

General Synod Election Address

Revd Karen Greenidge

Diocese: Willesden Area, London Diocese **House:** Clergy **Role:** Vicar of All Hallows Church, North Greenford; ADO for the Willesden Area; Member of the Willesden Area Vocations Group

A Vision Rooted in the Heart of God

I am standing for General Synod because I believe the Church of England carries a profound gift for this nation: a church in every community, a light in every neighbourhood, a witness of Christ's love that is present, rooted, and available to all. This is a sacred trust. It means we have the extraordinary opportunity to reach every person with the gospel of Jesus Christ, across traditions, cultures, languages, and generations.

I long to see our Church fully embrace this calling with courage, creativity, and Spirit-led conviction. I have seen the Church be a place of healing, reconciliation, deliverance, and renewed purpose. I have watched people encounter Christ in ways that transform their lives. I want to bring that lived reality into Synod, ensuring our national conversations remain connected to the heartbeat of everyday ministry.

My Calling and Formation

My ministry began when I was 16, long before ordination. My youth worker said to me, *"Everyone comes to you for advice—you're doing pastoral care."* She encouraged me to preach my first Good Friday sermon, and something awakened in me: a sense that God was calling me to help people discover His voice and His purpose for their lives.

I am a Willesden Area girl through and through, born in Perivale Hospital, baptised at St John's West Ealing, raised in Southall, and shaped by the vibrant, multicultural life of this area. My home church was St John's, Southall, and those early years formed my love for a church that reflects the diversity of God's kingdom.

My ministry journey has taken me from Careforce volunteer in Ayr, Scotland, to Lay Minister and Youth and Community Development Worker in Emmanuel church Southall, to curacy in rural Birmingham, to chaplaincy at City YMCA London and interfaith education in Southall. For the past eight years, I have served as Vicar of All Hallows Church, North Greenford, a community I love deeply.

Alongside parish ministry, I have served the wider Church through Church of England Committee for Minority and Ethnic Anglican Concerns (CMEAC), Youth Issues Working Group (YIWG), unconscious bias training, the Spark Fund Board, the Transforming Church Initiative, and the Diocese of London Vocations Strategy Group. I currently serve as ADO, Ministry Bishop's Adviser, and a member of the Willesden Area Vocations Group, mentoring and coaching those discerning God's call.

A Vision for Synod: Spirit-Empowered Renewal

1. Vocations & Lay Ministry

I want to strengthen pathways that help people discern God's call, especially those from global-majority backgrounds and those who have never imagined themselves in leadership. The Church is richer when every part of the Body is released.

2. Unity in Diversity

I long for a Church where our differences become places of grace rather than division. I will champion conversations rooted in Scripture, prayer, humility, and mutual honour.

3. Mission & Evangelism

We must be bold and Spirit-led in reaching our communities, especially those in deprivation, cultural complexity, and spiritual hunger. The gospel is good news for every neighbourhood.

4. Spiritual Formation & Prophetic Imagination

I carry a desire to help develop a spiritual programme for the Church of England, new liturgies, fresh expressions of prayer, and space for the prophetic movement to flourish within our Anglican tradition. I believe the Holy Spirit is inviting us into deeper encounter, deeper listening, and deeper transformation.

My Commitment

If elected, I will work to ensure that the voices of local parishes, frontline ministers, and ordinary worshippers shape the future of our Church. I will bring compassion, clarity, and a commitment to Spirit-empowered renewal.

I will come as myself, authentic, prayerful, hopeful, and I will encourage others to bring their true selves too. Because when we each bring the gift God has placed within us, the Church of England becomes a powerful witness to the world.

Thank You

Thank you for considering my nomination. I would be honoured to represent the Willesden Area, London Diocese on General Synod and serve the wider Church with integrity, faith, and joy.

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