

Revd Rachael Wooldridge
Diocese of London
31 years old
rachael.wooldridge@htb.org
Candidate for House of Clergy



Proposer: Mthr Alice Ormondroyd, St Mary Abbots Kensington
Seconder: Rev Preb Nicky Lee, Holy Trinity Brompton

I am offering myself to serve at the General Synod as I am passionate about seeing the Church of England flourish, most especially at the local parish level. It's my hope that we would see our churches renewed in order to continue to share the hope we have in Jesus Christ and to impact local communities through the kingdom of God, that we would see lasting change in our society and in people's lives. I long to see the Church of England go further in reaching young people and people from all backgrounds and corners of our country with the Gospel.

About Me

- I wasn't born into a Christian family and first attended Church as a teenager, shortly after coming to faith my Mum died of cancer and it was during this time my faith came alive when so much else seemed lost. During this season I discovered first-hand the beauty of the Church as family, and the invaluable role it has in the community, not least to the orphan and widow, those without family, home and every day securities.

- This passion for the Church only grew and led to me working in Church from a young age, studying a BA in Theology, an MA in Biblical studies before moving to London and studying a PhD in Theology and training for Ordination. I've had the joy of being involved over the years in most aspects of Church life! From hospitality, to media, to kids and also spending 7 years in youth ministry, 2 years working with women in recovery and the homeless, and more recently as an Ordinand and Curate at Holy Trinity Brompton I have been involved specifically in discipleship, preaching and teaching, all of which I remain hugely passionate about.

- I am married to Revd Andrew Wooldridge and we have a daughter Florence aged 2 and a half (the half is very important to her!) and another child on the way. I've recently enjoyed taking up paddle boarding (not on the Thames however!), have played far too much chess and sudoku in lockdown and love walking in nature.

- We became part of the Church of England a number of years ago particularly because of the focus on local parish ministry and moved West London 7 years ago after sensing a strong call to our immediate and local area. I feel passionate about seeing communities develop across the divides of society, the kind of which was most exposed with the Grenfell tragedy in our neighbourhood. It is my hope to represent the concerns of those in my area, and to play a part in seeing the local parish Church thrive, grow and help to reach the needs of local communities which is why I am standing for General Synod.

Key Issues

- The Church is in many ways facing a crisis and I think we should be prioritising resourcing local mission and ministry, supporting churches to thrive at a parish level as well as building on wider initiatives like Thy Kingdom Come where we come together in unity as the Body of Christ in praying for our nation and engaging the next generation into the prayer life of the Church.

- I feel passionate about increased diversity within the leadership structures of the Church of England, that people of all ages, ethnicities and social background would feel represented, heard and seen at every level. I think we have so much to learn from the mistakes and failings in our past, be it around safeguarding or representation, and feel passionate that the Church of England addresses these injustices.

- As a country we face a number of huge issues that I think Church should be speaking into and actively engaging. Not least the issue of climate change, and our care for creation. Also living in the neighbourhood of Grenfell Tower I feel passionate that the Church should continue to address the housing crisis and support the Archbishop of Canterbury's commission on the issue, as well as engaging local issues and practically supporting our communities.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this, I would so love to ask for your first preference vote in this election and would love to hear from you if you have any questions at

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