

Revd Canon Joyce Forbes

Proposed BY:

The Venerable Rosemarie Mallet (Archdeacon of Croydon)



Seconded By:

Revd Canon Roxanne F Eversley (Vicar)

Holy Innocents and St Marks Benefice Upper Norwood

Family life

I am married to Frank, and we have four grown up children and eight grandchildren.

Ministry/ and working life

I was ordained Deacon in 2003 and priested in 2004 and served my curacy as an Ordained Local Minister (OLM) at St Stephen's Church, Norbury and Thornton Heath, in the Croydon Episcopal Area in Southwark Diocese. In 2008 my License was Transferred to Self-Supporting Minister continuing at St Stephen's Church. During this time, I continued to work for Social Services as a Social worker, where I stayed until 2014 when I retired, after 40 years of service with Children and Families.

I believe that my years as a social worker, helped prepared me to be the priest I am now. There were continued challenges every day, but these sometimes brought joy as well as pain. I had to build sustainable relationships with the young people and their families.

Hobbies

I like cooking, finding new recipes watching tv game shows, walking and spending quality time with my grandchildren

What experience do I bring?

- I am passionate about community engagement and as such, I have played a large part in Croydon North Deanery as a member of Croydon Citizens UK.
- Croydon Citizens have tackled issues around Affordable housing and fly tipping in the neighbourhood. I led the Croydon team in negotiations with the council on **Affordable housing**. I have also been involved in the work of the Archbishop's Housing Committee and am awaiting the development of the Affordable Housing Strategy
- I have also been very much part of the joint working with **Young People** across the borough and across London, bringing together young people from different faith communities. The Youth group that has grown out of this work, **Public Spirit**, have tackled issues

around the Police Stop and search, and have also attended and presented at a Citizen's Assembly attended by the Mayor, Commissioner of Police, the Bishop of Croydon, and our Local MP. They have also attended an assembly with the Mayor of London, and part of our work in enabling young people to find their voice and express themselves on matters of justice.

- I was Secretary for Croydon's **Minority Ethnic Anglican Concern Committee** (2003-2008), since then I have continued to be a member of the committee in a supportive role.
- I am Chair of Deanery Black History project, that saw the Deanery working together to address and deliver Black History in the Churches across the Deanery.
- I recently became the Assistant and now Acting Area Dean of Croydon North Deanery and took on the role of continuing to develop the Deanery with the support of the Clergy and Laity. One of the immediate projects I must ensure is facilitated within the Deanery is **Living in Love and Faith** I must make sure that the programme is delivered across the deanery by all the people who have taken up facilitator's positions and also to give the rest of the Deanery the opportunity to participate in this very important project. So far there have been 10 sessions planned to happen in September and October, with more to come.
- I am on the **Clergy Wellbeing** group where we are addressing the Well-being and Pastoral Care of Clergy in the Diocese.

WHY DO I WANT TO SERVE ON GENERAL SYNOD?

RACIAL JUSTICE - As a supporter of issues regarding racial awareness, I am hoping to take these issues forward, and help the Church move from Word & Lament to Action. UKME people are under-represented on General Synod and though my work on Southwark MEAC committees, I hope to redress the imbalance.

Affordable Housing: I have been very involved with this area of work at borough level and would hope to bring my experience onto General Synod.

INCLUSIVE CHURCH - I am keen that all areas of life are represented in the Church because I have always been committed for equality for everyone, and all roles within the church, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity, socio-economic status, mental health, or sexuality.

CLERGY WELL-BEING - As a member of the Clergy Well-Being group for Southwark Diocese, I aim to seek that Clergy take the time needed and do not subject themselves to burnout. As a Diocese we are looking at ways in which we can adopt the Covenant for Clergy Care and Wellbeing and seek to ensure that this is taken at its highest level and not seen as an added on item but a regular feature in discussions.

FINALLY: Thank you for reading my Statement, and if you have any questions feel free to be in contact petnard36@aol.com, I would love to hear from you. If you think we need a more diverse Synod and a more inclusive church, **please give me your first preference vote or the highest preference vote you are able.**

Whether you feel able to vote for me or not, please pray for me and the other candidates and I encourage you to ensure you do vote in this election.