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General Synod Universities and TEIs

Electoral Address

The Revd Dr Sarah Brush



I previously served on General Synod as a clergy representative for the Diocese of Worcester, stepping down in the middle of the last quinquennium when I moved to my current role at Ripon College Cuddesdon. I delivered my maiden speech in Synod supporting a motion to commend the use of the Service for Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows for those transitioning gender.

I consider myself in a good position to represent the Universities and Theological Education Institutions as, in addition to my current role in theological education, I have served as a temporary lecturer in one university, been part of an ecumenical chaplaincy team in another and also held the responsibility for supporting those in educational chaplaincy across an entire diocese. As well as serving on the TEI forum since 2019, this year I was elected as Vice-Chair of the British and Irish Association of Practical Theology and have also joined the committee for the Theological Educators' Network which connects me to many people in academia. My previous experience of the National Church includes supporting the Church of England Youth Council as their chaplain and serving on the National Board of Education from 2011-2014.

This next Synod will have many important issues to discuss including the Living in Love and Faith consultation. My participation in the General Synod's Shared Conversations and in exploring this course with our ordinands equips me well to engage in the outworking of these discussions. I am happy to state that I am committed to equality for everyone, at all levels and roles within the church, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity, socio-economic status, mental health or sexuality. Indeed, I believe the Church of England needs urgently to demonstrate the Love of God for all people, including those from the LGBTQIA+ community in order to fulfil its Vision for the 2020s to be "younger and more diverse" and "a church of missionary disciples." As the Tutor at Cuddesdon responsible for co-ordinating placements and much of the teaching on Ministry and Mission, I am very aware of the existing "mixed ecology" within the church which this vision also mentions. I am keen that the vision to be Simpler, Humbler and Bolder should be supported by wisdom from the academy and the richness of our Church Tradition. My own research interests are currently focussed on Faith Development but also include Medieval Church History, Worship, Pilgrimage, Young People, Confirmation, and the role of Film, Art and Creativity in Theology.

From my role within BIAPT I am aware that the position of Religious Studies and Theology within the academy is under considerable threat. This has been evidenced by the recent cases of Roehampton and Chester and I would hope to raise this issue with synod, calling on the church to support the place of theology within the church and Higher Education.

On a personal note, I am keen to support the much-needed reform of the Canon C4 process highlighted by the case of one of our former ordinands in the Church Times earlier this year but which I also experienced in my own discernment. I signed the Private Members' Motion seeking to bring this to the Synod in 2015 but sadly this motion never achieved the requisite number of signatures. I would push for this to be discussed and would also welcome electors contacting me with topics they wish to be raised in Synod.

The Rev'd Dr Ellen Clark-King

Dean of King's College London

ellen.clark-king@kcl.ac.uk



I am standing for Synod in the Church of England out of a passion for change. Change not just in certain policies and legislation but more fundamental change in systems of leadership and in decision making. I believe leadership rooted in relationship with God, self-awareness, vulnerability and courage is what we need more of today.

At the moment I see a deeply divided church making choices often out of fear, and often out of a theological void. I work in a university whose students, and most of its staff, despite its Anglican foundation, see the Church of England as irrelevant to their lives and more often a national embarrassment than a national treasure. This will not change while we dither over issues of sexual and gender justice, neglect to address deep-seated issues of racism, and fail to give a lead in the urgent business of addressing catastrophic climate change.

In the specific university and TEI world that we live in there are a number of issues I want to focus on. We must make From Lament to Action more than just another overlooked report by implementing its proposals, especially those which affect our area of education. In order for the education we offer to be as rich as possible we need to encourage a reconnection between the broad University sector and Church of England HE. We need to ensure the important pattern of a mixed economy of theological education continues, with the value of residential community being recognised alongside that of locally embedded learning. Overarching all this is the need to ensure Synod recognises the crucial importance of investing resources in the education sector in order for us to ensure a viable and vital future for the church.

A little more of my experience. I was ordained in Hereford as deacon in 1992 and priest in 1994, going to be Chaplain and Fellow of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge after a rural curacy. I then spent time doing my doctorate at Lancaster while acting as a Pastoral Tutor at Cranmer Hall, working in spirituality at St Antony's Priory and being an assistant priest in North Shields. The last 16 years of my ministry have given me experience teaching in Vancouver School of Theology and Virginia Theological Seminary while primarily working as Cathedral Vicar in Vancouver and Vice Dean and Canon for Social Justice at Grace Cathedral, San Francisco. I was elected to the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada and to General Convention in the US. I started as Dean of King's College London in December 2020 and my current research interest is in spirituality and leadership. I am married to Jeremy, the IME2 Lead in Southwark Diocese.

I intend to give my time and energy to being part of the change that we need to see. I hope to bring a Practical Theological approach to the issues that challenge us. I would love to be part of building a Church of England better suited to the challenge of bringing God's passionate love, radical justice and gentle wisdom to bear on the needs of the 21st century.

The Revd Dr Helen Dawes

Principal of Westcott House, Cambridge

Nominated by: The Revd Nicola Shephard, Aston University

The Revd Ally Barrett, St Catherine's College, University of Cambridge



It's very good to have this opportunity to introduce myself and to ask you to consider giving me your first choice vote for General Synod. I've been Principal of Westcott House, Cambridge since February 2021. Before that I was Team Rector of Shaftesbury in North Dorset and Dean of Women's Ministry for the Diocese of Salisbury. Whilst in Salisbury Diocese I was elected to general Synod in a by-election in 2019, stepping down when I moved to Cambridge this year. I've been ordained since 2002 and have served in parish ministry in the Dioceses of Ely, St Albans and Salisbury. I also spent six years working at Lambeth Palace, first as the

Archbishop of Canterbury's Deputy Secretary for Public Affairs and then as the Archbishop's Social and Public Affairs Advisor.

It won't surprise you that I have a deep interest in formation for ministry and that I am particularly keen to serve on General Synod as Ministry Team's work on Resourcing Ministerial Formation edges closer to the synodical agenda. I believe that solutions to the challenges we face in securing effective training for ministry across the Church need to operate from a point of discernment, recognising that different candidates will flourish in different communities and by following different training pathways. I want us to increase the accessibility of training for ministry to whoever God calls, regardless of their background. I am a strong proponent of the value of residential training as part of that picture, not least because residential training colleges enable access to training for some of the least financially secure candidates for ministry by providing access to housing during formation. As one of your representatives on Synod I would want to ensure that proposals for changes to the funding or structure of theological education recognised and supported existing collaboration across the sector and gave TEIs the financial stability to develop partnerships creatively for the benefit of God's church.

I am convinced of the need for a theologically literate Synod and a theologically literate church. Archaic stereotypes of detached dreamers in ivory towers are easy to throw at theologians, and there is a two-fold practical challenge for us as a result. One the one hand, to tell the story of how the work we do is part of the work of the church, and on the other to show in practice how theological perspectives enrich our common life. My view is that theology is a constitutive part of the church's conversation with God, and that we cannot discern our calling as a church without it, any more than we could discern that calling without prayer. My own theological work is in Christian ethics and public theology, with a focus on moral anthropology and political economy. My doctoral work considered the implicit moral anthropology of deregulation in household energy markets and the situated nature of the person in time. I am a regular participant in the SST and SSCE annual conferences and have been Treasurer of the SSCE since 2017. Before I was ordained I studied Natural Sciences and worked in strategic and regulatory business consulting.

I would bring a wide range of skills to Synod if elected. I have substantial experience in connecting issues of policy, practice, and values in organisations. I am highly numerate, good

with detail, and able to draw out the implications of a policy paper or legislative draft for work on the ground. Much of this experience has been brought to bear in work in school governance, particularly as Vice Chair of a Multi-Academy Trust in my last parish post, where I oversaw strategy and stakeholder engagement through a merger with a larger trust. It has also been a feature of my engagement to date with the RMF process, particularly in trying to ground discussion of policy proposals with the likely realities of their impact on operations. I would bring this experience to Synod, where I would work creatively with others across the range of Synod's business, but not least to ensure that governance and financing structures for ministerial training were effective and robust in resourcing the church.

As Dean of Women's Ministry in the Diocese of Salisbury I advised the Bishop on issues relating to ordained ministry by women and acted as a 'shop steward' for female clergy if things went wrong. In that role I was part of the National Association of Deans and Advisers for Women's Ministry (NADAWM) and served one two national committees – the Transformations Steering Group and the Transformations Research and Implementation Group. Through these groups I worked with colleagues from across the church and from the National Church Institutions on practical issues including family friendly policies, harassment and bullying, and enabling younger women to respond to God's call. Inclusion is a running thread through many areas of concern. I have a wider interest in how Synod engages with social, political and educational issues. Good education changes lives and I am particularly concerned with how our church schools enable children whose families face financial or other problems to become the people God calls them to be.

During my time at Lambeth Palace I advised the Archbishop on a wide range of policy areas. I spent four years working with Archbishop Rowan and two years working with Archbishop Justin. The issues in my portfolio included economic life, education, justice, prisons, health and social care, the environment and medical ethics. When these subjects came to General Synod I was responsible for briefing the Archbishop in advance of debates and supporting him as they took place. I know from that experience that, whilst it's not everybody's cup of tea, I enjoy General Synod meetings. The debates and formal questions shape key parts of the life of the Church. When Synod gets things right its decisions make it easier for local churches to positively shape the lives of their communities. Synod also has an important role in holding Church of England institutions to account. I don't hold back from asking questions that might have uncomfortable answers and I am constructive in finding ways forward.

General Synod continues to address subjects that are difficult, divisive or both. As one of your representatives on General Synod I would make a concerted effort to listen carefully to people with a wide range of views, not just those with whom I instinctively agree. I am rooted in the liberal and sacramental parts of the church's life, and I am also grateful that those parts belong to a diverse body. I rejoice in the opportunity I have now to work in a diverse and intentionally inclusive community at Westcott House and, if elected, would work on Synod in the same way as I do here – for a church that was faithful to God, attentive to the Spirit, and inclusive of all God's people.

Thank you for reading this far. If there is anything you would like to ask me, you are welcome to call me on 01223 272964 or to email me at principal@westcott.cam.ac.uk. You will also find me on twitter: @revhelend

With every good wish,

Helen



Revd Dr Sean Doherty

Principal, Trinity College Bristol

Proposer: Revd Dr Philip Plyming, Cranmer Hall

Seconder: Revd Dr Hannah Steele, St Mellitus College

Synodical and national church experience.

- Member of General Synod 2015-19; elected to Mission & Public Affairs Council.
- Member of the Theology and Ethics Working Group for the Living and Love and Faith project.
- TEI representative on the Quality in Formation Panel 2020-present.

Experience. Before ordination I worked for Barclays Bank and USPG. My doctorate was on economic ethics. Before coming to Trinity I was Tutor in Ethics and Director of Studies at St Mellitus College so I have experience of training lay people and ordinands in residential, context-based and part-time modes.

RMF. I welcome many of the aims of the RMF proposals, especially:

- Significantly increasing the diversity of those in theological training and widening access to it;
- Strengthening the partnerships between dioceses, TEIs, and the national Church;
- Improving collaboration between TEIs;
- Ensuring that funding is fair and adequate and that TEIs can plan financially.

However, I have reservations about the following aspects of the proposals:

- the potential creation of additional layers of operation and governance (the network and hubs);
- the danger of overly regionalising training, thereby reducing diversity and options for students;
- entrenching a divide between regional and national, and residential and context-based training.

My experience of working in two different TEIs and my membership of the Quality in Formation Panel mean I am well placed to work across the TEI sector to represent its concerns and expertise to Synod.

Safeguarding. I believe the Church needs to place the voices and needs of survivors at the centre of our safeguarding processes, and that Synod needs to be more robust in holding the Church to account.

Equality, diversity and inclusion. At Trinity I have proactively pursued greater diversity amongst those involved in delivering training and further developed our teaching on diversity. We are currently phasing in unconscious bias training for students in addition to that received by staff. I have a track record of nurturing vocations amongst people from underrepresented backgrounds, and I believe that the Church needs to implement the recommendations of *From Lament to Action* in their entirety.

Public affairs. My theological expertise is primarily in economic and political ethics, and I have published on medical, sexual and economic ethics. I was able to draw on this background in serving on the Mission and Public Affairs Council during my previous time on Synod and would seek to do so again.

Sexuality. I have been involved in dialogue informally about sexuality for many years and more recently formally via the Shared Conversations and the LLF project. I have the unusual background of being primarily same-sex attracted but committed to the current teaching of the Church of England. I believe it is important for voices like mine to be represented in our deliberations, and I hope that my involvement in the LLF process so far demonstrates my commitment to the dialogue and collaboration across perspectives which I believe is vital to finding the right way forward in this area.

Please get in touch if you'd like any more information: sean.doherty@trinitycollegebristol.ac.uk.

Candidate for General Synod—Universities and TEIs

Revd Dr David Emerton

I am standing for election to General Synod because I believe that theological wisdom is necessary for the health and vitality of the Church of England, and that the theological and priestly voice that God is graciously forming within me can serve the Church as it continues to seek such wisdom for its future life.



Who am I?

- I am married to Naomi, a solicitor, and we have two young daughters, Lois and Sophie-Joan.
- Originally from Chester, I studied history at Edinburgh University before undertaking Graduate and Postgraduate Diplomas in Law at Nottingham Law School and the Oxford Institute of Legal Practice, respectively. I qualified and worked as a commercial real estate solicitor for Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP, before training for ordination at St Mellitus College and serving my title post in the Kensington Area of London Diocese.
- Whilst training for ordination, I undertook a BA in Contextual Theology at St Mellitus College and an MA in Systematic Theology at King's College London. My doctoral studies in systematic theology were supervised by Professor Tom Greggs at Aberdeen University and my thesis focussed on the ecclesiology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer.
- Having been a Teaching Fellow in Systematic & Historical Theology (and honorary Anglican chaplain) at Aberdeen University, I was appointed Principal of the School of Discipleship in the Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham, where I oversaw the launch and initial flourishing of the School of Discipleship and its innovative programmes for developing lay discipleship and licensed lay ministry.
- In 2019 I was appointed to my current role as Director of St Mellitus College, East Midlands where I have oversight of a growing community of men and women engaged in various programmes of ministerial training and theological study (full-time context-based ordination training, part-time ordination training, full-time and part-time undergraduate study, and part-time postgraduate study).
- I am a die-hard Liverpool FC fan, have a penchant for crime novels, and enjoy fighting a losing battle to keep fit. I am also a Foundation Governor of Bleasby Church of England Primary School, Nottinghamshire.

What might I offer General Synod?

- As a priest-theologian, I am passionate that church and theology should always be married together, and carry **a strong commitment to developing theological astute and missionally minded disciples of Christ, whether lay or ordained.**
- My academic research focusses primarily on how the way we are to live as the church is determined by what the church is. My current book-writing project—under contract with Baker Academic and titled *Types of Ecclesiology*—hopes to act as a clarion call to both theologians and church practitioners alike to consider afresh what the church is so the reality of how the church is and what the church does might be evermore faithful to

the church's own being. I would therefore bring to Synod a **constructive theological mind which is committed to giving itself to thinking prayerfully through fundamental ecclesiological questions.**

- My expression of Christian faith characteristically echoes a **generous orthodoxy** and is rooted in a **deep commitment to the transforming power of Christ in both Word and Sacrament, and an expectation of the presence of the Holy Spirit.** From my previous roles in the Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham and Scottish Episcopal Church, and in the context of my current role, I have **proven experience of working and ministering sympathetically across the different liturgical traditions of Anglicanism and seeking the unity of the church.**
- The priestcraft and leadership I seek to offer and develop in myself and others is shaped by the Lord's words to Paul that 'my power is made perfect in weakness', and Paul's awareness that he himself is not 'competent' for ministry but that his 'competence comes from God'. Any competence I have as a priest-theologian and leader of God's people is God's gracious gift. My life as a disciple of Christ is, I think, one ongoing experimental embodiment of what it might mean to live in a way whereby the power of Christ is made perfect in my weakness. I would bring to Synod a **deep commitment to leading out of vulnerability.**
- With a background in elite legal work, experience of parish and diocesan-level ministry, and the responsibilities of my current role, **my capacity and emotional intelligence is high and I have strong inter-personal and pastoral skills.** My priestcraft and leadership is well-balanced and marked by a **significant entrepreneurial and strategic gifting to think big picture and fine detail together.**

Getting in touch

Thank you for taking the time to read this election address. I would be very grateful of your support in the election and would ask that you consider giving me your first preference vote. Should you wish to get in touch to ask me any questions then please do just email me at david.emerton@stmellitus.ac.uk.

General Synod Election Address from Alex Jensen, Principal, Eastern Region Ministry Course



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I hope that you will vote for me to represent the universities and TEIs on General Synod. Let me tell you a little about myself and my views on those issues which are likely to be discussed over the life of the next synod.

As a native of Germany, I studied theology at the universities of Tübingen and Durham (St John's College) and trained for ordination at St Stephen's House, Oxford. I was ordained deacon in 1999 and served my curacy in Stockton-on-Tees. I became Lecturer in Divinity at the Church of Ireland Theological College with Trinity College, Dublin in 2002. From there I moved to Western Australia in 2005 to take up the position of Lecturer (from 2008 Senior Lecturer) in Systematic Theology at Murdoch University with Perth Theological Hall in Perth, Western Australia. From 2006 to 2012 I served as Principal of the Theological Hall. I was appointed principal at ERMC in 2016. My other responsibilities include serving as trustee of Westcott House and director of the Cambridge Theological Federation. Having a foot in both camps, residential colleges and non-residential courses, enables me to speak about the situation of both parts of the TEI sector with first-hand experience.

I am standing for election because I am care deeply about issues which are likely to be discussed over the next five years. Being part of the RMF review group has given me the opportunity to look behind the scenes and to understand some of the politics. As a result of this work I see the importance of proper synodical oversight and transparent decision-making processes. If elected I would consult and discuss with colleagues in universities and TEIs and more widely to make sure that I speak and act as your representative. I would make use of my right to ask two questions at question time in order to scrutinise the actions of church bodies and individuals.

As far as I can see the RMF review, the importance of the parish, Living in Love and Faith and the Clergy Discipline Measure will be significant issues being discussed by General Synod. Here are my thoughts on them:

With regard to the RMF review, the current market driven model of funding ministerial formation has been a disaster. It pitches colleges and courses into competition with each other when we should be collaborating for the good of the whole Church. The funding mechanisms also leave the sector woefully underfunded and in a constantly precarious state. Certainly, there will be no magic money tree and we may have to fight to prevent funding for the sector to be cut. I do not believe that things can stay the same as they are. But forced consolidation of the sector would be counterproductive. Instead, collaboration and partnerships between TEIs need to be incentivised. The funding for colleges and courses should not be by student fees but by bulk grants with top-ups on the basis of student numbers.

The importance of the parish has been put into question by recent high-profile statements by senior clergy. This is very alarming. I believe strongly that for the Church of England the parish must be the central expression of ministry and mission—it is, after all, the Church for all people in England, not just for the faithful few. On General Synod I would work to ensure that this principle is adequately safeguarded and that parishes are adequately resourced to fulfil their mission. Certainly, we must set up new churches, pioneering activities and fresh expressions of church but this should, in my opinion, grow out of a local parish and, wherever possible, be

located within parish system. I would also not be willing to allow any distinction to be made within the Body of Christ between ‘missionary disciples’ and ‘mere churchgoers’. This does not only devalue ordinary, every-day Christianity. It is in grave danger of promoting justification by works rather than grace.

Another big issue will be the continuation of the Living in Love and Faith project. I believe that this needs to be allowed more time after the Covid pandemic to allow the different parts of the Church of England to listen to one another, and also for the Church of England to listen to the wider society. This is not meant to kick the can down the road—after adequate time for listening we cannot avoid making decisions on the issue. I would support legislation that allows churches and clergy to conduct wedding ceremonies for same sex couples. Nevertheless, I would be in favour of a provision for clergy with theological objections to opt out, similar to what is in place for the remarriage of divorcees.

Furthermore, the Clergy Discipline Measure is widely seen as not fit for purpose and in need of thorough revision. I believe that when clergy behave in unacceptable ways this needs to have consequences. Allegations of misbehaviour must be taken seriously and investigated. But justice must be done quickly—the time which it takes to exonerate clergy who have been falsely accused is often unacceptably long, with severe consequences for the well-being and reputation of the accused. I am in favour of a robust disciplinary code, but this needs to contain procedures that resolve cases within an acceptable time and provide adequate support for accused clergy.

Related to this but separate is the need to continue to strengthen our safeguarding protocols so that offenders cannot abuse children and vulnerable adults with impunity in the Church. I would not be surprised if further questions arose from historic cases. In that case it will be important for the synod to scrutinise the decisions and decision making processes that led to these abuses, but also to make sure that steps taken are measured and properly thought through.

Please feel free to contact me if you would discuss any of these points. My email is asj43@cam.ac.uk

REVD. CANON. DR. ANDERSON JEREMIAH



*Senior Lecturer in Politics,
Philosophy and Religion
Lancaster University

*Associate Priest (SSM),
St. Paul's Church, Lancaster

contact me
a.jeremiah@lancaster.ac.uk

You will be supporting me to...

- *Reimagine our Christian vocation and public witness in light of the challenges of our times, and help the church to develop a **shared vision of discipleship in our parishes**
- *Enable robust **theological debate and scrutiny** of church governance and episcopal leadership
- *Contribute theologically to the new **Vision and Strategy** of the national church
 - *Advocate more **inclusive and grounded theological training and formation** for the laity and clergy rooted in tradition, scripture, worship and lived experience
 - *Work towards more **inclusive representation and participation** across the church including CNC process
- *Push for outward looking Mission, taking church outside its walls and parish boundaries, into the communities based on **the Five Marks of Mission**
- *Support **Living in Love and Faith** process, and help articulate Radical Ecclesiology as a missional mandate for our church
- *Help the church respond constructively to the challenges emerging from **climate emergency**
 - *Work for strengthening **ecumenical** relationships
- *Equip the church in the post pandemic society to address pressing issues around **social care, food poverty, income inequality and refugee resettlement**
 - * Continue to function as a bridge between **academia and the church** through my various membership

My Current Membership...

- *Research Degree Panel, Ministry Division
- *Academic Board of the Archbishop's Examination in Theology and Lambeth Research Degrees in Theology (AET/LRDT)
 - *Archbishop's Anti-Racism Task Force
- *Theology Resource Group, Vision and Strategy
- *Theology Working Group, Ecclesiology and Governance Review Group
- *Quality Assurance Panel, Ministry Division
 - *Common Awards Advisory Panel
- *Vice Chair, Board of Trustees, Church Urban Fund

"Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream"-Amos 5:24

General Synod Membership 2019-21

- *Thank you to the Universities and TEI electors for giving me an opportunity to serve in the general synod for three years.
 - *During my time I have taken part constructively in several debates, given speeches and raised questions, most notably on matters concerning **theological education, institutional racism, CNC, LLF, Vision and Strategy, climate emergency and ecumenical relations.**
- *Many of these questions and interventions were followed by invitation to participate and help the church in addressing such critical issues.

General Synod 2021-26

- *I would appreciate if you would elect me to represent the UTEI's for one more term
- *Give voice to the Northern Province of York
- *I will continue to hold the General Synod and the NCI's accountable to the promises they had made regarding improving wider participation and reducing carbon footprint
- *I will pursue greater visibility for the theological and missional concerns for this coming quinquennium.

....THANK YOU....

Revd Canon Dr Judith Maltby

Chaplain, Fellow & Dean of Welfare, Corpus Christi College
Reader in Church History, University of Oxford



Proposer: Revd Prof Diarmaid MacCulloch, St Cross College, Oxford

Seconder: Revd Prof James Woodward, Principal, Sarum College, Salisbury

Dear Colleague,

Why I am standing. I am standing for re-election for one of the four seats reserved in General Synod to represent the Universities & Theological Education Institutions sectors and was first elected in 2010. I stood then because of my strong belief in the benefits of the Church of England's historic partnership with the Academy and in the Church's need for ministerial training that is serious and substantial both in content and formation – and yes – 'expensive'. Investing in theological education *is* investing in the Church's mission and future, whatever Myriad says. I also stood to support the legislation to open episcopal ministry to women; my long track record of working for the equality of women in ordained ministry goes back to the 1980s. I am in my second (and final) term as a central member of the Crown Nominations Commission and it has been a great joy to see that process brought to fruition by the nomination of able women to diocesan sees. We are facing a large number of diocesan vacancies in the next two years and I will bring to that work eight years of experience on the CNC.

Background. I am a life-long Anglican, brought up in the Anglo-catholic tradition and owe much to it and (in so far as labels are useful) would now identify as 'modern catholic'. My full time teaching career began in theological education, teaching in two colleges and a course. I trained non-residentially and value to this day the diverse churchmanship that course training in particular provides. In the early 1990s, I was on the staff of one of the three residential colleges closed and so know first-hand the fragility and volatility of the sector: resources built up over a century cannot be easily replaced. Since the 1990s, I have been a college chaplain (and assist in a local parish), teaching undergraduates, supervising doctoral students and with a strong pastoral element in my work. I bring with me to Synod the unusual experience for a Church of England priest of having worked for the majority of my ordained ministry chiefly with people between the ages of 18 and 25; I share their desire to see the Church become fully inclusive for LGBT+ people and as a pastor have seen the harm our institutional intransigence does to individuals as well as to the credibility of the Gospel of Jesus Christ among younger people.

Theological Education. Since leaving employment in the TEI sector, my commitment to the sector has continued, serving as a BAP advisor and a TEI Senior Reviewer. I chaired the Theological Education and Training Committee for MinDiv and was elected by the House of Clergy to serve on its replacement, Ministry Council and have always worked with colleagues across church traditions. I served for five years as an external examiner and MinDiv Moderator for Trinity College, Bristol (I was asked by TCB to stay on after my initial three year stint). For a number of years, I have chaired the Research Degrees Panel which, as colleagues in TEIs will know, is there to assist the process of ensuring that potential theological educators are identified, encouraged and equipped to staff our TEIs in the decades ahead. It is, without a doubt, one of the most worthwhile things I am involved in for the Church nationally, both for the benefit of the individuals concerned and for the Church as a whole.

Academic field. My main academic work is in the social and cultural history and theology of Anglicanism, predominantly in the Long Reformation period with an emphasis on parish religion, but I have also published on areas such as church establishment and the contribution to

Anglicanism made by women novelists in the 19th and 20th centuries and am beginning new research in the area of literary explorations of the theology of disability through the work of the Pulitzer nominated Episcopalian poet Vassar Miller. I was awarded the academic title of Reader by the University of Oxford in 2004 in its distinction exercise. More here on the Corpus Christi website: [Maltby Webpage](#).

Issues for the New Synod. In addition to a watchful brief for [resourcing developments in the theological education sector, changing culture and embedding best practice for safeguarding which puts victims and survivors at the centre](#) *must* be a priority for the new Synod. I am proud to have helped to put it at the heart of the work of the CNC. In many ways, the work of [LLF, clergy well-being and much needed CDM reform](#) as outlined by the Sheldon Hub are best understood in the light of what we have learned about ourselves as a church through the witness testimony and reports of the Independent Inquiry in to Child Sexual Abuse. IICSA has shown us plainly that a key reason the Church is an unsafe place is because it has allowed the subordination of women and discrimination against LGBT+ people and fostered a culture of secrecy. In Synod I have frequently advocated for some joined-up thinking between LLF and the learning from IICSA and, through fellow members of Synod, have built up contacts with survivors – the most important thing is to do the listening, not the talking. The work of joined up thinking still needs to be done by the new Synod before the Archbishops’ vision of ‘radical new Christian inclusion’ in terms of gender, sexuality, race and disability can be realized.

I would be delighted to hear from you if you have any questions or wish to raise any issues with me. If re-elected, that offer remains in place throughout my time in Synod. I would be grateful for your **first preference vote**.

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Alison Milbank: Election Address for General Synod

I will act creatively on your behalf as representative of those in universities, theological colleges and ministerial training. I have just finished three years as Head of the Theology and Religious Studies Department at the University of Nottingham, which has given me considerable insight into the challenges the discipline faces in an increasingly secular world. There is also the need to speak up confidently for the value of theology in the life of the Church. While we need to support a broad range of modes of ministerial education, I shall defend robustly the immeasurable value of residential training in constrained financial circumstances, particularly for the intellectual vitality of the church in a hostile cultural environment.

I am passionate about the value of theological education for everyone and to this end, I convene a broad, ecumenical and mainly lay theology group at Southwell Minster, where I'm Priest Vicar as well as Canon Theologian and speak widely to groups of all sorts across the world on the value of the imagination in apologetics. I take theology to five-year olds through my regular involvement in children's work in a parish church cathedral. My academic research is relevant to this, being on religion and culture, with a particular expertise in Gothic and horror fiction, which I view as a mode of theological exploration. My publications range in subject from Dante to Philip Pullman, Tolkien to contemporary art.

As well as advocating for theology in all its forms and for the value of Christian formation, I was moved to stand for Synod to support front-line parish ministry at this time of financial uncertainty. GS2222, a revision to the Mission and Pastoral Measure, coming before the next synod will remove even more agency from parishes in decisions about their future, making church closures and clergy redundancies much easier with less or no consultation or appeal. The 'Save the Parish' movement has been founded to work to empower ordinary lay people and their parishes and to deflate the bureaucratic explosion that has engorged our diocesan structures, while cuts are made at the local level and clergy battle to serve increasing numbers of parishes.

I believe strongly in the missional potential of the parish and its relevance to a post-Covid future in which we shall be working more from home and there may be significant demographic changes. The parish is poised to respond to the challenge of environmental crisis, which will force us to live locally and more sustainably. We also need creative outreach initiatives and I am involved in planning a new worshipping community for families at Southwell Minster, Green Gathering, which will meet outdoors. To be truly sustainable, however, parish and mission outreach must be connected rather than in competition. We are not branches of a supermarket chain but fellow members of the body of Christ.

This is crisis time for the Church of England and the next few years will decide whether we are a truly inclusive Church for everyone of whatever race, gender or sexual orientation or lose out to the openly acknowledged humanist attempt to take our place in the life of the nation.



CLARE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



The Rev'd Dr Mark Smith

Dean & Fellow, Clare College, Cambridge
Affiliated Lecturer, Divinity Faculty, Cambridge
Proctor of the University of Cambridge

I'm thrilled to be standing as a candidate for the Universities & TElS constituency.

I've served in the University of Cambridge for the past decade, combining priestly ministry with theological teaching and research. This has given me a deep awareness of the challenges, opportunities, and pressures of college chaplaincy, as well as a passionate commitment to the significance of rigorous, generous theology in the life of the Church.

My pastoral experience – first as the curate of a rural parish, then as Chaplain of Christ's College, and now as Dean of Clare – has involved sensitive welfare support to those struggling with bereavement, relationship problems, depression, loneliness and anxiety, as well as many wrestling with questions of faith and belief. I've heard first-hand the concerns that many young people have with the Church, and the assumptions (negative as well as positive) that they make about Christianity. I have always sought to exercise a ministry of kindness, welcome and radical hospitality, to help promote the flourishing of the whole community.

My academic work is in patristics, with a particular focus on the proceedings of the early church councils (most recently: *The Idea of Nicaea*, OUP 2019). I'd hope this would equip me with, among other things, a realistic expectation of the possibilities – and limits – of synodical discussion! Recently, I've found it hugely fulfilling not only to lecture and supervise university students and ordinands, but also to teach on non-residential youth ministry courses, lay training schemes, and at parish discussion groups.

My college and faculty roles include a close working relationship with Westcott House and Ridley Hall, and involvement with ordinands' academic learning and ministerial formation, supporting them in following their vocations. I've seen the importance of theologians and practitioners being able to learn constructively with one another, and I'm committed to ensuring that the voice of the TEI sector as a whole is heard in synod, including non-residential and context-based pathways.

Holding the senior University role of pro-Proctor (and now Proctor for 2021-22), and sitting on the University's Board of Scrutiny, has given me considerable insight into the demands faced by the higher education sector. I've seen from the inside the joys and frustrations of university governance and policy-making, and the importance of broadening access to a centuries-old and tradition-steeped institution.

As one of our Synod reps, I would work hard to represent our particular concerns, engaging attentively across the diversity of our constituency. I would be a strong voice for clear thinking and careful listening in debates, especially in areas of disagreement; and in ensuring that *theological* considerations (not anecdote or political expediency) remain central. It's in this spirit that I would scrutinise both the upcoming RMF report, and the ongoing LLF process. I value the diversity of our church, but I know that we have a long way to go. If elected, my primary aim for the next five years would be to help build a church that will allow every type of person to engage with God's love.

I hope that you will feel able to give me a high-preference vote. Do feel free to be in touch with me (mss53@cam.ac.uk or 01223 333240) if you would like to discuss any points further.

I would like to serve the University and TEI constituency, and the wider Church, by standing for election to the General Synod.

I have been a theological educator for 16 years, following 10 years in parish ministry. I taught Christian doctrine for 3 years, and then I was the Principal for the next 8 years at a theological college in Pittsburgh, USA, which served the Episcopal Church and Anglican Church of North America, as well as others. I have been at Wycliffe for five years, where I am Vice-Principal and Academic Dean. I am an Associate Member of the Faculty of Theology and Religion at the University of Oxford.



My main areas of academic interest are the doctrine of atonement, Anglican theology, and Christian leadership. I co-edited *The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to the Anglican Communion* (2013), collaborating with authors from many different perspectives worldwide. My most recent book, *The Five Phases of Leadership: An Overview for Christian Leaders* (2021) is written for leaders in a global context. I have had broad experience of Anglicanism outside the Church of England and hope to bring that wider perspective to synod debates.

I am aware that there are some major issues to be faced by those elected to General Synod. Having seen how some of these debates were handled in the USA, and how badly this has affected the Christian witness there, I would hope to bring the benefit of hindsight, and a sense of how best to bear a gracious, faithful Christian witness to a nation increasingly distancing itself from its Christian heritage.

I would be grateful for your support and, if elected, would be glad of your input for debates.

With thanks and all good wishes,



Overview

Current post: Vice-Principal and Academic Dean, Wycliffe Hall, Oxford (2016 – present)

Previously: Principal, Trinity School for Ministry, Pittsburgh, USA (2008 – 2016)
Tutor in Doctrine, Trinity School for Ministry, Pittsburgh, USA (2005 – 2008)
Vicar, St Helen's Church, North Kensington, London (1999-2005)
(I served on Bishop's Council and Diocesan Synod, and on the IME2 team)
Curate, St John's Hyde Park, London (1995-1999)
Ordinand, Cranmer Hall, Durham (1992-1995)
Sales Engineer, then Marketing Manager, Philips Electronics (1988-1992)
Physics Teacher, Wellington College, Berkshire (1986-1988)

Candidate for General Synod

Revd Dr Justyn Terry

Vice-Principal, Wycliffe Hall, Oxford

Personal: I am married to Cathy, a church administrator in Oxford, with two adult daughters, and enjoy travel and playing jazz trumpet and trombone.

Specific Issues

- **Resourcing Ministerial Formation (RMF)**

Ministerial training is under review, including the funding structure for TEIs. The next General Synod is due to receive proposals which might have far reaching consequences. If elected, I would make this a major focus of my work, taking time to be very well briefed and able to ensure the proposals receive careful scrutiny. It is vital that, even in these challenging financial circumstances, we still invest strongly in the next generation of clergy and lay ministers in all modes of training.

- **Living in Love and Faith**

When General Synod considers the Church's teaching on gender and human sexuality, I would want to bring lessons learned from the Episcopal Church, USA, to foster respectful dialogue. My own reading on this topic, and my experience of friends and colleagues who have come to different conclusions about them and behave accordingly, have made me aware of how passionately people hold their views on this subject, and how much pain and injustice many people experience. I remain committed to the teaching in, *Issues in Human Sexuality* (1991), and want to listen carefully to the debate and play a constructive part in it.

- **Vision and Strategy**

I am glad of the national initiative to articulate vision and strategy for the Church of England. Having been involved with developing vision and strategy for a parish church, for the diocese of London, and for theological colleges in Pittsburgh, Oxford and Cairo, where I serve on the board of the Alexandria School of Theology, I can see their value. I am also aware of the danger of hoping some managerial techniques might solve all our problems. When discerned prayerfully and in dependence on God's leading, I believe vision and strategy can help the Church carry out its mission, and would want to participate in this initiative.

- **Financial Stress**

The Church of England is facing significant financial stresses. The challenges of many years of declining church attendance have been exacerbated by the impact of the COVID pandemic. Having faced financial challenges in the parish and in theological colleges, albeit on a much smaller scale, I have seen the benefit of a commitment to prayerful dependence on God, coupled with an appropriate use of vision and strategy, and believe I could contribute on this topic as well.

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Nominated by Revd Dr Marcus Throup, Vice Principal and Dean of Licensed Ministry Training, School of Mission, Diocese of Winchester.

Seconded by Revd Dr Nick Moore, Academic Dean and Lecturer in New Testament, Cranmer Hall, Durham.