

My name is Jason Clarke. I am a member of the congregation of Holy Trinity Church (without-the-walls) Blacon, in Chester. I have never done this before and so I hope than God will guide my words through the power of the spirit.

When learning of the elections for General Synod I read up about it, prayed, discussed it with my Rector and church council colleagues and after much prayer and thought I felt drawn to put myself forward as a potential candidate to represent of Chester Deanery, Chester Diocese for General Synod.

I'm no one special, I've never been on Diocesan Synod and it has been many years since I was on Deanery Synod. I've not written books, I'm not a Reader, I am a follower of Jesus and a flawed one at that, though I do my best I do fall short at times. I work in warehousing and have done do for almost 25 years. I've also worked in retail (shops) and a window factory. I have many years' experience of PCC (including running meetings as Vice chair) and of being a youth leader, both with my church and 20 years involved in Scouting, I've also been blessed to take part in a Diocesan Lay Conference back in 2005.

I believe General Synod should be a place where any relevant subject can be discussed in a safe and welcoming environment. I believe it is important to listen to all points of view in any debate or discussion, even if you don't agree with some or all of them, so that a full understanding of the issues can be reached and if you are still unsure then praying for guidance is essential.

I am passionate about social care issues, workers' rights and especially the way companies treat their employees, poverty and homelessness, youth work, how we spread the good news and putting the words of the bible in everyday language, so that those words can be understood by all. We need to reach out to all regardless of age, ethnicity, social background, sexuality, ability or language because we are all children of God. Our role is to bring all to know and love Jesus as their saviour, to do that in a way that is comfortable for those we interact with.

I hope that if it is God's will I may serve and represent the people of Chester Diocese on General Synod. I ask you for your prayers, not just for mew, for all candidates who feel a calling to this important ministry.

Yours In Christ

Jason