

## **Rev Daniel Millest, Election Address**

Clergy Candidate for General Synod

*Vicar of St Peter's Brighton | Priest-in-Charge of St Cuthman's and St Leonard's*

**Proposer:** Rev Mark Roger - All Saints Patcham

**Seconded:** Venerable Martin Lloyd Williams - Archdeacon of Brighton & Lewes

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Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about my application.

### **WHY GENERAL SYNOD?**

The Church of England holds a unique and vital place in the life of our nation. In a time marked by uncertainty and transition, we are uniquely positioned to be a faithful and hopeful presence in every community. That task belongs to all of us, and it's one I would be honoured to help strengthen by serving on General Synod.

If elected, I would bring a deep commitment to the parish system, a love for the Church in all its breadth, and a desire to work collaboratively across traditions.

I would aim to be a voice on Synod that:

- champions the wellbeing of clergy and lay leaders alike
- advocates for the renewal of parish ministry in every corner of our country
- seeks to ensure that the resources needed for faithful ministry, spiritual, financial, and practical, are made available across the breadth of the Church

### **ABOUT ME**

I'm Dan — married to Kate, and we're parents to four young children. I trained for ordination at St Mellitus College, and before that worked in media and production, having studied composition at Trinity College of Music.

I currently serve on Diocesan Synod, Bishop's Council, the board of St Paul's Theological College, and as a trustee for Spear Brighton (a programme that supports young people into work and long-term flourishing).

One of the greatest privileges of my ministry was serving for eight years in the Diocese of West Malaysia, firstly in parish ministry, and then also as Director of Formation at St Paul's Theological College, Malaysia. That experience gave me a deep appreciation for the strength, diversity, and resilience of the global Anglican Communion, lessons I carry with me still.

### **WHAT I WOULD STAND FOR ON GENERAL SYNOD**

#### **Clergy Flourishing & Wellbeing**

We are living through a time of increasing complexity in parish ministry. If elected, I would support proposals that invest in clergy wellbeing, pensions, and sustained theological, pastoral and practical training, not just at the start of ministry, but across a lifetime of service.

We need to ensure that clergy are equipped and supported to minister with confidence, not simply to survive. I believe we can find ways to do this together that draw on the best of our shared resources, experience, and wisdom.

## **Parish Renewal & Resourcing**

I am committed to the parish system and to the renewal of local churches in every kind of context. On Synod, I would advocate for sustained, strategic investment in parish ministry, especially in places facing long-term deprivation or decline.

This includes better pathways for resourcing smaller churches, supporting isolated clergy, and multiplying training curacies in under-served areas. We should make that possible where it matters most.

## **Evangelism**

Many churches are asking how we can meaningfully connect with a generation that has little or no exposure to the Christian faith. If elected, I would support national efforts to resource local churches with practical, accessible tools for evangelism, equipping clergy and lay leaders alike to share the gospel in ways that are confident, compassionate, and culturally aware, and to do so without assuming prior knowledge or inherited faith.

## **Releasing Our Congregations to Minister**

If elected to General Synod, I would advocate for practical steps that help churches of all sizes grow in confidence and capacity for ministry. Across the country, many incumbents are stretched and facing challenges in sustaining ministry with limited resources.

We need national strategies that support the everyday realities of parish life, including accessible training for lay leaders, tools for discipleship in smaller congregations, and encouragement for clergy who often carry a heavy burden.

I believe that enabling more people to play an active role in the life of the Church is not only necessary for sustainability, it's also life-giving. When people are encouraged and equipped to serve, it often deepens their faith, renews the energy of the church community, and reminds us that God has already given us many of the gifts we need for the road ahead.

Thank you for considering me for this role.

God bless,

Rev Daniel Millest