

General Synod Election Address



Fr Daniel Howard

Liverpool North & Walton Deanery

Proposed by: The Rev'd Mike Hindley,
Associate Vicar, St James in the City.

Seconded by: The Rev'd Canon Nicola Milford,
Vicar, All Hallows, Allerton.
Area Dean, Liverpool South

Why me?

- Born and raised in Liverpool,

I have contributed to synodical life within the diocese since I was a teenager, and would value the opportunity to contribute on a bigger scale, with a local voice.

- Several clergy colleagues have encouraged me to stand on the basis of my belief in parish ministry in this Diocese as well as the wider church.

- I am committed to working with all people, and share good relationships across traditions and theological divides.

- As a society priest, I come from a tradition that is underrepresented locally and nationally on key decision making bodies – I could offer a different perspective to the national conversations.

About me

Vicar of St Columba, Anfield

Dean of the Chapter
of the Transfiguration

Assistant DDO

Vicar, St Margaret & All Hallows,
Warrington, 2017–2020

Deanery Lead for Discipleship, Warrington,
2017–2020

Curate, St Columba, Anfield, 2014–2017

I am married to Jessica, who works for the
Diocese as the Bishop's Appointments
Secretary, and we have two children.

"Having ministered alongside Daniel, as, together we led the Leaders Leading your Church into Growth sessions in the Diocese, I am delighted to Second Daniel's Nomination for General Synod. I have witnessed Daniel's desire for Kingdom growth across the traditions, his commitment to mutual flourishing and mentoring, therefore recognise his support and encouragement for all, placing God firmly at the centre of his ministry. Committed to the growth and thriving of parishes, Daniel will be a strong advocate for a fair distribution of the church's resources; people, training and financial, enabling more people to know Jesus, more acts of justice to be carried out and more leaders embodying their call for the furtherance of God's mission and ministry."

**The Reverend Canon Nicola Milford, Rector of All Hallows, Allerton
and Area Dean of Liverpool South**

Contact me

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I stand for...

Evangelism

Evangelism must remain our first priority as the Church. I believe that it is crucial to train and equip all the laity for this task; my commitment to this end has been demonstrated recently through the organisation of the 'Ready with a Reason' conference in 2025 at the Cathedral, which attracted two hundred people. It is my belief that the church must continue to keep this vision at the forefront of all its work and offer pathways for people to truly fulfil the vocation common to their baptism. Given the current statistics, and in light of the spiritual hunger in society, this needs more work and attention.

Generous Resourcing

Why is the Church doing this? Faithful Christians repeatedly ask why some forms of parish ministry attract significant investment while others struggle to survive. Why do Catholic, liberal and traditionalist parishes so often feel overlooked? And why are poorer parishes facing closure? "It's simply a matter of funding" is no longer sufficient. If we believe in "a Christian presence in every community", our financial priorities must reflect that conviction. I would advocate for fairer, more transparent resourcing: supporting flourishing mission, encouraging growth, and sustaining Christian presence where communities are poorest and most vulnerable, across every theological tradition. We should invest in hope.

Marriage

I would oppose any change to the doctrine of marriage, as described in Canon B30, which affirms that marriage it is an exclusive, permanent and lifelong union between one man and one woman 'till death do them part'.

Please consider giving me your first preference vote.

Thank you

Daniel Howard

The Parish

I believe that the one of greatest treasures of the Church of England is the parish system. I am committed to the ideal of one priest one parish arrangement, that has served the nation well for centuries. People relate locally; in preserving the parish we honour the local and the people who live in that place. I believe the parish states boldly: we care for you. To this end, the cure of souls held by the incumbent offers missional opportunity that should be preserved and strengthened. I would vote for measures that support this point.

Mutual Flourishing

I long to see all clergy, women and men alike, flourish in their ministries throughout the Church of England. For me, mutual flourishing means creating a Church where one group's flourishing does not come at another's expense, and where genuine difference is held together with generosity, charity and respect. Recent petitions and comments following several 'Statements of Needs' for prospective diocesan bishops remind us that trust remains fragile. Some traditionalist clergy and laity feel their place increasingly uncertain, particularly amid calls to reconsider arrangements established by the House of Bishops. The recent claim (Church Times, 14 November 2025) that traditionalist views on holy order create a 'fertile environment for sexism and abuse' has caused considerable hurt. We need to listen carefully, resist hostile language and avoid unnecessary hurt. We must patiently build relationships of trust. Inclusion should make space for genuine difference, rather than require uniformity. We can, and should, seek a Church in which all can flourish.

Ministry

Being a priest in today's church is as much a challenge as it is a joy. Surveys declare that clergy have never felt as pressured as they do now, by administration, safeguarding, buildings, and evangelisation (in a largely secular country). Often these tasks fall to them, given that skilled, active laity are frequently time poor. The Church needs to reinvest in its clergy and love them, following Christ, the Good Shepherd. What is needed? Investment that actually resources ministry amid contemporary challenges. Investment in clergy housing to aid wellbeing. Investment in priesthood itself, so that it is counted as a gift to be treasured when the business management model has prevailed.