

Mary Deans

Standing for House of Laity of General Synod



I was fortunate to be able to take early retirement in 2020 following a long career in engineering management finishing as a Chief Engineer. When I left, I was a Design signatory, responsible for reviewing all aspects of the products and then signing them off for demonstration, test, integration, delivery and / or manufacture. I have been worshipping at St Michael and All Angels' Harrow Weald since 2015 and have recently joined the Church Warden team there.

Some time ago I worshipped at Holy Trinity Brompton. Then for a couple of years, prior to joining a local church I worshipped at St James, Piccadilly. I have lived in Harrow for many years and enjoy being able to access the art galleries, museums, and theatres in London. I enjoy photography, walking and chess. I attend / support several LGBT groups; most of these being Trans groups which I have been involved with for several years.

I am pleased to be nominated by Susan Cooper (General Synod 2000 – 2015) and by Simon Stanley (Harrow Deanery).

Vision

At this time, following the impact of Covid on Church life, I believe that mission and outreach are key to our future. We need to be more outward looking and find new ways to reach out to people wherever they are (for example using the "Being With" course from St Martin-In-The-fields).

Inclusivity

To this end it is critically important that we are fully inclusive of all people regardless of gender, gender orientation, disability, ethnicity, socio-economic status, mental health, or sexual orientation. We are all made in God's image and we should all be welcome in the church. I am fully supportive of women's ministry and equality for LGBT+ Christians, at all levels and in all roles in the church.

Changes in the World & Society

Significant changes are happening in the world around us.

The environmental crisis / global warming is now a reality, we need to work together to make changes towards becoming carbon net zero and ensure that church investments are appropriately invested.

Climate change and political upheaval are leading to an increasing number of refugees, we need to welcome these people and help them to integrate into our society.

Work of the Church

Our church organization and governance structures in these current times, seem to be unnecessarily complicated. I hope that the ongoing review will enable our church to bring simplicity and coherence to these structures so that we can be more effective in our work. Key to this will be looking after our greatest resource, our people, in particular the clergy, stipendiary and self-supporting, and the lay leadership. Hopefully we can equip our people to better serve our communities.

We need to ensure that Christ is at the centre of all we do and love the things that Jesus loves: the poor; the marginalised; the excluded. It means we will want to share our faith with others and see our faith make a difference in our communities

Thank you for taking the time to read my electoral statement, I hope you will give me your first preference vote. If you want to contact me about anything I would be very happy to hear from you: mary.saintmikes@outlook.com