

**Candidates for Election by the Deans of the Province of Canterbury:**

The Very Revd Amanda Kirstine Ford, Dean of Bristol	Page 2
The Very Revd Joseph Patricius Hawes, Dean of St Edmundsbury	Page 4
The Very Revd David John Ison, Dean of St Paul's	Page 5
The Very Revd Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark	Page 6



## The Very Rev'd Dr Mandy Ford Election Statement

I have been Dean of Bristol since October 2020 and previously held roles in Southwark and Leicester dioceses. Apart from parish work, primarily in parishes of multiple deprivation, the focus of my ministry has been on clergy leadership and development, which includes a year as Transition Leader for the National Ministry Team (Ministry Division). I have been Chair of the FAC (Leicester) and was a member of Chapter (Southwark) before becoming Dean of Bristol.

Although I have not been a member of the College of Deans for very long, I have previously been a member of General Synod and, because of my time at Church House, I have a good understanding of the National Church Institutions and structures. I very much enjoyed my time on Synod, contributed to a number of debates, and was active in networking.

As a member of Synod in the past, I have spoken particularly about the need for the Church of England to be a church for all and to recognise the barriers to participation in church life because of deprivation, discrimination or exclusion. This includes those living in poverty, people of UKME heritage, people with disabilities and the LGBTI community. Cathedrals have a particular role, as places with very porous boundaries, in creating safe space and an inclusive welcome. We have demonstrated that this porosity enables mission and growth. I would want to ensure that the wider church understands the contribution of cathedrals to mission in its broadest sense.

For four years I was a member of the team of national facilitators for the Shared Conversations in Human Sexuality. This included facilitating discussion for the College of Bishops and a number of regional conversations. As someone in a civil partnership since 2012, I take an inclusive stance on LGBTI+ issues, but I have a well-informed understanding of opposing perspectives. My post-graduate studies were in Biblical interpretation and I think that I am well equipped to engage in robust debate. I am publically open about my personal circumstances and concerned, particularly for younger clergy, ordinands, and all those who feel that their sexuality is a barrier to vocation and ministry in the Church of England.

I am currently a member of the Bishop of Bristol's Racial Justice Task Group. My focus at the present time is on addressing the legacy of slavery issue which has led to a number of creative relationships with people of UKME heritage both in the city of Bristol and beyond. I hope that I am seen as an ally and someone who is willing to learn and to be an advocate where appropriate.

Finally, I think that as Deans we have a particular freedom and responsibility to speak up for the welfare of the clergy. This will be a focus of activity in Synod in the next

Quinquenium and there is a danger, especially in times of significant anxiety in the church post Covid, that the debate becomes simplistically polarised between resource/planting churches and parish ministry. I hope that we can find a way towards recognising the need for all clergy to be properly trained, supported and resourced. This includes taking a hard look at the failure of the current CDM system and the continuing challenges of managing Safeguarding accusations in ways that do not continue to traumatise all involved.

Thank you for your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mandy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'M' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'y'. Below the signature, there is a faint, light-colored rectangular stamp or watermark.



**The Very Rev'd Joe Hawes**  
**Dean of St Edmundsbury**

### **Election Address**

Three years into my time at St Edmundsbury, I reflect on the furore surrounding my appointment as a Dean, openly gay and in a Civil Partnership; how, in the past three years, the initial comments of a senior politician, negative and offensive, in fact led to a journey of conversation and encounter, with the result that he remained a member of the cathedral, asked me to conduct his wife's funeral and, to my immense surprise, given his politics and remarks, is now one a member of the cathedral community to whom I feel genuinely close. There has to be some activity of The Holy Spirit at work here, and although I would be a General Synod novice, have much to learn and do not bring the weight of experience of some of my colleagues, I hope to bring a perspective to the 'big ticket' issue of Living in Love and Faith which is founded on the imperative to do everything we can to remain at the same table, in the midst of our disagreements, while holding fast to the imperative of ensuring that the Spirit-led journey towards true inclusivity, still denied to LGBTI sisters and brothers, becomes more of a reality as a result of this Synod. I fear that we will not see true leadership from the House of Bishops, so hope that the Deans you send to Synod can be part of a prophetic and inclusive voice.

And yes, of course, this will not be the only issue which claims our attention in the life of the forthcoming Synod. We all have experience through our own dioceses of the outworking of the Reform and Renewal agenda, may well share concerns about the future of the parish system and hope that the experience of cathedrals can be part of the mapping of a hopeful future when the time comes for serious review and analysis.

I have appreciated the opportunity offered by my bishop to participate in the realignment process undertaken in the national church as a result of lessons learned from Covid. This too will be a major issue to be addressed by the new Synod and it will be good to have the voice of Deans in the debates.

Major issues face the new Synod and I hope that a new voice may not be altogether a bad thing!

Proposed by The Very Rev'd Jane Hedges, Dean of Norwich.

Seconded by The Very Rev'd Nicholas Papadopoulos, Dean of Salisbury.

General Synod Election Address

David Ison

Southern Deans

GS 054



Dear Colleagues,

As you know I'm asking for re-election to General Synod just for one year so I can complete my five-year term on the CNC. There are five more appointments to make before next July, the largest number ever apparently. And then after a year I will gracefully disappear into obscurity!

I guess by now you will know what I stand for: compassion, humanity, inclusion of everyone with love and justice; looking out for those with less power; good process which helps people to thrive; clarity of thinking and purpose; and above all the desire for God in love and prayer without which everything else is empty.

I need enough first preferences to be elected, so please don't just leave it to others, and use your preferences wisely: it has been a privilege to serve in your name and to stand up for cathedrals in Synod, including being part of shaping the new Measure for the next stage of our corporate lives.

May the Lord be with and bless you in all that lies ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'D' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

## **General Synod Elections 2021**

### **Andrew Nunn**

Dean of Southwark

#### **Who I am**

- Born 30 July 1957 in Leicester
- Graduated in Public Administration and then Theology
- Trained for the priesthood at the College of the Resurrection, Mirfield
- Ordained Deacon in 1983 and priest in 1984 in the Diocese of Ripon
- Curate and then incumbent in outer suburb and inner city parishes in East Leeds
- Chaplain to the Bishop of Southwark from 1995
- Sub Dean and Precentor of Southwark from 1999
- Acting Dean of Southwark from 2010 and Dean from 2012

#### **My Synod experience**

- Elected as a Proctor from the Diocese of Southwark 2005–2010 and 2010-2015
- Elected as a Proctor from the Southern Deans 2015-2021
- Chaplain to the Synod 2011-2012 and member of the Liturgical Commission
- Elected as a Central Member of the Crown Nominations Commission in 2013-2018
- Member of the Confessional Working Party 2015
- Member of the Executive of Affirming Catholics in Synod from 2010
- Member of the 'Trinity House Group' (informal group for the ordination of women to the episcopate) from 2010
- Member of the Panel of Chairs 2016-2021
- Chair of the Revision Committee and member of the Steering Committee for the Cathedrals Measure

#### **Other roles and responsibilities I have had include**

- Chair of the Precentors' Conference until 2010
- Foundation Governor of a Voluntary Aided Secondary School until 2018
- Trustee and Chair of various local charities
- Rector General (International) of the Society of Catholic Priests
- Founding Chaplain General of the Company of Servers
- Bishops' Advisor for Ministry Division until 2021

#### **So why am I standing to represent the Deans in the General Synod?**

- Experience of Cathedrals since 1999 and as a Dean from 2012
- Continuing interest and involvement in liturgy
- Passionate about justice for LGBTI people within the life of the Church of England
- Committed to the work of the General Synod as one of the Panel of Chairs
- Committed to the senior leadership development work for Deans

## **Why should you give me your support?**

Since being elected to General Synod I've given it a very high priority in the diary. I've not had to miss a Group of Sessions since I was elected to the Synod and make sure that I'm in the chamber for the majority of the debates. I've developed a practice of communicating the business and reflecting on it through Twitter @deansouthwark and a blog [www.anunnatsynod.wordpress.com](http://www.anunnatsynod.wordpress.com) and these have a good following. I have thoroughly enjoyed being a member of the Panel of Chairs and hope that I have fulfilled that role, when we have been online as well as I hope I have done it when we have been together in the chamber.

I am encouraged and energised by getting to know people in Synod from across the dioceses and particularly across all traditions. This both displays, and continues to shape, my commitment to what I believe are central to the life of the Church of England, namely true inclusivity, a commitment to the tradition that we've received, a desire for excellence and, through an intelligent proclamation of the gospel, a commitment to growth. I can't say that I'm the most active contributor to debates in the chamber, but my voting record, I hope, speaks clearly of my priorities.

I hope to be able to help the new Synod to begin working well as we return, God willing, to in-person Groups of Sessions. It is important that Synod is renewed with new blood and fresh ideas but that, in addition, there are some of us who know our way around. I would hope that I can play my part in helping Synod settle down after all that we have gone through.

As far as the work we have to do I think that the principle task is looking to the future and rebuilding the church but doing so with a commitment to historic structures. Just as I believe in cathedrals I also believe in the parish system. I am first and foremost Rector of St Saviour's with All Hallows, Southwark and having been instituted to that was then installed as Dean. We are committed to the parish and its structures. I believe that the most serious challenge at the moment is the morale of the clergy who feel abused by the hierarchy, unsupported and undervalued. We are in danger of losing the good will of the very people who make the church the church day in day out. Synod has to wake up and halt the bulldozers.

At the same time, just as we have confidence to do 'fresh' things each day in our cathedrals and to create new ecclesial communities all the time, parishes have to have the confidence to do the same. 'Behold I make all things new' (Revelation 21.5).

Andrew