

## JULIE OKUNDAYE STANDING FOR THE HOUSE OF LAITY OF GENERAL SYNOD

Nominated by XXXXX Seconded by XXXXX

I am humbly seeking your support for election to General Synod for the coming five years to represent the Diocese of Chester

Through the coming years, communities around the world will be faced with the most transformational change in a generation. There has never been a greater need for the church to proclaim its mission of healing, reconciliation and building of communities. This message is so necessary for this fast changing generation that questions the applicability of faith. I want to support actionable strategies that grow the church's mission so that we grow younger and more diverse. "A church for all people in all places".



### Who am I

I was born in 1974 in Stafford but spent my formative years in Nigeria and moved to Manchester when I was 17 years old. I now live in Stockport with my husband and 2 sons.

I have a BSc in Information Technology from Salford University and a Master's in business - administration from Strathclyde University. I work in project management consultancy across various industries including financial services and pharmaceuticals.

My Anglican faith has been an anchor, seeing me through difficult life circumstances and seasons of change. Moving to a new country as a teenager was one of my most challenging experiences. Finding an Anglican church gave me the comfort of continuity of worship and helped me build my personal relationship with Jesus into adulthood. I want to help others do the same.

I volunteered as Sunday school worker for a number of years at St Matthew's Parish and I am also a member the healing prayer group. I am also a member of the Diocesan Race and Ethnicity Forum.

### What I believe

My passion is to serve where I can, using the resources God has blessed me with. I strongly believe that church and faith has an important role to play in today's world, filling the void for all and not an exclusive few, and celebrating our rich diversity. My faith has flourished in a predominately white church, but there is still a lot more that needs to be done to actively promote diversity in all forms. I am also passionate about the younger generation and how faith in God can transform mental wellbeing, I want to support outreach programmes that is part of the solution.

