



**General Synod Election 2021
Election of Lay Representatives
for the Diocese of London**

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**SARAH FINCH - an active member of General Synod, concerned to see
the Bible, the word of God, govern all our decisions.**

Dear Elector,

Several kind friends have encouraged me to stand for re-election to General Synod. I have been a lay member since the year 2000 and, with my health being very good, I believe God is calling me to continue. Please would you consider giving me your first preference vote, so that I may do so?

WHY I AM STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION

- a concern that the Church of England should be faithful to Christ, holding out His offer of forgiveness, salvation, and new life in Him
- a desire to see the Church of England being used by God to influence our society, through sound biblical preaching and teaching
- an awareness that marriage, as between one man and one woman, must be defended
- a conviction that the debates in General Synod, and the voting, over the next five years will determine whether the Church of England thrives or declines into ineffectiveness.

WHAT I HAVE TO OFFER

Experience in General Synod over 21 years. This has included:

- making speeches on a wide variety of topics
- serving on the Appointments Committee (elected) for 15 years
- serving on the Liturgical Commission (appointed) for 5 years
- putting forward a successful Private Member's Motion against assisted suicide
- serving on the Revision Committee for the Common Worship Ordinal

Other experience, present and past:

- freelance editor of non-fiction books
- General Synod representative on the Council of Wycliffe Hall Theological College
- trustee of The Latimer Trust, a Christian publishing house
- trustee of Anglican Mainstream
- trustee of the Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans

- General Synod representative on the Council of Oak Hill Theological College

- school governor of a Church of England primary school
- trustee of the Bible Society
- member of the Church of England Evangelical Council

WHAT I HOPE AND PRAY FOR

- orthodox and courageous leadership in the Church of England in the face of increasing secularism
- that the Church of England should remain true to its foundations, the Book of Common Prayer, the Thirty-Nine Articles and the Ordinal
- that in all the discussion of the 'Living in Love and Faith' resources, there should be a strong and widespread respect for the authority of God's word, the Bible
- the strengthening of support for evangelical theological training colleges
- an increase in the number of godly, strong and gifted candidates for ordination
- the protection of school children from teaching and teaching materials that sexualise them too early
- the protection of the parish system, so that a Christian witness is made in every community

PERSONAL PROFILE

- brought up as an Anglo-Catholic, for which I am grateful
- became a committed Christian at 20
- studied French and Russian at Durham University, and then History of Art (mainly French) at Oxford University
- worked in the editorial department of a publishing house for a few years, and now editing freelance (non-fiction books)
- married for 44 years to the late Stephen Finch, who was much involved in Deanery and Diocesan life
- member of St Helen's Church, Bishopsgate
- mother of 2 married daughters - both active, with their husbands, in their local churches - and 'Mama' to 2 grandchildren.

WHAT I HOPE TO DO IN GENERAL SYNOD

Primarily, I hope to work with colleagues to uphold orthodoxy and the authority of Scripture. Also, if possible, I would like to be involved with liturgy: as a linguist and an editor I am always interested in the meaning, and the use, of words.

Would you like to see the Church of England remaining faithful to its biblical roots? If so, please would you consider giving me your first preference vote?

Please join me in praying that God's will may be done in this crucial election, and do please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Finch

Proposed by Rory Anderson, Lay Chairman of the City Deanery Synod, and Seconded by Aiden Hargreaves-Smith