

General Synod Election Address 2026

House of Laity

Liz Telford

St Andrew's Kirk Ella, Hull Deanery

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Proposer: Jeanne Parncutt – Guisborough Deanery (Lay Dean)

Seconder: Kevin Baker – Southern Ryedale Deanery

Who am I

- I am married to John, a vicar, and we have a 13 year old son and 2 cats. I am currently Administrator in a growing church.
- In my spare time I enjoy reading and I am part of 2 book groups I love being involved in the local community. I am on the school PTA, am a local parish counsellor and run a toddler group.
- I have been an active member of the Church of England for 30+ years

My background

I grew up in London and moved to Hull in 2013.

I studied History at university and then completed a Diploma in Management Studies.

I spent much of my working life in university administration until I became a stay at home mum. When I returned to work I moved into church administration.

I have lots of committee experience through both work and my voluntary roles and I love both being on them and serving them. I was on various committees while working for universities, I was on the spouses' committee while my husband was at theological college, I served on my local community library's fundraising committee and I am currently a parish councillor and a school PTA member.

I have served on many church committees over the years. I have been on PCC at two churches and also Deanery Synod rep for two churches, including in the York Diocese. I was on the London Area Council and I am currently a member of the York Vacancy in See Committee.

I have always been very involved in my local parish church. I have run 3 different toddler groups, I set up a warm spaces, I help out at our holiday club. I am passionate about seeing more families become involved in the church.

My role as Administrator includes fundraising, buildings management, growing the role of the church in the community, policies and church communications.

Priorities for the Church

Making the good news of Jesus known is of paramount importance and I believe this is brilliantly achieved through the parish church.

It is vital that there is a gospel presence throughout our nation and that no one is excluded from hearing about Jesus. Jesus is for young and old, rich and poor, all races and people of every sexuality and gender identity. Jesus wants all to come to him.

Churches need to be equipped to reach their local communities and it is where resources should be focussed.

Clergy need to be valued and cared for and adequately trained for the role. They need to be suitably rewarded both while in post and into retirement.

Finally

I think the above experience would enable me to serve as an excellent member of General Synod. Lots of people who know me have encouraged me to put my name forward.

If elected I would be a prayerful and faithful member of Synod who would make time and put in the effort to understand the issues being considered at the meetings.

Thank you for reading this. If you have any questions I would be more than happy to answer them.

I would be so grateful if you would consider giving me either your first or highest available preference vote.

Yours in His Service.

Liz Telford