

Toni Glazzard

*Inclusive candidate for the
House of Laity, Diocese of Bristol*

PROPOSED BY

Caroline Jowett-Ive

Joint-Chair, Bristol
Together for the CofE

SECONDED BY

Sally Eaton

Secretary, Bristol
Together for the CofE



My story

I became a Christian at the age of 28 when my first child was born; I was filled with gratitude and needed to channel it. I have now worshipped in the Church of England for 35 years and that sense of gratitude for God's good grace has never left me.

I was an active PCC member for more than twenty years, during which time Bishop Barry urged me to stand for General Synod.

Now retired from my job as head teacher in one of Bristol's most economically disadvantaged communities, I feel for the first time that I have the time and space to try to follow the Bishop's advice. I have been greatly encouraged by local clergy and church members in deciding to go for it.

Ephesians
2 : 8–9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Inclusion

I've always worked towards the inclusion of those who are marginalised, through community development and voluntary roles as well as in my personal and professional life. I believe inclusion to be one of the most important issues facing the Church now.

I'm glad that Synod recently condemned antisemitism and Islamophobia, as it stood in solidarity with Palestinian Christians, and that the Church is finding ways to be more inclusive of neurodivergent Christians. I am committed to the inclusion of women's ministry at all levels within the Church and to affirming people in same sex relationships.

Safeguarding

I have a long term interest in Safeguarding: I was for many years the Early Years representative on Bristol Safeguarding Children Board, and a Parish Safeguarding Officer. As a current trustee at a south-west charity bringing theatre and creative performance to children and young people who wouldn't otherwise experience them, I have particular responsibility for safeguarding and child protection.

Listening and learning

In my professional life, I was a mentor and coach to colleagues at all levels, including other head teachers. My school used conflict resolution approaches, not only with the children, but also with parents and colleagues. In other words, I try to listen to, and learn from, all, including those who hold different views to mine.

I believe my knowledge, skills and experience would be helpful on General Synod.

Thank you so much if you have read this far: I appreciate there's a lot to get through.

Of course, I am asking for your first preference vote if what I have said resonates with you, but do please consider making me your second preference if you are already committed elsewhere.

I would be delighted to be contacted by anyone who is undecided.

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