

My name is Martin Gorick, and I'm the Archdeacon of Oxford. I live at Christ Church with my family and worship there day by day, whilst on Sundays I'm often out at other churches in the area.

I'd like to bring my experience of this amazing diocese into General Synod. Its parishes, which are the front line of our ministry and mission; its universities, including Oxford where I'm part of the Governing Body; its multi faith communities, chaplains and chaplaincies; and its major new housing areas, all of which are key parts of my job. I would bring my past experience too, with time as a Bishop's Chaplain and twenty three years as a parish priest.

I was once a member of General Synod for Coventry Diocese and I would relish the chance to be there again. It was a place that fed and informed my parish ministry, as well as somewhere I felt I could make a difference. As an Archdeacon I enjoy making connections between the national and the local and am also at the sharp end of legislation. I hope Synod might again be a place where I could both make a useful contribution, and also bring knowledge, contacts and experience back into the diocese. If you want to vote for Archdeacon Karen I'm in full support of her candidacy and would be very happy to receive your second preference vote instead. I think its important that we try and ensure that we still have an Archdeacon able to represent this diocese even if people move on.

We'll need to go on thinking how we stay true to scripture and tradition whilst still being the Church for England, the people's church. How we adapt to the changing nature of marriage in this country, is just one aspect of this. I rejoice in a House of Bishops of women and men together and look forward to its development within the five guiding principles. The Reform and Renewal agenda will need ongoing scrutiny and challenge to bring the best from it. We'll need clergy who are well motivated and resourced as we plan for mission in challenging times. We'll need leaders who are free to lead, and not bogged down in bureaucracy and red tape.

In summary we need a church infused with Holiness, Humility and Hospitality.
Transforming Lives with a Living Faith.

