

SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE & DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE
SATURDAY 21st MARCH at 9.30AM until 1PM

To be held at St Gabriel's Church, Huyton Quarry, Hall Lane L36 6AZ

Our Diocesan Prayer

Loving God, by your grace we long to see more people knowing Jesus, and more justice in your world. Help us to live as your disciples in the power of the Spirit and to work to your praise and glory. Amen

AGENDA

Time	Item	Matter	Lead	Supporting paper?
SESSION I: CHAIR – Rev Canon Peter Dawkin, Chair of House of Clergy				
0930	DS26/01	Welcome and Introduction from Chair of House of Clergy	Chair	N
0935	DS26/02	Opening Prayer	Tsedaqah Community	N
0945	DS26/03	Presidential Address	+RW	N
Briefing Matters				
0955	DS26/04	Safeguarding Introduction from +RW; Presentation by Sharon Parr, Diocesan Secretary to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on Charity Commission & INEQE Safeguarding Audit – Synod to note. Presentation by Debbie Innes-Turnill, Interim Chair of Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel (DSAP), to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2025 Annual Safeguarding Report – Synod to note; Engagement in safeguarding activity. 	Sharon Parr & Debbie Innes-Turnill	Y
Synod breaks for refreshments and reconvenes at 1110hrs				
SESSION II: CHAIR – Canon Debra Walker, Chair of the House of Laity				
Items of Business				
1110	DS26/05	Motions <u>Motion A</u> <i>This Synod:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> takes note of the official warning by the Charity Commission for England and Wales to the Trustees of the Diocesan Board of Finance on 16th January 2026 in respect of charitable governance and oversight of safeguarding; laments all abuse, and commits itself (i) to prayer for victims and survivors, (ii) to repentance for past failures to respond well, and (iii) to continue to seek to be trauma informed in our response; welcomes all scrutiny (including the recent INEQE audit) which may better enable the Trustees of the Diocesan Board of Finance, 	ADNSF	N

		<p>and all other bodies in the Diocese of Liverpool, to better discharge our safeguarding responsibilities.</p> <p>d. Reconfirming our commitment to promoting a safer church for all, calls on all members of the diocese – including clergy, church officers, and PCCs – to recommit to their duty to follow the House of Bishop’s Safeguarding Guidance.</p> <p><u>Motion B</u> <u>This Synod:</u></p> <p>a. takes note of the official warning by the Charity Commission for England and Wales to the Trustees of the Diocesan Board of Finance of the Dioceses of Liverpool and Chelmsford on 16th January 2026 in respect of charitable governance and oversight of safeguarding;</p> <p>b. calls on the Archbishop’s Council to identify how Diocesan Boards of Finance might be better enabled to discharge their charitable responsibilities for safeguarding, including (i) a clear statement of the current scope of the legal and charitable responsibilities of Diocesan Boards of Finance for safeguarding; (ii) any changes to the current structures of Diocesan Boards of Finance and of other charitable bodies within diocese that may be required, (iii) any changes to ecclesiastical or charity law, or to practice guidance, that may be required;</p> <p>c. calls on the Archbishops Council to bring forward to the General Synod any necessary legislation or legislative changes that may be required as a result.</p>		
1140	DS26/06	General Synod i) Report from GS Members and ii) Diocesan Secretaries Update Paper	Nigel Lea-Wilson	Y
1145	DS26/07	Promulgation of Amending Canon No44 – to include provision for the exercise of ministry by Armed Forces chaplains	STP	Y
1145	DS26/08	Elections 2026 to Deanery Synod and to General Synod To advise Synod on the upcoming elections and processes	ADNPS	N
1155	DS26/09	Election to Trustee of LDBF: Finance Committee To fill vacancy of one lay member and one clergy member Trustee positions on LDBF Finance Committee.	STP	N
Briefing Matters - continued				
1200	DS26/10	DBF Finance Update To include i) year-end 2025 position and ii) 2026 financial forecasting and projection (With opportunity for brief questions & comments)	MPE	Y
1220	DS26/11	Parish Share Review Group Presentation with update on progress Motion: that this Synod i) notes the report of the Parish Share Review Group and thanks them for their work, ii) approves in principle the direction of travel proposed and iii) mandates the Parish Share Review Group to carry out the financial modelling and further work necessary to bring fully developed final proposals to Synod in Autumn 2026, with a view to implementation of the new system taking place from January 2027	ADNMTH	N
1250	DS26/12	Episcopal appointment process and timings Update regarding Vacancy in See and +Warrington appointment processes	+RW	N
1255	DS26/13	Questions under Standing Order 68		
1300	DS26/14	Closing Prayer and Blessing	+RW	N

2026 Diocesan Synod:

Saturday 7th November 2026 at Holy Trinity Formby, Rosemary Lane, Formby L37 3HA

2027 Diocesan Synod:

Saturday 13th March 2027 venue tbc

Saturday 16th October venue tbc