



Rev'd Jonathan MacNeaney

Associate Vicar, All Saint's Fulham

Proposed:
Mthr Emma Dinwiddy Smith

Seconded:
Rev'd Debo Adelaja

Affirming Catholicism Trustee

- We promote the positive, inclusive and joyful currents in the Catholic tradition of Christianity.
- We prepare a briefing paper before each General Synod which is circulated to the Affirming Catholics in Synod group (ACiS). This is the grouping of inclusive catholic Christians on synod.
- This year I led a series of national discussion groups on Living in Love and Faith.

Inclusive Candidate

- I am committed to equality for everyone, at all levels and roles within the church, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity, socio-economic status, mental health or sexuality.

General Synod Experience

- I was ordained in Chelmsford in 2013 where from 2015-2017 I sat on General Synod. In 2017 I moved to serve in London Diocese and, as required, resigned my place on synod.
- I took part in General Synod's Shared Conversations in Human Sexuality. These formed the groundwork to the current Living in Love and Faith material.

The Parish

- I believe that the purpose of the Church is: to share the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ; to make disciples; to pray; to break bread together; to care for the sick and those who are oppressed; and to allow ourselves to be used by the Holy Spirit in God's work of transforming people's lives.
- Synod must support this ministry by careful financial scrutiny and investment of resources to the areas most in need, ensuring local parochial ministry for all.

The Wider Church

- Assistant area director of ordinands for Kensington episcopal area.
- A practicing, trained spiritual director.

I am committed to liberal catholic principles and dedicated to kindness towards those with whom I disagree. I love God and I love the Church of England. I want the Church to declare the love that God has for all people in Jesus Christ. **If you would like me to represent you on General Synod then I would urge you to give me your first preference vote.**

Issues for this Synod

Environment

- Environmental pressure must be brought on those organisations in which the church invests.
- Churches must be equipped to encourage sacrificial discipleship in response to the climate crisis
- This year Affirming Catholicism hosted an evening on *Catholic approaches to the integrity of creation*

Historic Abuse and Safeguarding

- Significant advances have been made. Justice and transparency for every survivor and victim must continue to be pursued whilst maintaining fairness for those facing accusations.
- Synod can hold the national church institutions to account on this and make sure this costly but vital work is adequately funded.

Living in Love and Faith

- I will seek to be an imaginative, sensitive and confident voice for an inclusive church.
- I will work towards a church that can bless all the expressions of love of its people.

Ethnicity

- Actions contained within the Archbishops' Racial Justice Commission must be enacted not filed.
- This year Affirming Catholicism hosted an evening on *Race, racism and reparations* led by Ven. Rosemarie Mallett.
- Our priority must be a visibly diverse leadership in the church, representative of its worshippers.

Gender

- I support the work of Women and the Church (WATCH) at General Synod.
- We need to continue to work towards proportional representation of women in stipendiary and senior leadership roles, whilst focussing on young women's vocations.

Theological Training

- Residential training needs to be safeguarded against the cost-cutting attraction of non-residential pathways.
 - As a serving assistant area director of ordinands I am connected to the experience of current candidates.
 - Candidates need to be drawn from a wider background. A number of our candidates are part of the Peter Stream. A programme for those who have sensed a call to ordained church leadership, but have felt themselves, for whatever reason, excluded from the process of discernment, selection or training.
 - This year I launched a series of podcasts interviewing ordinands and licensed lay ministers in training who are supported by Affirming Catholicism
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If you would like to discuss further any matters arising from this address then please contact me:
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