

# **GENERAL SYNOD**

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## **FEBRUARY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2023**

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### **TWELFTH NOTICE PAPER**

#### **Loyal Address to His Majesty The King**

#### **from the General Synod of the Church of England**

We, Your Majesty's faithful subjects, the Archbishops, Bishops, Clergy and Laity of the Church of England, together with the representatives of other churches, assembled in the General Synod, assure Your Majesty of our loyalty and devotion to Your Majesty and to the Crown.

We offer our sincere condolences to Your Majesty, and to all members of The Royal Family, on the death of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth. We give thanks to Almighty God for Her Late Majesty's life and Her reign.

Her Majesty the late Queen was gracious enough to honour the General Synod with her presence on no fewer than ten occasions, opening the new sessions of each successive Synod and each time inspiring members of Synod both with her evident Christian faith, and with her specific messages of encouragement. In 2021 Her Majesty sent a kind message for its opening in November.

Her Majesty was an example to us, not just as a Christian whose life of service was so clearly inspired by the teaching of Our Lord Jesus Christ; but also as a witness who spoke openly of that faith and its importance to her. We rejoice in her as a model of Christian discipleship, and we are encouraged by her confidence in life everlasting. She will remain an inspiration to all of us, and to countless Christians in the Church of England and in many Christian churches.

We offer our continuing humble duty and service to Your Majesty. As we look forward to Your Majesty's coronation, we offer our prayers for Your reign, and we pledge ourselves to work under Your Majesty's leadership of this Nation. We also offer our prayers for the Queen Consort as she too prepares for her Coronation, and as she continues her public service alongside Your Majesty. We pray that God will strengthen you both for the task of service to which you have committed yourselves. We trust that the faith in Christ which Your Majesty has so clearly and publicly acknowledged will by grace give you the strength you need to shine a light in the world around you.

We trust we may have the opportunity to welcome Your Majesty and the Queen Consort to the General Synod at the beginning of the next quinquennium. In the meantime, we continue to uphold the Church of England's commitment to serve all the people of England in the way described by Her Late Majesty on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee.

May God's blessing rest now and always upon Your Majesty, upon the Queen Consort, and upon every member of the Royal Family.