

General Synod Elections House of Clergy Candidate: Revd Chris Moore



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I am Rector of the Fownhope Benefice in the Ledbury Deanery. I have been here since 2011, and before that was curate in the Tenbury Team Ministry. For five years I taught at WEMTC, and have served as a Rural Dean of Hereford Deanery.



Why am I standing for Synod?

To represent the clergy – if elected I would hope that any and all clergy in the diocese would feel free to be in contact, and allow me to represent their concerns to the wider church.

To speak up for clergy – there are deep concerns surrounding stresses brought about by the Clergy Discipline Measure, which is due to be reviewed. I would want to see a system which is quicker, more open and protects clergy from vexatious complaints.

There are also pressures brought about by the worsening financial situation of the church, and the temptations will be to produce ways of working which place additional pressures on clergy. I would want to ensure these plans receive proper scrutiny. In my role as Regional Director of Church Society I have gained a good understanding of how many dioceses have addressed these issues, and the pitfalls of their various approaches.

To stand up for rural ministry – there has been a lot of discussion in the press about plans to restructure ministry. In our diocese we have a unique relationship with our parishes, and our rate of churchgoing is much higher than the national average.

I would want to ensure that rural ministry is not forgotten in national planning, and remains viable into the future.

To get stuck in – there are plenty of controversial debates due over the next five years (LLF, Climate Change, Vision and Strategy) and I would want to represent us in these debates and ensure all standpoints are heard.

In my wider ministry I work with Christians from other denominations (I am chair of the Fellowship of St Alban and St Sergius) and there are valuable insights from their perspective.

I am a Chartered Surveyor, and would hope to have something to contribute in our debates over buildings. My role as chair of the Hereford Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship has given me an insight into the fears felt by those in all wings of the Church of England, and I would hope to maintain the breadth which is a hallmark of our wonderful, frustrating, varied, enriching denomination.

Please do feel free to get in touch if you'd like to discuss any issues further.