



Theresa Morton

Priest in Charge, St Bartholomew, Allens Cross, KNMS Deanery

Let all that you do be done in love. 1 Corinthians 16:14

Theresa is a prayerful person of commitment and integrity. Her approach is inclusive, energetic, and she's not afraid to ask the big questions.

Nominated by:

The Revd Dr Al Barrett (Hodge Hill Church)

The Revd Tracy Browne (St John's and St Peter's Ladywood)

Why am I standing for General Synod?

I am passionate about the Church of England and in particular our Diocese. I believe that the flourishing of clergy and laity, and the fruitfulness of our ministry and mission, are only possible when underpinned by sound and supportive structures. My genuine enthusiasm for church governance is underpinned by twenty years' experience in senior NHS governance roles and current studies for a Master's degree in Church Law.

A bit about me...

I grew up in a small free church in rural Oxfordshire, and was attracted to come to study at the University of Birmingham by the vibrant diversity of the city. After working as a Mental Health Nurse (an invaluable experience for future ministry) I moved into Research and Innovation management, leading significant change processes across Birmingham and the wider West Midlands.

I spent many years actively involved in churches of different denominations and traditions, giving me a genuine love for the breadth of the Church. Amongst this, I kept feeling called back to my local parish church where I discerned God's call to ordained ministry - quite a surprise having come from a church where women weren't leaders.

I served my curacy at St Laurence Northfield, being ordained in the first year of Covid lockdown. Now Priest in Charge in Allens Cross, we are journeying towards having our own church for the first time in almost thirty years, with all the excitement and challenges that brings. I am proactive in our Diocese in the following ways:

- Member of Diocesan Synod
- Assistant IME2 Advisor
- Former member of FIPS (Finance, Investment and Properties Subcommittee of Bishop's Council)
- Member of Kings Norton, Mosely and Shirley Deanery Steering Group
- Oversight Area Convenor
- On-call priest for Birmingham Hospice

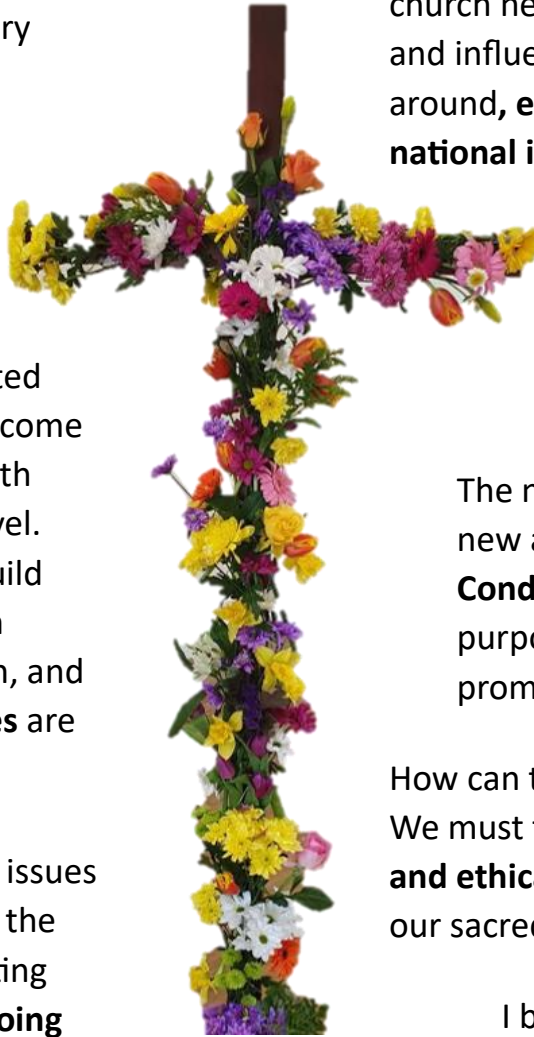
From its beginning, my ministry has been one of practical resourcefulness, adaptability and resilience, throughout which God has always been faithful. These are essential characteristics at this time when the Church needs to respond to changes in society whilst staying grounded in God's Biblical truths.

Issues particularly close to my heart in this coming Synod:

I believe **parish ministry** is at the heart of our church; we need to find new ways to make this sustainable. Serving in a parish that has no church building gives me a fairly unique perspective on the Church of England's vision to be a Christian presence in every community.

Following the withdrawal of the draft National Church Governance Measure there remains a pressing need to ensure the Church's fragmented governance arrangements become streamlined and cohesive, both nationally and at diocesan level. This is essential in order to build **trust and accountability** both within and outside the church, and ensure our **precious resources** are used for Kingdom purposes.

There are many unresolved issues following the formal end of the LLF programme. Whilst getting the structures right **for ongoing discernment** is essential, this must not delay taking forward actions that prevent the current hurt and confusion from continuing. We must **be united in our common purpose** to love God and love one another.



The outer estates context of my ministry, and my involvement in issues of food poverty, knife crime and flags, have given me valuable insights into the ways in which the church needs to both respond to, and influence political debates around, **economic inequality and national identity**. We need to make space for deep listening to unheard voices, and stop being afraid to hand over our power to those with lived experience.

The next Synod need to ensure the new arrangements under the **Clergy Conduct Rules 2026** are fit for purpose, so that cases are dealt with promptly and fairly for all concerned.

How can the Church keep up with AI? We must take a stand on the **moral and ethical use of tech** and ensure our sacred human values are not lost.

I believe we need to be a church of **unity and generosity**.

I am keen to hear the views of all clergy in order to strive for meaningful change in issues that affect our parishes, chaplaincies, workplaces, schools and other settings in which we minister. I am committed to **equality for everyone**, at every level and in every role within the Church.

**It will be a privilege to serve God and the Church as a member of General Synod.
I would be delighted to receive your first preference vote.**

Thank you for taking the time to read my statement.

Please do get in touch if you would like to know more: revdtheresamorton@gmail.com