DS 26/24

YORK DIOCESAN SYNOD
Living Christ's Story

A meeting of the York Diocesan Synod will be held **via Zoom** on **Saturday 28 November 2026** commencing at **9.00am.** The meeting will finish around **12.45pm.** Please join here:

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82122104841?pwd=PMEyUaQHXM2Gj2WrjD4kQaSkRydJ82.1

Meeting ID: 821 2210 4841
Passcode: 047178

Members are reminded that they can ask up to two original questions for answer at Question Time. Questions should be submitted by 4.00pm on **Friday 20 November 2026** to kirsty.mccullough@yorkdiocese.org and comply with the provisions of Standing Orders 69 to 71 as set out on the Notice of the Meeting.

Details of the agenda are given below – suggested timings for major items are shown in brackets.

For social media use #ydsynod

Peter Warry
Diocesan Secretary & Chief Executive
6 November 2026

AGENDA

9am **1** **Opening Worship & Presidential Address (25)**

2 **Apologies for Absence**

3 **Declarations of Interest**

4 **Minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2026 – attached - DS 26/25**

5 **Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the Agenda**

9:30 **6** **Diocesan Synod Elections 2027 – attached – DS 26/26 and annex 1 (10)**

The Diocesan Secretary and Chief Executive will present paper DS 26/26, following which the Chair of the House of Laity will invite the Synod to pass a motion in the following terms:

"This Synod agrees that:

(a) The number of elected clerical representatives to the diocesan synod from each deanery shall be related to the number of members in the House of Clergy in the deanery synod as at 31 May 2025, provided that each deanery has at least two such elected representatives, so that the total number of elected clerical representatives shall, as near as possible, be **72**;

(b) The number of elected lay representatives to the diocesan synod from each deanery shall be related to the total of the numbers on the Church Electoral Rolls of the parishes in the deanery in 2025, provided that each deanery shall have at least two such elected representatives, so that the total number of elected lay representatives shall, as near as possible, be **75**".

9:40 8 LCS Programme Update (5)

The Bishop of Selby will provide an update on the submitted SMMIB Bid.

9.45 9 Financial Overview and Draft Budget 2027 – attached - DS 26/27 a & b (35)

The Director of Finance will give a financial overview and introduce the draft budget for 2027.

Rodney Barton, Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance, will move a motion in the following terms:

"This Synod approves the Budget for 2027 as set out above and authorises the Diocesan Board of Finance to expend a sum of £16,410,000 (of which £14,944,000 is from the general fund) with the facility to draw up to £275,000 of contingency in addition from reserves."

10.20 10 Report on the July Sessions of General Synod (10)

Dr Tim Scott will present the report on the July sessions of General Synod, the text of which will form an appendix to the minutes of this meeting. This was the final meeting of the quinquennium and also the final meeting for Dr Scott, who did not seek re-election. Our thanks are extended to him and to all who have served the diocese faithfully over the last five years.

10.30 11 Report on the November Session of General Synod (10)

One or two representatives to the new General Synod will present the report on the first meeting of the new quinquennium.

10.40 Coffee Break (15)

10.55 Lectio Divina (15)

11.10 12 Clergy Covenant report and next steps (40) – attached - DS 26/28

The Archdeacon of Cleveland will introduce the item and Mona-Karina Theodosius will lead members in a time of reflection on the challenge presented by General Synod that: '*The next triennium should focus on consistency, accountability, and cultural change so that every cleric, in every context, can flourish*' and what that means in practice for our parishes and deaneries in supporting clergy wellbeing.

11.50 13 Vocations – Verbal Update (10)

Further to the Vocations debate held at Diocesan Synod in November 2025, the Revd Canon Samantha Taylor, Diocesan Adviser on Vocations, will provide an interim report as a verbal update. The final motion arising from the work commissioned by Diocesan Synod will form a part of the agenda for the new triennium in November 2027.

12pm 14 Question Time (10)

12.10 15 Diocesan Conference – attached – DS 26/29 and 30 (10)

The Bishop of Whitby will report on the outcomes of the detailed feedback received on the Diocesan Conference held in July 2026.

12.20 16 Safeguarding Report - attached – DS 26/31 (5)

Synod will receive the report submitted to the most recent meeting of Archbishop's Council which reports on activity from June-October 2026.

12:25 17 Good News Item (15)

The Revd Jonny Guy (Hull) will lead the Good News Item.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

(i) Archbishop's Council and Standing Committee Minutes – attached – DS 26/32 and 33

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2026, and 10 September 2026.

(ii) Date of Next Meeting

Saturday 17 April 2027

(iii) Reporting Back to Deanery Synods and Parishes

Notes from the Synod meeting on Saturday 28 November 2026 will be made available on the Diocesan website to help you report back to your Deanery Synods and PCCs. The notes will be available by Wednesday 4 December 2026 at www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/synodnotes.

12.40 18 Closing Words and Prayers – The Archbishop