



14th January 2026

Dear sisters and brothers,

Salisbury Pastoral Letter following today's LLF update from the House of Bishops

The most recent letter from the House of Bishops, and the press release, relating to the Living in Love and Faith process has now been published and can be found [here](#).

We wanted to write and express our prayerful concern for the way this update will inevitably impact the lives of many in our diocese. We recognise that the reality of the LLF process evokes a wide range of responses and emotions across our diocese—pain, frustration, hope, fear, and uncertainty among them. For some, the statement released today will be deeply discouraging; for others, there will remain concerns about future direction.

We continue to be committed to walk alongside you in your ministries, to support you and those you serve with hope and understanding. We thank God for you and trust that together we can know God's love and faithfulness in our calling, and continue to serve joyfully.

Please do take time to read the letter carefully and prayerfully in order to be a support to others who read it and related press statements, and who will have a mixture of responses. Please also remember members of General Synod as it meets in February to discuss the way ahead.

As the conversation continues, we will do our utmost to listen well, and to learn. Please know that you are held in our prayers, and we ask that you also pray for us as we seek to lead faithfully in these challenging times.

With every blessing,

+ Stephen Lake

The Rt Revd Stephen Lake
Bishop of Salisbury

+ Karen Gorham

The Rt Revd Karen Gorham
Bishop of Sherborne

+ Andrew Rumsey

The Rt Revd Dr Andrew Rumsey
Bishop of Ramsbury