

# ***Race & Faith***

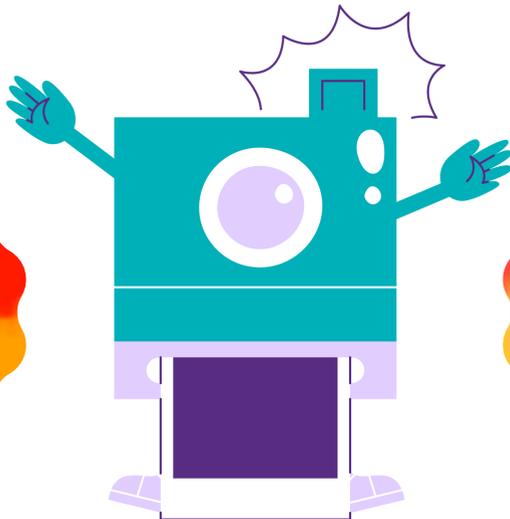


Where Race and Faith meets  
LGBTQ+





Whatever your faith  
Whatever your race  
Your LGBTQ+ identity  
is valid.



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You can have faith & be  
**a lesbian**

You can have faith & be  
**gay**

You can have faith & be  
**bisexual**

You can have faith & be  
**transgender**

You can have faith & be  
**queer**

You can have faith & be  
**LGBTQ+**

# Meet This Fabulous Bunch!



## ***Alok Vaid-Menon (They/Them)***

Alok is a gender non-conforming and trans-feminine author, poet and performer. Alok is Malaysian and Indian. They are the author of 'Femme in Public 2017' and 'Beyond the Gender Binary 2020'. Alok uses their platform to explore themes of race, gender and belonging.

## ***Laverne Cox (She/Her)***

Laverne is an artist, actress and an advocate with an empowering message of moving beyond gender expectations to live more authentically. She is the first openly transgender person to appear on magazine covers such as British Vogue and TIME Magazine.



## ***Vivek Shraya (She/Her)***

Vivek is a Hindu transgender artist whose work involves literature, music, theatre and film. She is a brand ambassador for MAC Cosmetics and Pantene. She is the author of children's book 'The Boy and the Bindi' which explores gender fluidity.



## ***Indya Moore (They/Them)***

Indya is a non-binary actress, writer, director and social activist. They are known for their role in the series Pose. Indya is a model and uses their platform to bring about change, freedom and liberation for BIPOC, queer and trans people, especially trans people of colour.



## ***Jazz Jennings (She/Her)***

Jazz is a Youtube personality and LGBTQ+ activist. She is transgender and a proud Ashkanazi Jewish woman who frequently participates in LGBTQ+ rights events and works for multiple charities. Jazz founded Transkids Purple Rainbow Foundation with the aim of supporting transgender youth.



## ***Dua Saleh (They/Them)***

Dua is a non-binary Muslim artist from Sudan who is known for their activist work, spoken-word poetry and music. Dua has written songs using gender non-specific Arabic lyrics.



## ***Dr Ronx Ikharia (They/Them)***

Dr Ronx is a Nigerian, trans, non-binary activist. They are an A&E doctor who has appeared on TV with inspiring shows and documentaries. Dr Ronx uses their spare time to give inspiring talks to local teenagers and raising money for Syrian refugees and young people of colour.



# LGBTQ+

## Faith Leaders



### ***Nur Warsame (He/Him)***

Nur Warsame is a well-respected gay-Islamic leader in Australia. Nur had the vision to establish a movement against the anti-LGBT community and enforce the laws of equality, liberty and justice for all. Nur has been brought to light for the young African-American gay Muslims, whom are too afraid to show who they really are.

### ***Imam Daaiyee Abdullah (He/Him)***

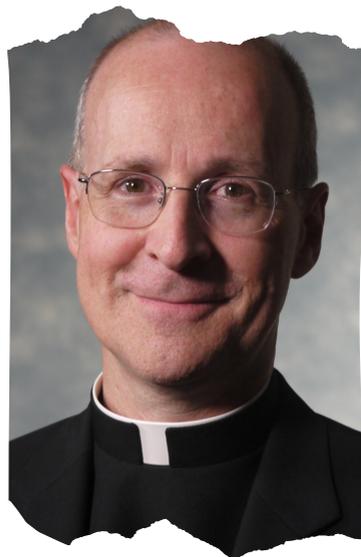
Imam Daaiyee is a proud African-American Muslim man who is in favour of the LGBT movement and supports the LGBTQ+ community, especially if they happen to be a gay-Muslim. His intentions are to shed light in their darkened and alone worlds of the LGBT people, seeking to provide closure, security and encourage the fact that being gay, regardless if you are Muslim or not, is okay.





### ***Ludovic-Mohamed Zahed (He/Him)***

Ludovic was the first out gay Imam in Europe. He founded in Paris the first European inclusive Mosque to include anyone in their community without discrimination. Ludovic-Mohamed Zahed has spoken on interfaith panels on being LGBTQ+.



### ***Father James Martin (He/Him)***

Father James Martin is a pro-LGBT American Jesuit priest within the Catholic Church. He is a vocal advocate of LGBTQ+ rights and he has spoken out against discrimination of LGBTQ+ Catholics through articles and interviews. The main reason he became involved in LGBT issues is because LGBT people are part of the church, and so they deserve to be cared for.



### ***Theo Robinson (He/Him)***

Theo Robinson is an openly transgender Anglican priest. He realised he was transgender while studying to be an Anglican Priest. Soon after he realised he could be a voice for trans people in the church. When he was ordained in January 2020, he felt proud to become the first openly trans Anglican priest.

## ***Reverend Canon Sarah Jones (She/Her)***

Reverend Canon Sarah Jones was the first transgender priest to be ordained in the Church of England. Sarah wants the church to be seen as a welcoming place for people in the LGBTQ+ community.



## ***Sushma Dwivedi (She/Her)***

Sushma is a Hindu Pundit, or priest who focuses on the LGBTQ+ population. Sushma founded the Purple Pundit Project which offers inclusive LGBTQ+ religious services like baby namings, house-warmings and she officiates same-sex weddings.



# Queer Quotes



"Gender is not what people look like to other people; it is what we know ourselves to be. No one else should be able to tell you who you are; that's for you to decide."

Alok Vaid-Menon (They/Them)

"It's important with all of the messages that might tell you otherwise that you have that in yourself to say that 'I am beautiful. I am smart and I'm amazing.'"

Laverne Cox (She/Her)

*Jazz Jennings (She/Her)*

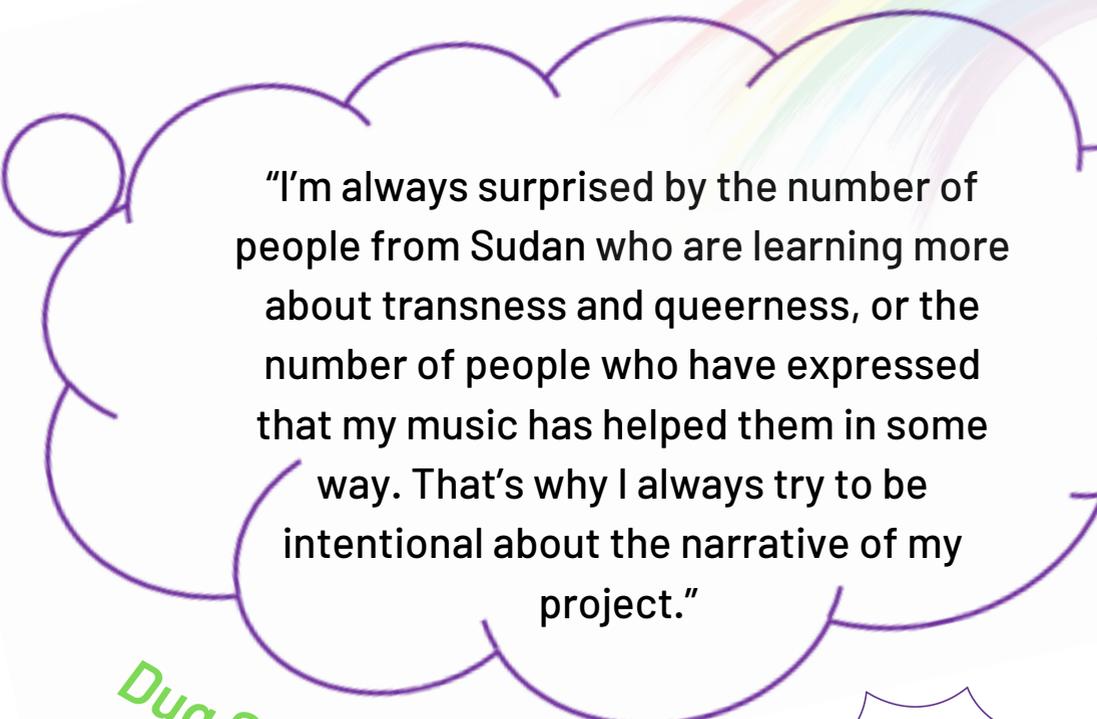
"I wouldn't change anything about myself. This is who I am, and I'm proud of who I am"

*Vivek Shraya (She/Her)*

"I can't separate my queerness from my brownness. If anything, queerness amplifies my brownness"

*Indya Moore (They/Them)*

"As a black woman of trans experience, my position in this society leaves me really no choice but to stand for the intersectional identities I hold"

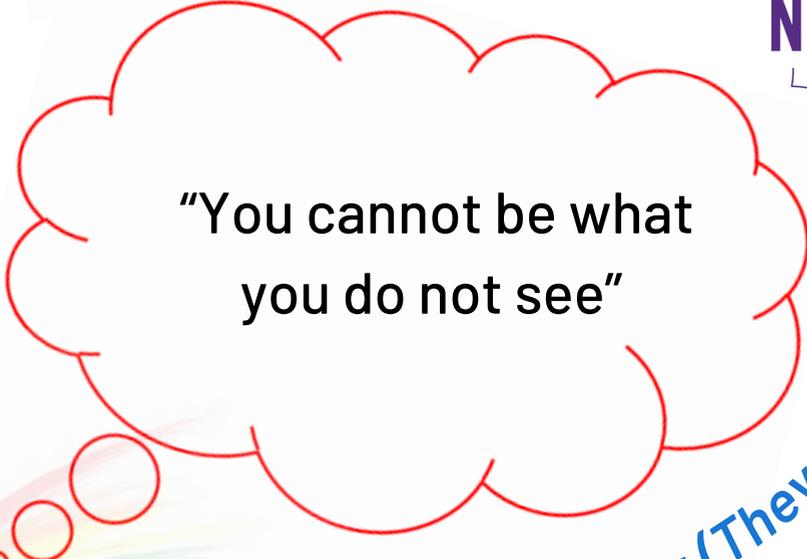


"I'm always surprised by the number of people from Sudan who are learning more about transness and queerness, or the number of people who have expressed that my music has helped them in some way. That's why I always try to be intentional about the narrative of my project."

*Dua Saleh (They/Them)*

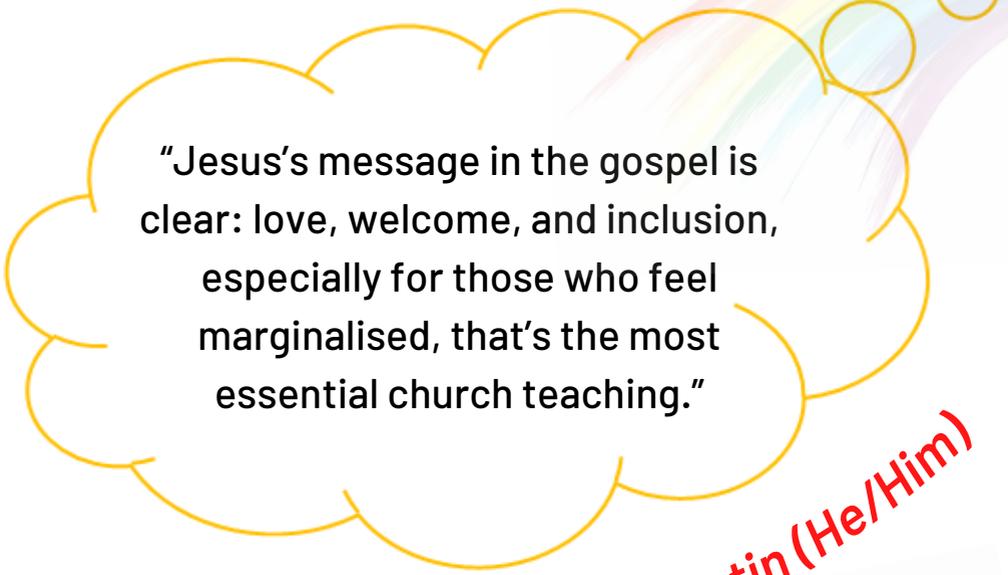


**LOVE HAS  
NO GENDER**



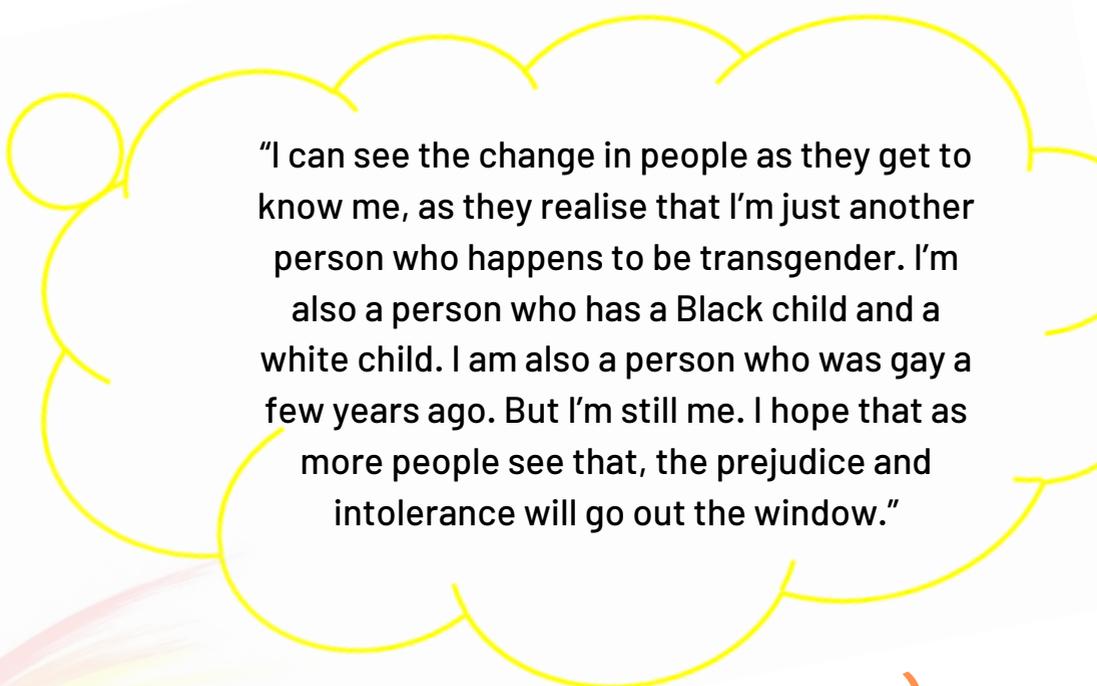
"You cannot be what you do not see"

*Dr Ronx Ikharia (They/Them)*



“Jesus’s message in the gospel is clear: love, welcome, and inclusion, especially for those who feel marginalised, that’s the most essential church teaching.”

*Father James Martin (He/Him)*



“I can see the change in people as they get to know me, as they realise that I’m just another person who happens to be transgender. I’m also a person who has a Black child and a white child. I am also a person who was gay a few years ago. But I’m still me. I hope that as more people see that, the prejudice and intolerance will go out the window.”

*Theo Robinson (He/Him)*

"I meet a lot of LGBT people who say they didn't think they would be welcome in a church. Sometimes people are quite tearful, I mean, they actually say, 'Oh, I always thought about going to church, but I really thought I would not be welcome.'

"And so it is actually very nice to be able to say, look, there are different sorts of churches with different sorts of views on all sorts of things. But there are a lot more inclusive churches than you might think."

*Reverend Canon Sarah Jones (She/Her)*

*Theo Robinson (He/Him)*

"Being trans makes sense to me, and I am relieved that my body now feels the way it should have my whole life. I soon realised I could be a voice for trans people in the church. When I was ordained in January 2020, I felt proud to become the first openly trans Anglican priest"

# LGBTQ+

## Faith Organisations



### 1 The Faith & Belief Forum

We work towards a connected and supportive society where people of different faiths, beliefs and cultures have strong, productive and lasting relations.

[faithbeliefforum.org](http://faithbeliefforum.org)



### 2 House of Rainbow

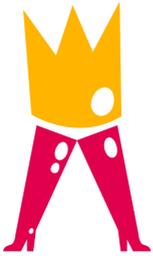
House of Rainbow fosters relationships among Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer individuals, people of faith and allies in order to create a safer and a more inclusive community.  
[www.houseofrainbow.org/](http://www.houseofrainbow.org/)



### 3 British Asian LGBTI

Supporting the British Asian LGBTI community. This online forum aims to help unite this community and reduce isolation and discrimination faced and defend global LGBTI rights.

[britishasianlgbti.org/](http://britishasianlgbti.org/)



### 4 Hidayah

A nationwide organisation for LGBTQI+ Muslims. We run social and support groups in Manchester, London, Newcastle, Glasgow and Leeds.

[www.hidayahlgbt.com/](http://www.hidayahlgbt.com/)



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## Imaan

As a charity it is our aim to support LGBTQI Muslims who want to find their place in the Ummah (wider Muslim community) and we extend a welcome to all parties who wish to resolve the LGBTQI-Muslim divide.



[imaanlondon.wordpress.com](http://imaanlondon.wordpress.com)

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## Inclusive Mosque Initiative

The Inclusive Mosque Initiative is dedicated to creating safe and inclusive places of worship and spiritual practice, to the promotion of inclusive Islamic principles, and to centring and uplifting the voices and experiences of marginalised people within our communities.

[inclusivemosque.org](http://inclusivemosque.org)



# 7

## LGBT Catholics Westminster

The Younger Adults Group is an opportunity for younger LGBT Catholics & their friends to socialise in a relaxed atmosphere beyond church services, with shared meals, games, activities, discussions, films and other events, usually the last Saturday of every month.



[www.sites.google.com/site/lgbtcw/home/young-adults](http://www.sites.google.com/site/lgbtcw/home/young-adults)

# 8

## OpenTable Network

The network has been created by, and for, LGBTQIA+ people. We meet (online at the moment, but usually in person) in inclusive churches, where we find God and each other, and have the time and peace to grow together.



[opentable.lgbt](http://opentable.lgbt)



## Quest

Quest exists to provide pastoral support to LGBT+ Catholics. Throughout the year we have opportunities for worship, spiritual retreats and supportive fellowship through our regional groups.

[www.questlgbti.uk](http://www.questlgbti.uk)



## Oasis Open House

Open House is a safe place where one can share their story without any hint of judgement, where one can reconcile their faith to their sexuality and gender identity, where one can just listen to other stories and ask questions, a place where the doors are flung open to show the inclusivity of God in all her/his diversity.

[www.oasiswaterloo.org/open-house](http://www.oasiswaterloo.org/open-house)



# 11

## Sarbat

Sarbat is a volunteer led group addressing LGBT issues from a Sikh perspective. We empower our members to encourage discussions, tackle homophobia, biphobia & transphobia and build bridges within and beyond their communities.

[www.sarbat.net/](http://www.sarbat.net/)



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## Rainbow Jews

Rainbow Jews is a pioneering oral history project showcasing the lives of Jewish Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people in the UK from the 1950s to today. It was launched in October 2012.

[www.rainbowjews.com/](http://www.rainbowjews.com/)



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## KESHET UK

KeshetUK aspires to work with all UK Jewish communities.

We work with Jewish schools, youth and young adult organisations, synagogues, and wider community organisations to become more inclusive of LGBT+ people through education and training.

[www.keshetuk.org](http://www.keshetuk.org)



For all other LGBTQ+ Support Organisations, scan the QR code or visit the website below.

[www.chelwest.nhs.uk/about-us/organisation/our-way-of-working/equality-diversity/lgbt-support-organisations](http://www.chelwest.nhs.uk/about-us/organisation/our-way-of-working/equality-diversity/lgbt-support-organisations)

# INCLUSIVE



## Places of Worship

Metropolitan  
Community  
Church of  
North London  
WC1N 3XX

The  
Endlesham Road  
Church  
Balham  
SW12 8JL

St. George  
The Martyr  
London  
SE11JA

St John's Vicarage  
Waterloo  
SE18UF

**Your life matters**

**You are love**

**You are light**

**LOVE IS LOVE**

