

Bryony Taylor

Nominated by: Rev'd Rhoda Blackwell

Seconded by: Rev'd Elliot George

Dear colleague,

I am standing for General Synod because I am passionate about everyone in the Church of England flourishing. I want to see an inclusive church that welcomes everyone. Sometimes there feels a disconnect between the parish and what goes on at the national level in the church – I want to help bridge that gap and be a voice for people from the Diocese of Derby.

A friend at Cranmer Hall once said I am amphibious! I am equally comfortable in a charismatic evangelical service as I am at high mass. I was raised Anglo Catholic, was co-president of Leeds University CU in 1997 and have been part of Anglican and Baptist churches over the years. Now I have settled in the liberal catholic tradition. As a result, I like to work ecumenically and across difference and find common ground – following the *Rest Is Politics* mantra of 'disagreeing agreeably'. I would welcome your first preference vote. Thanks for reading.

Don't forget to use your vote!



WHO AM I?

Ordained in 2014 Durham Diocese.

Rector of Barlborough and Clowne for 8 years.

Assistant Area Dean of NE Derbyshire Deanery

Honorary Canon of Derby Cathedral and a member of **Bishop's Council** – this gives me a good overview of the whole diocese and its diversity which I could bring to General Synod.

I like to see others grow and have **trained a curate** and have had many ordinands on placement. I have developed a popular **confirmation course** which has been used around the country.

Passionate about sharing the gospel!

Rev'd Rhoda says

"I am glad to support Bryony's nomination for election to General Synod. Bryony has served in this diocese since 2018 as an enthusiastic and dedicated parish priest.

She holds an inclusive view of the Church's life and mission, and I believe she would be a genuine voice for the ordinary person in the pew – someone who understands parish life from the inside and can speak for it honestly at a national level. I recommend her to you as a thoughtful and committed candidate for General Synod."

My areas of interest & expertise

Mental health support

I started a mental health group in Clowne in 2018 and this group is the frontline of mission in our benefice – we have seen people come to faith through this ministry.

Social media and communication

Before ordination I worked as a social media consultant. During the pandemic, I was able to use this expertise to help clergy and churches get online.

Engagement with wider culture

I am a telly addict and wrote a book called 'More TV Vicar?' (DLT, 2015). I have written Bible Study courses inspired by TV including Call the Midwife and Broken.



Current issues for General Synod and the Church of England

Living in Love and Faith (LLF) – I long to see a church that fully includes LGBTQIA people at all levels in the church. I don't want the work done on LLF to be lost but to be driven forwards.

Equality and Racial Justice – I live in an area where a lot of St George's flags have gone up and this has concerned me. I would like to see the church engage with more clarity on issues of racial justice and community cohesion as we have an important voice and can tell a better story.

Artificial Intelligence – AI is upon us and we are having to respond on the fly; the church needs to be a voice in challenging the ethics of AI. It has its uses but human need and dignity has to come first, as the Pope has recently argued.

Together for the Church of England

I am part of the Together for the Church of England group alongside fellow candidates, Canon Julian Hollywell and Rev'd Sarah Watson. This means that:

"I am committed to equality for everyone, at all levels and roles within the church, regardless of disability, economic power, ethnicity, sex, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality. "

Contact me: revbryonytaylor@gmail.com or 07960 735352