

Revd Millie Cork

28 Norland Street,
Bradford, BD7 4DY
millie@bd7.church

Curate at BD7 Churches

St John's Great Horton, St Wilfrid's Lidget Green, & St Columba's Horton Grange

I am 32 years old, married to Josh, and mum to Zeb (4) and Clara (1). We also have a lively cockapoo named Strudel! I love serving as Curate at BD7 Churches, where our mission is to see God's Kingdom come in our corner of Inner Bradford.

We are an intercultural church, welcoming people from around the world to encounter Jesus and become a family together.

I am deeply passionate about Jesus, His Church, and the work of bringing the Kingdom of God to life. You might wonder, then, why I am standing for General Synod. Simply put, I believe we need people who are committed to listening to the Holy Spirit's leading for the church in the 21st century, whilst being those who will be faithful to both God and Scripture as we navigate the challenges ahead.

Although I may seem relatively young, I bring a breadth of experience that I hope gives you confidence in my ability to serve:

- **General Synod experience**

I previously served as a lay member for Leeds Diocese from 2015 to 2020, so I understand the complexities of Synod and how its systems work. This experience will allow me to hit the ground running and effectively contribute to discussions. During my time, I engaged with issues like homelessness, youth evangelism, and the environment. It was inspiring to see how debates at Synod led to real change, such as the restrictions on fixed-odds betting machines, which became law after discussions at Synod.

- **Curate in a resourcing church in Inner Bradford**

My curacy is within a parish focused on planting new churches and renewing our local community. We gather as a truly global congregation, and I am passionate about sharing this vision of mission and evangelism. I would bring that same enthusiasm to Synod, advocating for the renewal of the Church and the broader Anglican Communion.

- **Recent training and curacy**

Few curates serve on Synod due to the long-term commitment required, but I believe that having curates represented is vital. Recently completing my training,



I have fresh experience and insight into the current challenges faced by ordinands and the Church. I am eager to help address the national decline in ordinand numbers.

- **Women's ministry advisor**

As the Women's Ministry Advisor for the Bradford Episcopal Area, I am committed to empowering women to reach their full potential in ministry. Having taken maternity leave during both college and curacy, I understand the challenges and inequalities that still exist across dioceses. I am also passionate about valuing and highlighting the unique challenges faced by single women, clergy couples, and others in ministry, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs addressed. I will work to hold these issues to account at Synod.

- **Passion for the environment**

With a Geography degree from the University of Southampton, I've developed a lifelong passion for creation care. I have been involved in Christian Climate Action, including participating in protests at Synod. I am passionate about ecotheology and helping the Church meet its commitment to net-zero by 2030.

- **Commitment to children and young people**

In the Church of England's commitment to grow younger and more diverse, a vote for me on Synod would be doing something for lowering the average age! But I also realise that Gen Z and Gen Alpha are the future of the Church, and we must prioritize their involvement and leadership. It's vital that we hear and celebrate the stories of renewal that are already emerging among young people. At synod, I would hope to continue to hear younger voices, and be committed to stop the haemorrhage of young people that has been characteristic of the last few generations.

- **A heart for serving the poor and marginalised**

Prior to ordination training, I spent four years working at Lighthouse in Leeds, a church for those battered and bruised by the storms of life. I learnt much about Jesus' heart for the poor, and the way the gospel is good news for the hurting. Those years gave me insight into a wide range of issues such as: safeguarding, trauma, mental health, addiction, church planting, discipleship, and pastoral care.

I do hope you will feel able to vote for me. If you have any questions or queries about my election address, or would like to get to know me more, please do email or phone me on millie@bd7.church or 07411 333781

Proposed by: Revd Linda Maslen (BMO Minister at Fountains, Bradford)

Seconded by: Revd Jon Swales (Mission Priest to Lighthouse, Leeds)