and include your name, institution, title of paper, and email address, and send to papers@biapt.org

All paper proposals are reviewed blind and independently by members of the board of trustees. Strong submissions include evidence of being informed by relevant theological resources and a clear indication of engagement with Practical Theology methodologies, as well as demonstrating potential to make a contribution to the field of Practical Theology. If you have any queries about this process please contact the Chair, Sarah Brush, on chair@biapt.org.

Deadline for submission: 7 March 2025, 17:00 GMT. Notification by 7 April.