

2026 General Synod Election

The Revd Preb Dr Jason Roach

I am standing for General Synod because I want to help the Church of England become more confident in mission, wiser in its stewardship of people and resources, more representative of the communities it serves, and better equipped to face the ethical challenges of a changing world.



I currently serve as Director of Ministries at London City Mission and as a Prebendary of St Paul's Cathedral, with Permission to Officiate in London and Southwark. I have previously served on General Synod from 2015 to 2021, and would bring both that experience and a commitment to constructive, practical and mission-focused debate.

At London City Mission I provide strategic leadership for around 100 field staff serving in urban priority areas across London. I also contribute to decisions about buildings, finances and long-term planning. This has given me significant practical experience of making mission-focused decisions in challenging circumstances. I would bring this experience to the work of Synod.

I was born in Carshalton and grew up in a non-churchgoing family. My Anglican identity began to take shape when I visited my parents' country of origin, Barbados. I was struck by the vision represented by its parishes: that every community should be reached and cared for. That vision of the whole nation being reached with the good news of Christ has remained precious to me.

Before ordination I worked as a hospital doctor in London. My medical background led to a lasting interest in ethics, which I developed through an MA in Bioethics, an MTh focused on resource allocation and doctoral research into missional hospitality across cultures in urban churches. I am particularly interested in mission across class and cultural divides, the ministry of the Church in council estates and other underserved communities, and the ethical questions raised by technologies such as artificial intelligence and biotechnology.

I would bring four particular priorities to Synod:

- Mission and growth: helping the Church reach communities that are often overlooked and become more confident in sharing the gospel.
- Formation for ministry: ensuring that clergy and lay ministers are trained flexibly and effectively for the realities of ministry today.
- Faithful stewardship: making wise decisions about buildings, finances and other resources so that they serve the Church's mission.
- A representative Church: encouraging vocations and supporting a clergy whose ethnic diversity more closely reflects the communities we serve.

I have contributed to the Vocations Strategy Group of CMEAC, the London Diocesan Committee for Minority Ethnic Concerns and the Racial Justice Priority Group. I want to see people from every background encouraged to discern a calling to ministry and given the support they need to flourish.

I support mutual flourishing for those who hold differing convictions about the ordination and consecration of women. I also believe that the Church must be compassionate, welcoming and pastorally available to all, while remaining faithful to the Church's historic Christian teaching on human sexuality. During the LLF process, I worked to encourage serious, respectful and sustained dialogue on these matters at national and diocesan level.

I would seek to be an accessible and constructive member of Synod: willing to listen carefully, speak clearly, work across differences and keep the mission of the local church at the centre of national decision-making.

I would be honoured to serve again. Please do vote, and I would welcome the opportunity to speak with you about the contribution I could make. You can contact me at revdrjroach@gmail.com.