



# ANNA ELTRINGHAM

## For General Synod

**Team Rector** of Oxted Team Ministry and **Dean of Women's Ministry**, Southwark Diocese. ☎ 07826 524038 ✉ [revd.anna@gmail.com](mailto:revd.anna@gmail.com)

**Proposed by:** The Venerable Moira Astin, Archdeacon of Reigate

**Seconded by:** Revd Canon Tim Goode, Rector of St Margaret's, Lee and Disability Adviser, Southwark Diocese

### WHY WOULD I LIKE TO SERVE ON GENERAL SYNOD?

- I believe with my experience and knowledge I can make relevant and helpful contributions to upcoming agenda items and debates to help the church be effective in its mission and ministry in this generation.
- I am grateful for the synodical process of the Church of England which brings together clergy, laity and a range of perspectives and through listening and debate aims to discern the right path for the church and all God's people.
- In Christ we are one body, many members and I believe the full spectrum of the Church of England should be well represented on Synod. I would represent female clergy and the voice of women more generally.

### MY PERSPECTIVE AND PRIORITIES

- During my faith journey I have found my home in a variety of churches from evangelical to central to more catholic and have found that in our diversity we make up the beautiful body of Christ. All traditions have a vital contribution to make and we can learn from each other.
- I also believe that every person is God's beloved child, whatever their socio-economic background, ethnicity, age, ability, gender or sexual orientation. All are an equal part of God's Family and like Jesus we need to go above and beyond to ensure the more vulnerable, less confident and oft marginalised know they are dearly loved by God.
- Children and young people are the church of today not just tomorrow. Their spiritual nurture, faith development and that of their families is an urgent priority and I will ensure Synod does not lose sight of this fact.
- I welcome the fresh approach taken by Synod to invite people in parishes to join the conversation about Living in Love and Faith and I would like to contribute to the next steps in this process at the national level.
- I think the 5-Guiding Principles have helpfully guided the church since the first ordinations of women, but now sense what was intended to hold us together is beginning to fracture and further debate is necessary to ensure the opening statement that the 'Church of England is fully and unequivocally committed to all orders of ministry being open equally to all, without reference to gender' continues to be held true.

- I feel passionately that we need to care for the wellbeing of clergy and laity in the life of our churches, especially in the re-building and healing phase post-pandemic. There is much to be done to ensure doing God's work is life-giving to all and I would like to contribute to constructive action to further the Clergy Covenant, review the Clergy Disciplinary measure and put the well-being of lay officers, on the agenda.
- I am passionate about global and local justice and campaigning and doing all we can to move towards a carbon-neutral church and society and protect the poorest in our world.
- I believe as the church we are Jesus' body, here on earth. All members are to share the good news of Jesus' risen life by his spirit and God's compassion and love for all people. I think in essence the proposed strategy to become a church that is 'simpler, humbler and bolder' is right and I am keen to play a part in making that happen.

## WHAT EXPERIENCE TO I BRING?

Marketing and management experience in charity, private and public sectors

Campaigned for fair and ethical trade and was an initiator and director of a local fair trade shop in Croydon

Worked with small, medium and large sized business in Croydon to reduce impacts on the environment

Global ecumenical experience after a life changing 6 month placement at the World Council of Churches graduate school, in the Bossey Ecumenical Institute in Geneva, with pastors from around the world

13 years of ordained parish ministry and a lifetime of involvement in the church

5 years as Dean of Women's Ministry advocating for women in ministry and their full involvement in the life of the Diocese as well as nationally with other dioceses

Member of various Diocesan committees and working groups over the years and currently a member of Southwark's steering groups for *Living in Love and Faith* and *Clergy Well-being*

Panel member for Clergy Disciplinary Tribunals

Entering my 3rd term on Diocesan Synod

Lived experience of balancing motherhood and ministry

## A LITTLE ABOUT ME

I am married with two school age children

I discerned a call to ministry in my late 20s having worked in the charity, business and public sectors.

I was a curate in South Norwood, where I experienced cultural and economic diversity and the raw need for God that some people have because they have little else

I am now a Team Rector in the South of the Diocese and have gained understanding of affluence and poverty side by side and the challenges of resourcing rural ministry

I am Dean of Women's Ministry for the Diocese working with senior staff and others to affirm female ministers in the Diocese and ensure our policies and practice are as inclusive, fair and enabling as possible.

With gratitude, I am a recently appointed Canon of Southwark Cathedral and an Honorary Chaplain to the Queen

Leisure includes jazz saxophone, tinkering on, or time away, in our VW Campervan

## And Finally...

I commit to actively engage, listen well and speak boldly on behalf of the Diocese of Southwark, its churches and its people.

If you like what I say, please give me your first vote or a high preference. Your first vote counts the most. **Thank you.**