

Bishops, Wives and Children

Spiritual Capital Across the Generations

Douglas J. Davies, Durham University, UK and
Mathew Guest, Durham University, UK

'There is much to be learned here from the frankness with which hitherto unacknowledged problems are exposed. It is clear that this is a book that might profitably be read by all married bishops, and by other clergy, too, as a basis for self-examination... It deserves to be read, not least by those who see scope in themselves for becoming better clerical parents, as well as by those responsible for providing the contexts in which such parents live and work.'

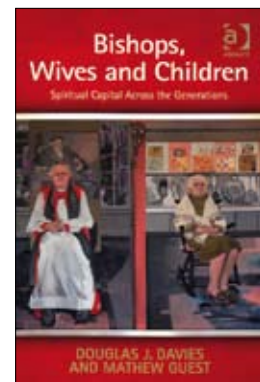
–Church Times

Christianity as a cultural force, whether rising or falling, has seldom been analysed through the actual processes by which tradition is transmitted, modified, embraced or rejected. This book achieves that end through a study of bishops of the Church of England, their wives and their children, to show how values fostered in the vicarage and palace shape family, work and civic life in a supposedly secular age.

Davies and Guest integrate, for the first time, sociological concepts of spiritual capital with anthropological ideas of gift-theory and, alongside theological themes, use these to illuminate how the religious professional functions in mediating tradition and fostering change.

Bishops, Wives and Children marks an important advance in the analysis of the spirituality of Catholic, Evangelical and Liberal leaders and their social significance within a distinctive Christian tradition and all it represents in wider British society.

May 2007	228 pages		
Hardback	978-0-7546-5485-8	£50.00	£37.50



Congregational Studies in the UK

Christianity in a Post-Christian Context

Edited by Mathew Guest, Durham University, UK and
Karin Tusting and Linda Woodhead, Lancaster University, UK

Explorations in Practical, Pastoral and Empirical Theology

'This book is a lively demonstration of the utility of studying congregations - not just in the presumably-religious U.S., but also in the presumably-secular U.K. From sociology and anthropology and organizational studies and theology come insightful accounts of the cultures and impact of local religious communities. This book is a major advance in congregational studies that will be eagerly read on both sides of the Atlantic.'

–Nancy T. Ammerman, Professor of Sociology of Religion, Boston University

This book presents the first comprehensive introduction to congregational studies in the UK. Through a series of innovative essays, it explores the difference that the increasingly post-Christian nature of British society is making to life in Christian congregations, and compares this to the very different scenario which exists in the USA. Contributions from leading scholars in the field include both rich case studies of local communities and theoretical analyses which reflect on issues of method and develop broader understandings. Congregational studies is revealed as a rich and growing field of interest both for scholars across the disciplines and for all those involved in congregational life.

Contents: Introduction; Part 1 The Emerging Field: Congregational studies: taking stock, *Linda Woodhead, Mathew Guest and Karin Tusting*; The rise of congregational studies in the USA, *Arthur Farnsley*; 'Conference people': congregational studies in a globalizing world, *Simon Coleman*. Part 2 Congregations in the UK: The effects of evangelical renewal on congregational identities: a Welsh case study, *Paul Chambers*; 'Friendship, fellowship and acceptance': the public discourse of a thriving evangelical congregation, *Mathew Guest*; Display and division: congregational conflict among Roman Catholics, *Peter McGrail*; Congregations, narratives and identity: a Quaker case study, *Peter Collins*; Congregational cultures and the boundaries of identity, *Timothy Jenkins*. Part 3 Theoretical And Methodological Issues: The messiness of studying congregations using ethnographic methods, *Frances Ward*; Are congregations associations? The contribution of organizational studies to congregational studies?, *Helen Cameron*; Priests, parish and people: reconceiving a relationship, *Douglas Davies*; Denominational cultures: the Cinderella of congregational studies?, *Philip Richter*; The significance of gender for congregational studies, *Kristin Aune*; Putting congregational studies to work: ethnography, consultancy and change, *Martin Stringer*. Index.

August 2004	248 pages		
Hardback	978-0-7546-3288-7	£55.00	£41.25
Paperback	978-0-7546-3289-4	£16.99	£12.74

