

Revd. George Brett

Candidate for House of Clergy (Peterborough Diocese)

A broad church for the 22nd Century.

We are entering a time of profound cultural, technological, and environmental change. I believe the Church of England has a valuable and distinctive place within it. As we face the spiritual and practical challenges ahead, we must consider how we will guide the Church into the 22nd century. Can we dare to be a truly broad Church?

Contact Info

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Nominators

Revd. Tom Houston (Kettering Deanery) & **Revd. Allison Twigg** (Rutland Deanery)

I am a second-year curate at St Andrew's Kettering, husband, father of two, and a tertiary Franciscan. Before ordination, I served in lay leadership across different church traditions and worked in management in the technology sector. I enjoy jazz and folk music, board games, motorcycles and decent beer!

If elected, I will listen carefully to clergy across our Diocese, represent their concerns at Synod, and report back openly on its work.



What would you be Voting for?

Unity

I believe the Church of England can thrive as a diverse ecology if we encourage honest, mature conversation and mutual respect. Our unity must recognise and embrace the theological, spiritual, and human diversity that already exists within the Church.

To this end I believe we must work toward a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate; and a church that is able to challenge itself where it continues to discriminate against people on grounds of disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality.

LGBTQIA+ Inclusion

I affirm the compatibility of Christian discipleship and queer identity and would support the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ people in the sacramental life of the Church. I support individual priests having pastoral discretion with provision for those who conscientiously take a different view.

Creation Justice

Creation justice is not a secondary concern but part of our Christian mission. I want the Church to use its land, property, and resources creatively for creation renewal, help parishes reach net zero, and support Christian environmental action.

Pioneering the Parish and its Priest

There can be no mistaking the significance of the parish and the cure of souls, but we must also recognise that our current parish system is broken. The current system is under real strain as Clergy and PCCs face ever-increasing administrative demands while multi-parish and multi-church posts are becoming more common. We need to redirect resources towards parishes, cut unnecessary bureaucracy, and develop a sustainable models to not only 'Save the Parish' but to pioneer how we express a renewed parish ministry into the 22nd century.

Clergy Well-Being and Equal Opportunities

Research commissioned by the National Ministry Team has highlighted the alienation experienced by working-class clergy. Barriers remain in selection, training, and ministry for people without financial security or experience of higher education. I would support action to address cultural, racial, economic, and gender inequalities and to create a safe and viable environment for LGBTQIA+ clergy.

Together, across our different backgrounds and traditions, I believe we can build a Church that is faithful to Scripture, proclaims the Gospel afresh for each generation and enables all people to discover how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.

Can we dare to be a broad Church? I believe the life of the Church depends on it.

Peace and all goodness,
Rev. George Brett