

Debbie Loughran

Standing for House of Clergy General Synod

Nominated By:

Ven. Paul Thomas, Archdeacon of Salop.
Rev'd Merry Smith, Vicar of Newport.



About me

I moved, with my husband, daughter and son (2 dogs and a cat) to the Diocese of Lichfield just four years ago but it felt like home straight away. Home before then was in Liverpool for 39 years and then Durham, living in Durham City and then in Newton Aycliffe, the 5th New Town to ever be built.

I live now in Telford, the 20th built New Town, where I serve the three parishes of Oakengates, Priorslee and Wrockwardine Wood as Vicar and the Deanery of Telford as Rural Dean. I am a Training Incumbent, a member of Diocesan Synod, a Bishop's Advisor for Ordination Training, a member of the Lichfield Diocesan Patronage Board and an Assistant for the Diocesan Link Diocese of Nordkirche.

I was ordained in the Diocese of Durham in 2014 where during my curacy, as well as serving within a Parish system I was licensed as a Chaplain within the Deaf Community which was a real honour.

Before ordination I worked in many jobs mostly based within the financial sector and I hold the Association of Accounting Technicians qualification. I also ran my own retail business which survived the recession and worked as an OFSTED accredited Childminder with council respite responsibilities

What do I Bring?

Breadth – As someone who ministers within 3 parishes all of which have different worship styles, Oakengates as Anglo-Catholic, Priorslee as 'Middle of the Road' and Wrockwardine Wood as 'Middle of the Road/Charismatic, I am committed to encouraging that which builds people up and helps them connect with God. Whether that's found in a Worship Band, or High Mass. I love that the CofE is a 'broad church'. It needs to be broad, welcoming and most of all loving.

Enthusiasm – For the church, the parish, the deanery, the diocese and the Church of England. I am hopeful about the future of the Church of England. I am excited to see where Shaping for Mission can take and shape us within each deanery of this diocese. I am passionate about the parish and seeking ways of connecting with all people not just those who profess a Christian Faith. I am committed to the church, it's clergy and it's congregations – limiting factors and passengers most welcome! I am eager to help play my part in shaping the church of the present and of the future.

Advocacy – I believe in speaking out with bravery and authenticity from a place of love. I am a passionate advocate for the ministry of all God's people. I want to create a church where all feel loved and respected. I care deeply about those who are less fortunate and would try to bring the voice of those who are less able to speak loudly.

Climate change is a worldwide problem which the Church should be leading in, living by example and doing everything we feasibly can to protect God's precious creation – but we need to look at solutions which can work with the buildings we are charged with caring for.

Passion – I believe in a church for everyone, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity, socio-economic status, mental health or sexuality. We are all made in God's image, we are all invited to the Lord's table.

I am a passionate supporter of Women in Ministry and I am eager to see how the National Church can assist in enabling women to become more confident in applying for higher profile roles or in the creation of roles which enable job-sharing.

I want to see vocations being raised from all areas of society which is why I am involved in the BAP process.

As a member of Clergy who doesn't own their own property I want to ensure that Clergy pensions are properly and fairly administered and that retirement conversations are had at an early stage to enable people to realistically plan for the future which helps both Clergy, Parish and Diocese.

A healthy church is one which treats all people fairly and compassionately. I welcome the reform to the CDM and hope we can move forward constructively. The safeguarding of all of us, both lay and ordained is so important, and must be at the forefront of our discussions.

Thank You

Thank you for reading my electoral statement, I hope you will consider me as your first preference vote.

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Don't forget to use your vote! Votes must be in by Friday 8th October!
