



Rev'd Jonathan MacNeaney

Vicar, St Mary and St John the Divine, Balham

Proposed:

The Venerable Bridget
Shepherd
Archdeacon of Wandsworth

Seconded:

Mthr Berni Excell
Vicar of South Beddington
and Roundshaw

Who am I

I'm the vicar of St Mary's Balham where I've served for almost four years. I was ordained 14 years ago, aged 24. I served my curacy in Chelmsford Diocese and arrived in Southwark after a sojourn across the river in London Diocese. I love serving as a priest and, God willing, I will do so for another 30 years and then beyond into retirement. I've got a lot of years ahead of me so I'd like to be a part of shaping the future!

In the Church, God is calling together his people from all the ends of the earth. The Church is where the Spirit flourishes. It can be a frustrating place, a hurtful place, sometimes downright exasperating. We are a group of flawed and divided people. But I believe that Jesus Christ is the hope of the world and the church is called to be the messenger of liberation and salvation.

I want to represent you on synod. Please consider giving me your **first preference vote**. Not least because, as nerdy as it sounds, I really like synod. Someone has to enjoy proficient administration and conscientious oversight, and it's me. For fun I practice Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, the art of folding clothes while people are still in them.

What I have to offer:

Experienced Synod Representative

- I was ordained in Chelmsford in 2013 where from 2015-2017 I sat on General Synod.
- In 2017 I moved to serve in London Diocese and, as required, resigned my place on Synod. I returned as a Southwark representative during the most recent quinquennium.
- I took part in General Synod's Shared Conversations in Human Sexuality. These formed the groundwork to the Living in Love and Faith material.

Inclusive Candidate

- I am committed to equality, at all levels and roles within the church, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity, socio-economic status, mental health or sexuality. I am fully supportive of the vision of Together for the Church of England and the Inclusive Church Network. I wrote my masters thesis on the place of autistic people within the Kingdom of God.



Lover of the Parish

- I believe that the purpose of the Church is: to share the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ; to make disciples; to pray; to break bread together; to care for the sick and those who are oppressed; and to allow ourselves to be used by the Holy Spirit in God's work of transforming people's lives.
- Synod must support this ministry by careful financial scrutiny and investment of resources to the areas most in need. In Southwark this means arguing for our urban estates who receive unjustly little national funding.
- I retain love for the rural working-class community in which I grew up and the small parish church that sent me.
- The environment is the existential issue of our day. Unless the church leads in decarbonisation and green stewardship there will be no parishes to care for.
- Well-resourced parish ministry has been the lifeblood of generations of faithful Christian witness in this nation. It is effective for the kingdom and supports healthy flourishing clergy. I will fight for it.

Committed to the Wider Church

- I've served as an Assistant area director of ordinands in Kensington episcopal area and am currently serving as an ADIME in Southwark.
- I serve on the Diocesan Council of Trustees where, through its three constituent bodies, we hold responsibility for policy, financial and pastoral decisions.
- I am the area dean of Tooting.
- I'm a trained, practicing spiritual director.

A word from Archdeacon Bridget, my proposer.

"Jonathan is person of integrity who is driven by his love for God and for the Church. He is not afraid to ask challenging questions, nor to propose creative and innovative solutions to the problems we face."



I am committed to inclusive catholic principles and dedicated to kindness towards those with whom I disagree. I love God and I love the Church of England. I want the Church to declare the love that God has for all people in Jesus Christ.

If you would like me to represent you on General Synod then I would urge you to give me your first preference vote.

If you would like to discuss further any matters arising from this address then please contact me:
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