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I am pleased to put my name for nomination to The General Synod of the Church of England as a member of the House of Laity.

I have been an active member of the Church of England for as long as I can remember, having been educated at a Church School and worshipped in different Parishes until I settled in Chiswick, when I became a Member of St. Paul's, Grove Park. I became a Licensed Lay Minister in 2008 and preach regularly as well as leading Groups and being actively involved in supporting music and liturgy. In an administrative capacity I am actively involved in Parish governance and have represented the Parish on the Hounslow Deanery Synod. My Deanery Synod experience includes representing it on the London Diocesan Board of Education for the last five years. I have also served time on the Deanery Standing Committee.



I am moved to nominate myself at this time because I believe the Church of England has an active role to play in bringing our nation together spiritually, morally, and ethically at a time when these values are being held with suspicion by many parties.

I regard myself as an “active” member of the Church of England; I do not regard myself as an “activist”; by that I mean I would not seek to represent a specific group with fixed intentions. I believe in the Church of England as a broad and balanced institution, able to bring people to an understanding of God through his Son, Jesus Christ, in many ways. In effect, this means:

- I would be against any move that threatened the current network of Parishes across the country
- I would support and encourage the continuation of Church schools specifically managed by dioceses.
- I would support the continuation of the breadth of Liturgy from BCP to Common Worship with the sacraments at its centre.
- As an LLM I would support the diversification and promotion of Lay Ministry activities within the Parish system.
- I would support the current developments of the Church's roles in Social Inclusion; I believe that we have plenty to share with and learn from people of other faiths. I also support the Church's practical involvement in Climate Change and Environmental issues. All Christians are called to be stewards of God's creation and the Church must seek to lead on this.
- I would seek to find ways of simplifying the bureaucracy of the Church of England much of which seems, to me, wasteful of both human and capital resources.

To quote a recent Guardian letter from September 2nd, “People will attend a church where they are welcomed, valued and embraced whoever and whatever they are. Above all, a church that is inclusive and accepting of humanity's huge variety will find that God is with them and will grow”.

I agree and would welcome your first preference vote to take this to the General Synod.