Diocesan Synod
November 2026

SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE & DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE
SATURDAY 7th NOVEMBER at 9.30AM until 1PM

To be held at Church of the Holy Trinity, Rosemary Lane, Formby, L37 3HA

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	Paper
SESSION I: CHAIR – Chair of House of Laity				
0930	DS26/15	**Welcome and Introduction** from Chair of House of Laity *Including those new to Synod: Members of the Tsedaqah Community who joined us in Liverpool in September/October; the Bishop of Warrington and newly elected General Synod Representatives.*	Chair	N
0935	DS26/16	**Opening Prayer** Led by Tsedaqah community	Tsedaqah Community	N
0945	DS26/17	**Presidential Address** Rt Rev Ruth Worsley, Bishop of Liverpool	+RW	N
Briefing Matters				
0955	DS26/18	**Parish Share Review** Presentation and Final Proposals by Ven Dr Miranda Threlfall-Holmes, Chair of Working Group. ***Motion*:** That this Synod approves the method of calculating Parish Share contributions proposed by the Parish Share Review Group, with full implementation to be phased in over the 3 years from 2027 - 2029 and the next banding recalculation taking place in 2028.	VenMTH	Y
1030	DS26/19	**Update on Strategic Change Programme: Fit for Mission** Laura Jones, Acting Director of Programmes and Fit for Mission Lead, to present and speak to this item: i) Fit for Mission Annual Review 2026 – as circulated ii) Panel Discussion *Synod to note that the report on Diocesan Investment Programme (DIP) will be brought to Synod March 2027*	Laura Jones (LJ)	Y
Synod breaks for refreshments 1105hrs and reconvenes at 1130hrs				

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SESSION II: CHAIR – Chair of House of Clergy				
Time	**Item**	**Matter**	**Lead**	**Paper**
Briefing Matters cont.,				
1130	DS26/20	**Wigan Deanery Synod Motion: Free School Meals for All** Rt Rev Simon Robinson, Bishop of Warrington will present and speak to this item. The Wigan Deanery Motion is set out in attached supporting paper. Rev Canon Neil Cook, Team Rector of Wigan will propose the Motion. ***Motion:*** That this Synod, on receipt of the Motion from Wigan Deanery Synod, i) requests Government reviews the funding for free school meals programme, acknowledging that current provision is underfunded and that any expansion of free school meal entitlement must be accompanied by adequate additional funding for schools; ii) supports the extension of free school meals to all children; iii) supports the wider campaign calling upon Government to implement this change; iv) encourages all parishes, deaneries and dioceses to raise awareness of child food poverty and support local initiatives addressing hunger; and v) encourages individual Synod Members to contact their Member of Parliament on this issue, as a witness to our shared commitment to justice and care for the most vulnerable.	+S & guests	Y
Update Items of Business				
1155	DS26/21	**General Synod i) Confirmation of Elected Members for the Quinquennium 2026-2031 ii) Report from GS Members and iii) Diocesan Secretaries Update Paper** *Synod to note.*	Ven PS	Y
1205	DS26/22	**Vacancy in See Committees Regulation (as amended)** *Proclaimed at General Synod 13th July 2026 and for Diocesan Synod to note.*	STP	Y
1210	DS26/23	**Casual Vacancies to Trustee of LDBF: Finance Committee, Clergy Housing Committee and Board of Education** *Update on present position; Synod to note.*	STP	N
Item of Business - Finance				
1215	DS26/24	**Financial Report from the Diocesan Board of Finance** Canon Maggie Swinson, Trustee and Chair of the DBF will move the Motion; Matt Elliott, Diocesan Director of Finance, will present and speak to the item. **To include** presentation of i) Annual Report & Accounts for 2025; ii) 2026 year-end projection and iii) 2027 Budget. ***Motion:*** That this Synod (i) receives and agrees the Report & Accounts for 2025; (ii) notes the 2026 in-year position and (iii) approves the 2027 budget.	MPE & MS	Y
1245	DS26/25	**Diocesan Board of Finance Annual General Meeting 2026** *(Synod will temporarily suspend and reconvene as the Diocesan Board of Finance. The DBF AGM will then be held.)* • Agenda for AGM 2026 • Minutes of 2025 AGM	MS	Y
Synod Reconvenes: CHAIR – Chair of House of Clergy				
1250	DS26/26	**Questions under Standing Order 68**		
1255	DS26/27	**Closing Prayer and Blessing**		

2027 Diocesan Synod:
Saturday 13th March 2027 beginning at 9.30am venue tbc
Thursday 6th July 2027 beginning at 7pm venue tbc
Saturday 16th October 2027 at 9.30am venue tbc