

GENERAL SYNOD

FEBRUARY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2025

SIXTH NOTICE PAPER

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS AND ANGLICAN COMMUNION AND ECUMENICAL GUESTS

New Members

The following people have become Members of General Synod since July 2024:

The Rt Revd Mike Harrison, Bishop of Exeter, replacing the Rt Revd Robert Atwell

The Rt Revd Patricia Hillas, Bishop of Sodor and Man, replacing the Rt Revd Peter Eagles

The Rt Revd Jonathan Baker, Bishop of Fulham, Suffragan Bishops, replacing the Rt Revd Olivia Graham

The Very Revd Peter Howell-Jones, Dean of Blackburn, Deans, replacing the Very Revd Nicola Sullivan

The Revd Liz Dudley, Diocese of Bath & Wells, replacing the Revd Sue Rose

The Revd Carol Backhouse, Diocese of Blackburn, replacing the Revd Dr Tom Woolford

Mr Bob Chambers, Diocese of Chichester, replacing Mrs Camilla Footit

Mrs Vivien Southall, Diocese of Exeter, replacing Mrs Carys Puleston

The Revd Kina Robertshaw, Diocese of Hereford, replacing the Revd Neil Patterson

The Revd Millie Cork, Diocese of Leeds, replacing the Revd Angela Hannafin

The Revd Catherine Shelley, Diocese of Leeds, replacing the Revd Ruth Newton

The Revd Benjamin Gardner, Diocese of Leicester, replacing the Revd Christopher Johnson

The Revd Clive Watts, Diocese of Leicester, replacing the Revd Barry Hill

Dr Phillip Rice, Diocese of London, replacing Mr Temitope Taiwo

The Revd Dr Ruth Howlett-Shipley, Diocese of Salisbury, replacing the Revd Jane Palmer

The Revd James Menzies, Diocese of Salisbury, replacing the Revd Paul Bradbury

The Revd Canon Lucy Davis, Diocese of St Albans, replacing the Revd Kevin Goss

The Revd Alison Miller, Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich, replacing the Revd Gini Williams

The Revd Canon Anna Norman-Walker, Diocese of Southwark, replacing the Ven Alastair Cutting

Mr William Woolley, Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham, replacing Mrs Joan Beck

Marsha de Cordova MP, Second Church Estates Commissioner, replacing Andrew Selous MP

BISHOPS ACTING DURING A VACANCY

The following bishops are attending this group of sessions under Standing Order 123.

The Bishop of Penrith, the Rt Revd Rob Saner-Haigh, for the Diocese of Carlisle

The Bishop of Jarrow, the Rt Revd Sarah Clarke, for the Diocese of Durham

The Bishop of Huntingdon, the Rt Revd Dagmar Winter, for the Diocese of Ely

The Clerk has, under SO 3, made arrangements for the Bishop of London to be seated on the platform next to the Archbishop of York. This reflects the responsibilities the Bishop of London has as Deputy President of the Convocation of Canterbury.

ANGLICAN COMMUNION GUEST

The Most Revd Anne Germond, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada

Archbishop Anne Germond became acting Primate on September 15, 2024, on the retirement Primate Linda Nicholls. As Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, she steps into the acting Primate role because she is the senior Provincial Metropolitan by virtue of having the longest current term of office. She will serve until a new primate is elected by General Synod in 2025.

Archbishop Germond is also bishop of the dioceses of Algoma and Moosonee. She was consecrated the 11th Bishop of Algoma on February 11, 2017, thus becoming the first woman to serve in this capacity. In the fall of 2018, Archbishop Anne was elected the 19th Metropolitan for the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario. In this role she also serves as the Archbishop for the Diocese of Moosonee.

She grew up in South Africa and graduated from the Johannesburg College of Education. She taught primary school

and was seconded to the Johannesburg College of Education, where she taught religious studies and English methodology. With her husband, Colin, she moved to Canada in 1986.

During her early years in Canada, she completed an honours degree in religious studies through the University of South Africa and later a Bachelor of Theology at Thorneloe University in Sudbury. At this time, she became involved in a variety of lay ministries at the Church of the Epiphany in Sudbury. Answering a call to ordered ministry, she was ordained as a deacon in February 2001 and as a presbyter in May 2002.

Archbishop Germond has served as the Chancellor for Thorneloe University and as a board member and Vice Chair of the Anglican Foundation of Canada. In 2019, she was made an Honorary Senior Fellow of Renison University College, and in 2024 she received a Doctor of Divinity (honoris causa) at Trinity College – University of Toronto.

In her free time, she enjoys hiking, gardening, reading, entertaining, travelling and walking her golden retriever, Rosie. She and Colin have two adult children, Caitlin and Richard.

ECUMENICAL GUEST

The Most Revd Urmas Viilma, Archbishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Estonia

Born in 1973, Viilma was ordained deacon on 2 May 1993 in St Michael's church, Keila, and then priest in St Mary's Cathedral, Tallinn on 15 September 1998. He studied at the EELC's Theological Institute, graduating in 1998. He worked as a deacon in the parish of Pärnu-Jacobi; on his ordination as priest, he became pastor of the same parish. He was also pastor of the parish of Mihkli, Tõstamaa and Vigala, respectively and simultaneously, between 1999 and 2004, and additionally worked in the Pärnu Provincial Support Office

between 1999 and 2003. Later he also held various positions within the Lutheran church of Estonia, notably pastor of the Lutheran cathedral in Tallinn and the head of the council of the Diocese of Tallinn between 2010 and 2015. On 26 November 2014, he was elected to the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Synod by the archbishop. He was ordained a bishop and was appointed Archbishop on 2 February 2015. He was consecrated by bishop Einar Soone, bishop Andres Taul and bishop Andres Põder. Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, Viilma has been outspoken in his condemnation of the Russian action, his concern for regional security and the independence of Estonia, and his desire for a just peace.