



# JONATHAN WOLSTENHOLME

## CITY DEANERY

Proposer: Sarah-Jane Austin,  
Tower Hamlets Deanery  
Seconder: Christopher East,  
Kensington Deanery

- Aged 23
- Life-long Londoner and Anglican
- Currently serving on Diocesan Synod and City Deanery Synod
- Married to Lizzy, a medical student
- Working for a local Christian youth work charity
- Small group leader and PCC member at St Helen's church
- Involved in choral evensong at St Michael's Cornhill

Thank you for your service on your deanery synod, and for taking the time to read my election address.

I would be delighted if you could give me a **first or high preference vote**, for a young, enthusiastic and committed voice to represent London over the next 5 years of General Synod.

### ABOUT ME

A life-long Londoner, I have spent my whole life in a variety of Church of England churches.

I grew up south of the river in Battersea, in a small church on the Winstanley estate. While at secondary school I was also part of the youth work of a larger charismatic church nearby, and later was invited by friends to their youth group in London diocese.

During this time, I was part of the pilot group and video for the diocese's Capital Vision 2020 initiative 'Pray for Seven'.

As a student I was a choral scholar in my college's liberal Catholic chapel, singing three services per week. I was also involved in leading intercessions, reading and preaching.

I also served in student and youth work at my local church.

Since leaving university I have volunteered and worked for a Christian youth work charity in London.

### EXPERIENCE

I currently serve on City Deanery Synod, and was recently elected to Diocesan Synod.

I served as Vice President of the largest student Christian society at my university, and was on the scrutiny committee for the university Student Union.

I have had deep and wide-ranging experience of many different expressions of the Church of England: large and small; traditional and contemporary; liberal; charismatic; evangelical; catholic.

My interest in serving in this way has also come from the example of parents who between them have at various points in my lifetime been church warden, church treasurer, PCC member, deanery and diocesan synod lay rep, organist, governor of my CofE primary school, safeguarding officer, home group leader and deanery lay chair.

My father works for London Diocesan Fund as an accountant.



Screenshot from the Diocese's 'Pray for Seven' video I was part of in 2016.

I am passionate about **engaging the next generation** with the Christian faith through youth work. The diocesan priority of 'growing younger' very much resonates with me, and I believe I have the experience to help make this a reality locally and in national debate.

I am very grateful for the witness of faithful youth leaders who have impacted me.

I have also enjoyed the privilege of being involved in this area of ministry myself, at my local church as a student, through my work at a Christian youth work charity, and by volunteering at a CofE secondary school in the diocese.

If elected, I intend to champion these concerns in the wider church as well as within our diocese, as a crucial step towards achieving the vision of a younger and more diverse church.



As a keen **musician** I am also very enthusiastic about the opportunities choral services can bring to share the good news of Jesus. I have enjoyed being part of contemporary and traditional church music, singing in a variety of church choirs. I am convinced that we do not need to abandon traditional forms of church in order to reach out to others, and I have seen this in action at St Michael's Cornhill.

Pictured furthest right, taking part in the first ever Anglican Evensong service at St Peter's Basilica, Rome, as part of the choir of Merton College.

I am also a firm believer in the importance of Christians **living out and sharing their faith** in the surrounding community. It is a privilege to be able to take part in and support work like this, such as GrowTH, a partnership of churches local to where I live in Tower Hamlets, working together to offer friendship, practical and spiritual support to homeless and marginalised people in the area.

I am passionate about the Church of England, in both old and new expressions, growing as a positive, dynamic, life-giving presence throughout all of England.

If elected, I am committed to being a voice to represent all of London, and to being available to you for any questions or concerns you have over the next five years.

Once again, thank you for all your service in your church and on your deanery synod. Please do consider giving me a first or high preference vote.

If you have any questions, do feel free to contact me on:  
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