

From our Principal

I can barely contain my joy while writing this message to you from the Margaret Beaufort Institute's permanent home at Woolf Institute. After several years of uncertainty and troubleshooting, downsizing our premises, changing physical locations, as well as altering our institutional mindset from crisis to growth, it feels as if we are now really sailing.

I feel that as an organization we have matured a lot and developed a quiet confidence. We know that we have much to offer and that our offer is good. It is a result of a genuine and unrushed consultation, listening, and being mindful of our resources and capacity.

On behalf of the Institute, I thank each and every person who sustained us through all the trials of the past few years and helped us to reach this calmer water and a place of stability, though never complacency. I would like to extend a special thanks to our donors, friends, and supporters. This year, with your generous contributions, we were able to provide more bursaries and benefit more students than ever before. Your unwavering support has been a vital part of our success and growth.

Even though we radically downsized in terms of physical space, our community has grown considerably. This growth is a blessing, specially as the trend in theological education suggests the opposite.

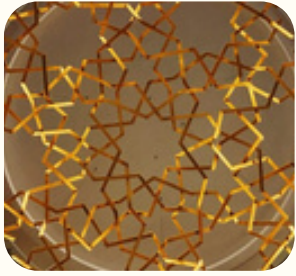


I strongly believe that there is hope for the kind of theology we are doing: a theology that is in conversation with other disciplines, denominations, and faiths; a tripartite theology of research, teaching, and pastoral practice; a theology that prioritizes women and their experiences, as well as experiences of those who are outside organized religion; a theology that is open to scrutiny; a theology of synodality. Our brand is 'ripple theology'—the unexpected effects of encounters: human to human, human and the rest of creation. It creates ripples, and ripples sometimes create waves.

In this uncertain and fragile world, may we never give up on ripple-making. I wish you a hope-filled and a blessed Christmas and holy year 2025.

Anna Abram

Strategic Vision for the Future



Relocated from Wesley House to the modern, state-of-the-art Kessler Family Building at the Woolf Institute, **marking the beginning of a new chapter** in our journey.

Launched our **Institutional Strategy 2025–2030**, setting the stage for future growth and innovation. Explore the full details using the QR code.



We launched our new website. We warmly invite you to explore it!



Secured Three Prestigious Grants

- To advance **research on women and religious life**.
- To establish a **framework of support for leaders**.
- To develop a **catalogue of online courses**
Launching in 2025—stay tuned!

Theology of Synodality at MBI

We've supported the **Roman Catholic Church's synodal journey** through **study days, online events, spiritual conversations**, and **co-leading local initiatives** like the Cambridge **Catholic Leaders Group**.

Vibrant Academic & Community Engagement

We've hosted

17 Courses and Academic Events

42 Online prayer gatherings

4 In-person Social gatherings

- Our Principal, **Dr. Anna Abram**, began her three-year **co-presidency of the Cambridge Theological Federation (CTF) in 2024**, with responsibility for **Worship and Community Life**.
- In October, Anna delivered two sermons: one for the CTF and another for Cambridge University at Great St. Mary's University Church.



Margaret
Beaufort
Institute

HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR JOURNEY IN 2024

Record-Breaking Student Enrollment

We have welcomed our highest number of postgraduate students to date, with **14 MA, PhD, and DProf candidates joining us this year**. Additionally, **525 students** participated in our **continuing education courses and events**.

Supporting Higher Educational Access

Awarded **14 bursaries** (ranging from **30% to 100%**), ensuring access to **theologically transformative education** with the generous support of the Congregation of our Lady, Canonesses of St Augustine CIO.

Student Testimonies



"MBIT has opened-up a fascinating world to me, highlighting women's role in global literature. My ideas, education, knowledge and skills are appreciated, respected and recognised here. I am encouraged to make a mark on history and in my research field. I am enthusiastically exploring my new world. It's a perfect opportunity to explore yours" S. H.



"Ecumenism is important to me, both personally and to my licensed Lay Ministry in the Church of England, and to receive a bursary towards completing a study of the inter-faith dialogue is a wonderful opportunity for me" D.P.

Thank you for being part of
this journey!