

Miranda Threlfall-Holmes

Nominated by

Becca Cottrell, West Derby Deanery

Louis Johnson, Sefton South Deanery



I'm Archdeacon of Liverpool, and was previously Team Rector of the St Luke in the City Team Parish in Liverpool city centre. I live in Toxteth, near Sefton Park, with my husband Phil (a churchwarden) and our 3 teenage/young adult children. I've been ordained for 23 years; before coming to Liverpool I was a vicar and Area Dean in Durham, and before that a university chaplain. I'd describe myself as inhabiting a **central, broad churchmanship**, with an essentially sacramental theology and a **commitment to inclusion**.

John 15 is one of my favourite Bible passages. I love the way Jesus uses organic images to combine **stability, spirituality, and fruitfulness**. These three things are often pitted against each other in the life of the Church today, but I feel a strong sense of call to hold them together.

I've represented you in the Diocese of Liverpool for the last six years, and have been elected by Synod members to represent them on **Archbishops' Council**. I've been a member of General Synod for nearly 20 years now, which means that I am one of only a few people who hold the **corporate memory** of the synod. The value of this became clear in the recent pensions debates, when my memory of the 2011 debate was important in persuading members of the Church Commissioners and Pensions Board to back the full restoration of the 2/3 clergy pension.

There is a lot of reading on General Synod! Last time I asked for your vote I promised you, and I commit to you again, that I will read all the papers and background material thoroughly. I also promise that I will be fully engaged in considering all the many issues facing the church, not just the 'hot button' ones that grab the headlines. I'm committed to working together across difference for the building up of the church (1 Corinthians is another favourite).

I am standing for re-election to General Synod.
I would very much appreciate your first preference vote.

Financing our Parish Churches

As a member of Archbishops' Council, I'm particularly involved in the long term financing of the Church of England. **Parish churches in every place** are fundamental to our ministry. The Diocese of Liverpool has nearly the lowest level of assets of any diocese, so it is hugely important for us that we agree on an equitable and sustainable funding model. This year I've been chairing the Parish Share Review Group for our Diocesan Synod, and nationally I'm a member of the Triennium Funding Steering Group, working for **a fair allocation of resources** both locally and nationally.

We also need to work with government, local authorities and heritage organisations to ensure that our **buildings are funded and in good repair for the whole community**, for the long term.

Safeguarding

In 2024/5 I served on the Jay/Wilkinson Review Group which proposed a way forward for more **robustly independent safeguarding structures**, proposals currently working their way through the synodical process. In 2025 I was involved in a lot of engagement with the Charities Commission over safeguarding, both nationally and in this diocese, and I would very much value the opportunity to see these developments through.

An inclusive, welcoming church for all

The **full inclusion of all** in the Church of England is hugely important to me. I was a founder signatory to Inclusive Church over 20 years ago, and in General Synod was very involved in the move to open up the episcopate to women. In Synod I'm well known for voting in an inclusive manner, and I have worked hard to forge good working relationships across the synod, despite our very real differences on some of these issues. For 3 years I served as a member of the House of Bishop's Standing Commission on the Five Guiding Principles.

Here in Liverpool it's a great privilege to work with the first Open Table congregation, and to see it become a thriving charity serving LGBTQIA+ congregations across the country. I love this diocese's commitment to working for justice, in so many ways, from Together Liverpool to our ground-breaking Triangle of Hope work with Kumasi in Ghana and Virginia in the US.

This year I have also served nationally as Chair of the Church of England's Racial Justice Board.

Theological Education and Vocations

I've been a trustee of two theological colleges, and I'm very concerned about the **need to increase vocations to ordained ministry**. I'll work in synod to ensure that the funding of our TEs is sustainable and to ensure that our theological education is meeting the needs of today's church. I am also particularly interested in the provision of high quality theological training and resources to all. My own background before ordination is as a historian, and I often bring a long term historical perspective to Synod debates.



Please feel free to contact me to discuss any of this:
miranda.threlfall-holmes@liverpool.anglican.org

I would very much appreciate your first preference vote.