

**Diocese of Oxford
General Synod Elections 2021**

Questions to Candidates

Name of Candidate (please enter name in full)	Jayne Margaret Ozanne
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Questions and Replies

Question 1:	How do you think General Synod can promote engagement with the recommendations of the <i>From Lament to Action</i> report published in April this year?
Reply: 120 word limit applies	I was really pleased to see the 47 recommendations of the Anti-Racism Task Force but was deeply dismayed that the funding for the Racial Justice Officers was not approved. Without proper resourcing, including appointed leads to oversee the report's implementation in each diocese, nothing will change. We will continue with deep-seated levels of unconscious bias at every level of the Church. If this truly is the priority that the archbishops said it would be, then the Archbishops' Council needs to "put its money where its mouth is" and fund this critical work – otherwise it is all just lip service.

Question 2:	What are your views on the place of the parish in the Church of England, bearing in mind concerns raised by the 'Save the Parish' campaign, concerns about availability of resources for the rural church and opportunities for new mission initiatives outside the usual parochial structure?
Reply: 120 word limit applies	In 2019 I lead a debate in Diocesan Synod about the need to properly support our poorer parishes - we need to have "seaworthy fishing boats" (ie with heating, toilets). Few have the resources (either people or finances) to deliver the change they need, whilst large city churches continue to draw parishioners away from these smaller parishes. Our central structures are becoming increasingly bloated placing increasing financial demands on parishes' dwindling finances. This is unsustainable. We need to agree a vision, as a Synod (not an Archbishops' Commission), of what we believe God is calling us to be and do.

Question 3:	If a motion was presented for a change in the law to permit same sex marriage in the Church of England, would you support it and, in any event, what outcomes would you like to see from the <i>Living in Love and Faith</i> conversations?
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<p>Reply: 120 word limit applies</p>	<p>I yearn for the day when I can get married in church in front of God, my family and friends. This “debate” has gone long enough - we will never agree! So let us create conscience clauses for clergy, similar to other areas, so that LGBT+ people like me can stop being treated as second class citizens. LLF is a necessary step in the long walk towards this inevitable decision, but I fear will rarely be used in the churches that most need it. We therefore need our Bishops to model the Pastoral Principles – particularly addressing hypocrisy, fear and silence.</p>
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<p>Question 4:</p>	<p>Would you support any further proposals for ‘Church of England’ financial resources to disinvest from fossil fuel industries and what other actions do you think could be taken in the Church of England in order to promote the Fifth Mark of Mission?</p>
<p>Reply: 120 word limit applies</p>	<p>The Church of England has shown considerable leadership in tackling the climate change emergency, although we still have a very long way to go. The leverage that the Church Commissioners have wielded has been truly groundbreaking. I am a huge supporter of the Transition Pathway Initiative and agree with Archbishop Justin that what is needed is considered engagement with corporations rather than blunt action just for the sake of it. The goal is to get to a greener future, and we need to take targeted and informed decisions to ensure polluters get there.</p>