

Alex Milne

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Please feel free to contact me!

About me:

- I am 21, originally from Harrogate, now studying Business Management at the University of Hull, and am a member of St Mark's in Anlaby Common. I have been involved with the Church of England my whole life, including in education through my local Church of England schools.
- The Church of England has shaped me as a person, through going to church with my family growing up, it has taught me charity, love and thoughtfulness about others. I love the impact the church has in its respective communities throughout the country. For me personally, it has been helpful to have a vicar that I can talk to in my walk with Jesus.
- My relationship with Christ, and His acceptance of me, has inspired me to become more open-minded and accepting of people no matter who they are. I love reading the Bible, especially being guided by commentators, including John Stott. Prayer is also a pivotal focus of my life, and The Book of Common Prayer provides structure in my prayer life.
- Since joining St Mark's, I have quickly become involved with the church, including leading the prayers, reading the Bible passage and volunteering with children's work. I have enjoyed participating in these different ways, especially as parish community life is a core value of mine.
- I have also become involved with the University of Hull Christian Union and was elected as Treasurer earlier this year. I am very grateful for the opportunity this has provided for me to meet so many faithful Christians from varying traditions and beliefs.
- Before becoming a student, I worked as a team leader in a supermarket, working with lots of people from different walks of life. I still work there outside of university term time.

The Next Synod:

As a younger person I feel that I would be able to provide a fresh perspective on the issues that our Church is contending with. I am committed to communicating with a diverse range of people to better understand different perspectives.

Prioritising parishes:

- I believe that the decisions made at General Synod should always ultimately be for the good of our parish churches, and I am committed to working towards that aim. Our churches are so often an integral part of our communities and serve in more ways than providing a place for worship.
- A national church is only as strong as its individual parishes, a fact that many people feel the hierarchy of the Church of England has forgotten. We must build unity and consensus between the leadership of the Church of England across our parish churches, to rebuild trust and provide a platform for evangelism and outreach.
- If elected, I would work towards ensuring that commitment to prayer and the Bible is always at the heart of everything that the Church of England does.

Safeguarding:

- Safeguarding has been a huge issue in the Church of England in recent years, with many tragic scandals. The Church of England is right to protect victims and address safeguarding regulations, yet I believe these changes should be made in consultation with local parishes to understand how safeguarding regulations can be made for the benefit of all types of churches – both rural and urban.
- Synod needs to appreciate that not all parishes are within the same cultural context.

Mental health:

- Mental health is a much-discussed issue for people in my generation, especially men. As I said before, having a vicar to talk to is a vital aspect of my Christian life. If elected to Synod, I would be a champion for working towards the goal of every parish church having an incumbent priest that the people in the community can look towards when in need of talking about their issues.

I am **passionate** about our Church, would strive to build **unity** and am **committed** to growing faith in our communities.

I would be very grateful for your support in the election to General Synod. **Please consider giving me your first-place preference.**