

Dear General Synod electorate,

I am Nathan Booker, currently I am finishing a degree in classical music and I am looking to go forward to a career in teaching. I have had the privilege to worship and serve in Leeds Minster, and I am excited and hopeful for the opportunity to serve my diocese at General Synod.



It would certainly be fair to say that the church has faced many difficult questions in the recent years and grappled with trying to discern God's will in a unified manner. Obviously this is incredibly difficult to hold the church together when it can seem so divided but if I was elected it would be incredibly important to me that we managed this. There is no greater time to remember the unifying power of a belief in God than at times when we feel that our views couldn't be more different.

I have been active in church meetings since I was 16 serving on PCC, Deanery Synod, Diocesan synod as well as being the Chair of the Bishops' youth council and sitting on the Bishops council in the diocese of Leicester where I grew up. Charing the Bishops' youth council helped me to represent young people's views through the whole diocese and as I am currently 21 I would look forward to the opportunity to do this at General Synod. Growing up in Leicester I enjoyed serving my small village church where I was licenced as a lay minster but I was also involved in the cathedral choir and community where I got married two years ago. As I mentioned I believe a diverse range of people on General Synod will help the church grapple with the difficult questions it faces and I would like to be a part of that.

General synod has an incredible opportunity and responsibility to ensure the views of the church are reflected within its conversations. I am standing for General Synod because I have hope for the church, I believe that it can be a place for mission, a place for exciting new thoughts and a space to allow the church to grow and serve God.