

JOSEPH GOSWELL

Candidate for General Synod

Dear Elector

I am standing for General Synod for the first time with the belief that I have the knowledge, experience, passion, and ability required to represent our diocese at the General Synod.

Decision to stand for Synod

I consider membership to the General Synod as an important opportunity to positively participate in the effective management of the Church of England. The desire to stand for election stems back from my continued passion and dedication towards ensuring that The Church of England continues to play an important role in our society.



For the last 30 years, I have developed a keen interest on church affairs and this stems from my close affinity with my parish church St Michaels and All Angels with St James, a church situated at the heart of the Borough of Croydon.

As a result, I have been on numerous occasions elected to the Parochial Church Council of my parish and just completed a 6-year term as Church Warden. In addition, I have been a member of the Croydon Central Deanery Synod since 2012 and continued to be a member of the Standing Committee / Deanery Leadership Team. I have recently been elected to the Diocesan Board of Patronage

I have also, in addition to the above spent the last 11 years serving as a member of the Diocesan Synod of Southwark and now re-elected to serve for another 3 years together with my present membership of the Diocesan Council of Trustees, I now consider it an ideal opportunity to contribute to the work of the General Synod.

My Vision for the Church of England

The Church of England needs an overhaul considering the current challenges affecting the growth of Christianity in our society. As our society moves much closer towards secularism, there is the growing need for us to rediscover our fundamental principles as God's children.

Our current response as a society towards the issues like poverty, modern slavery, safeguarding, climate change and respect for diversity has certainly given course to reflect on whether we are sincerely dedicated to the course of enhancing our religious beliefs.

As the Church has now "recovered" from temporary closures due to the pandemic, the onus lies on us to enhance our church and advocate for effective structures within the Church of

England. Such opportunity can only be achieved through advocating for proper and effective representation at the General Synod.

Please consider voting for me for the following reasons

- You want a representative who will respect, embrace divergent views and opinions; someone that will be ready to be supportive and committed to the tenets of the Church of England as revealed in Holy Scripture and well defined in the catholic creeds
- Being a part of a synod that will be more productive in substance with specific emphasis sincerely deliberating on the burning issues challenging the growth of Christianity in our society.
- Someone with a wealth of experience and huge sense of maturity developed from a well chequered history of working within the public service and dedication to serve humanity at large.
- Good listener and a person that believes in respect for diversity within the Church of England

Thank you for taking your precious time to read my address. If you need to ask any questions pertaining to my candidacy for the office of member of the General Synod, then feel free to contact me through this e-mail address: jowarden92@gmail.com