

Clair Jaquiss

Forward thinking, inspirational and creative.
Encouraging the church to be inclusive
within all its traditions and forms.

Nominated by:

The Rev'd Canon Michael Burgess, Rector of Chester SCP and
The Rev'd Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall, member of General Synod from
2015, Vacancy in See council and Bishop's Council in Chester Diocese.



About me

Vicar at All Saints, Hale Barns with Ringway, near Manchester Airport and Rural Dean of Bowdon

Family

- Married to Kevin, a well-respected and successful lawyer and Methodist local preacher
- Three grown-up daughters and five grandchildren
- My mother among the first women ordained priests who served on General Synod.

Career

- Read Theology at Cambridge and trained as a piano teacher
- Worked in the Christian Education Movement and for Salford Social Services in the inner city
- Ordained in 2008 (not so much a late vocation as a slow response!) and was a self-supporting minister before I took early retirement and became a parish priest in 2016
- Licensed as a Reader in Manchester Diocese in 1984
- Member of the Society of Catholic Priests (SCP)
- Member of Chester Diocesan Synod
- Involved with the Diocesan Worship Advisory Group and training for deacons.

Personal Qualities and Skills

- Good listener, but not afraid to speak out
- Ability to build and encourage good and respectful relationships between people of different faiths in a multi-cultural parish
- Successfully chaired a number of Diocesan panels for those discerning vocation
- Worked as a radio producer in the BBC's religion department for over 30 years and still do some freelance writing and presenting
- Keep flexible with yoga and frequently restart the NHS running course 'Couch to 5k'
- Enjoy walking, singing, Scandi-noir drama, Strictly Come Dancing, football (Manchester United) and reading.

What am I passionate about and why should you vote for me?

Inclusive church

I believe Jesus welcomed everyone as children of God and that God has created human beings in all their diversity. I want to see the Church of England formally support and celebrate faithful and loving relationships between two people regardless of gender. That is central to my faith. I recognise that other people have different understandings central to their faith and appreciate the need for all voices to be heard and respected. I believe God's Holy Spirit can, and is, working in new and creative ways in today's world. I am committed to equality for everyone, at all levels and roles within the church, regardless of gender identity, disability, ethnicity, socio-economic status, mental health or sexuality.

Climate and environment

I want to support practical and realistic ways that churches and Christians in their community can contribute significantly to alleviating the climate emergency.

Institutional church

Yes, I want the church to be simpler, humbler and bolder – but not simplistic, hypocritical and shouty. The experience I have in broadcasting will be an asset to help communicate that vision.

Parish church and other denominations

I believe that a parish is a good pattern for ministry to the faithful and the un-faithed or differently faithed. I want to see churches of different denominations supporting each other and not duplicating work. I see the parish priest as key to building up church and a caring community in today's world.

Clergy discipline

I have been saddened by the way in which the Clergy Discipline Measure has affected colleagues because of its one-size-fits-all approach and protracted procedures. I support the development of an appropriate, realistic and sensitive approach to both those who make minor mistakes and those who cross the line of acceptable professional conduct. This must not preclude care for those who are victims and the vulnerable.

Retired clergy

I have witnessed the church's failure to care adequately for some retired clergy causing both physical and mental distress. I want to encourage a reassessment of the Pensions Board's criteria to be more flexible to offer appropriate pastoral care in addition to the preservation of financial assets.

Thank you for reading my electoral statement and I hope you will give me your first preference vote. If you would like to contact me about my vision and hopes for today's Church, I would be very happy to hear from you.

email: motherclair@allsaintshalebarns.org