

## NEIL LOGAN GREEN

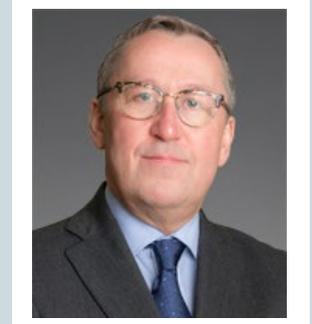
### General Synod Election 2021: House of Laity

Lives: Sheldwich, Faversham

Church: S Michael & All Angels' Harbledown

Job: Solicitor, partner in an international law firm in the City of London

Interesting Fact: I led the team that bought all the land for the 2012 London Olympics



#### Introducing Myself

I live in the beautiful Kent Countryside just outside Faversham. I work in the City as a lawyer, my particular focus being the funding and promotion of affordable housing across the South East of England. I have been married to Rose for 33 years and we have two children: Lucy is a barrister and her sister, Freya, is training to be a special needs teacher.

I have spent my working life as a lawyer in the City of London. I lead a team of young professionals and have a long and successful experience of teamwork, recognition, collaboration and consultation. I believe that these developed skills will prove highly valuable should I have the opportunity to represent Canterbury Diocese on General Synod. From a lifetime's practical experience, I am able to analyse and consider complex issues and apply careful measured judgement. Through thorough involvement in my local parish, I have also developed a particular expertise in parish finance, charitable fundraising and the successful husbandry of parish assets.

I have a very strong belief in the Parish system, the need for full-time in-Parish ministry and the encouragement and provision of curates and parish workers. To date I have helped to raise £35,000 for one parish church, and I am part of the team that expects to raise a significant sum (well over £100,000) for my own parish church through selling some surplus Parish real estate. With a small and faithful team we have re-calculated our Parish Share, which was over-stated by nearly £20,000. Throughout this, I undertook the legal work for both aforementioned parishes on a voluntary basis. Consequently, I believe that one of my strongest gifts is in practical fund raising, which is how we will enable our Parishes to engage in much needed evangelism and outreach.

#### My Faith

As a child in Yorkshire I attended Sunday School at the local Baptist church. My school benefited from 500 years of Anglican tradition and a strong daily communal worship. I was Confirmed at University and lived in the amazing Christian Community of the University Anglican Chaplaincy

who owned, at that time, their own residence. I strive by grace to be a deeply committed Anglican now as part of the prayerful catholic tradition of the Church of England, sharing living faith and commitment to community by deeds in the wonderful parish of S Michael and All Angels’.

I hope very much you will agree with me that the Parish is, front and centre, the cornerstone of our living, active faith for all lay Anglicans.

If you elect me, you will get a representative on Synod who will always put the needs of the Parish first.

### **So why am I standing?**

- We need fundamental reform of Church finances. The Church Commissioners are sitting on investments of £9.2 billion, yet in Canterbury every Parish is expected to pay 2% more Parish Share. Like most of you, my Parish cannot afford this increase. If elected I would use my best efforts and expertise to return some of that wealth to parishes, put them on a sounder financial footing and help to significantly reduce the Parish Share.
- We need more - not fewer - stipendiary clergy, curates and youth workers at the coal face of evangelism, both preaching and living the Gospel.
- Bishops and Archdeacons, claiming both salaries and significant expenses, yet not representing a parish (unlike an MP who continues to represent a constituency even when becoming a member of the Cabinet) strikes me as symptomatic of the top-heavy administrative structure currently burdening the CofE. Equally, many roles that are duplicated in each Diocese could be pooled among several to free up vitally needed funds for local alms work. I am standing because I wish to work creatively to re-arrange the top-heavy administrative structure of the CofE for the good of all.
- I will always be voting for active parishes with clergy in every community. Like many of you, I have been struck by the spirit of the Save the Parish Initiative, which I support.
- In Chelmsford Diocese 60 clergy posts have been destroyed. The same is planned for many other Dioceses in the next 5 years so we need not think it will not happen in Canterbury.
- "Living in Love and Faith": We must all engage in the issues with kindness to all, and honestly listen to the issues as they are debated respectfully, accepting marriage is a fundamental sacrament.

### **The 2021 Synod Election - the most important in a generation**

Consider voting for me if you are convinced that Canterbury laity needs a committed representative to keep, strengthen and enhance our Parishes.

God Bless and keep you and your Parish.

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