

Debbie BUGGS



Dear Elector

Please consider voting for me in the election.

How I currently serve:

- General Synod member since 2015
- elected as one of the two lay representatives to the Archbishops Council's Audit Committee
- invited by the archbishops to be a member of the Implementation and Dialogue working group reviewing the practical outworking of the settlement that accompanied the Women Bishops Measure
- appointed by the archbishops to the panel of chairs of General Synod
- trustee of the Church Pastoral Aid Society (which runs summer holidays for teenagers, and does clergy training and patronage work)
- church treasurer
- leader of small group bible studies

My views

Diversity, discipleship and evangelism: I'm keen to engage with the plans for reform and renewal within the Church of England and will support the development of discipleship and evangelism and an ethnically diverse leadership. The simplification of how the Church operates is a great objective, but I'll want to avoid any centralization of power to a small out of touch committee. Education for clergy and lay leaders is something that I support – I'd like to ensure that any developments here do not inadvertently lead to a highly educated but homogenous house of bishops in the future, and that we do not try to turn clergy into business men and women. That may mean better use of the skills of the laity in senior roles within the church.

Resourcing mission: The targeting of resources needs to encourage growth, but also needs to recognize that some parishes, particularly those in deprived areas will never become profit-centres. I'm keen to see that the national church's resources are allocated well and the sacrificial giving from parishes is used effectively.

Stewardship: The Church of England needs to set an example of good stewardship of God's good creation, and care for the marginalized and disadvantaged.

Our voice: I'm concerned that the Church of England has forgotten that the Old Testament prophets were unpopular and spoke against the prevailing views and practices of their times. Where necessary we need to be counter-cultural and proclaim and obey God's unchanging word rather than seek to mirror the changing values and priorities of our society.

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Vision: I'm a strong supporter of the Diocese's 2030 Vision for every Londoner to encounter the love of God in Christ, with its ambitions of growing confident disciples, building compassionate communities and creative growth. The priorities of growing younger and having safer churches where there's racial justice are ones which need to be adopted in the Church of England nationally.

About me

I'm in my 40's, I live in Bow and cycle to work in central London. I'm an auntie to nine nephews and one niece ranging from 1 month to 21 years old.

I'm a chartered accountant and lead the finance function for a charity in the care home sector. Before that I worked for company in the insurance sector where I was responsible for management accounting, financial reporting including accounting for pensions, tax, budgeting and regulatory compliance and was a member of the group's risk committee. I've been involved in the writing and review of risk registers for various entities.

Previously I have been a governor of a small independent school and chaired its Finance and General Purposes committee. For many years I was head cook on Christian holidays for teenagers in the summer.

I went on the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity's course "Executive Toolbox" which aims to equip Christians for work place ministry and was commissioned as an ambassador at the end of the course in June 2014.

I've been on the City Deanery Synod since 2003, and the Diocesan Synod from 2012. I was a member of the Bishops Council and Diocesan Finance Committee for the 2012-15 and 2015-18 trienniums, and was a member of the Diocese's Strategic Development Committee from 2015 to 2019.

Please would you give me your first preference vote, or failing that, the highest you are able to give me?

Yours faithfully

Debbie

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