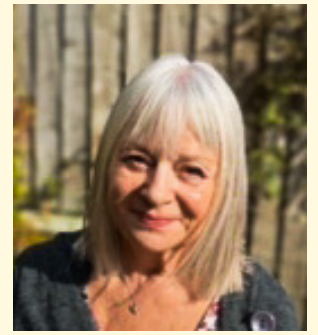


Nicola Wye

For General Synod

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I worship at St Mary Magdalene, Castle Ashby, as well as at the other churches in the Benefice of Yardley Hastings. My own journey of faith began at St Peter's, Weston Favell, Northampton, where I was baptised. St Peter's remained our family church, and my two sons were also baptised there.

I serve on the PCC at St Mary Magdalene and as the Deanery Synod representative for Castle Ashby and Whiston. I have greatly valued attending Deanery Synod meetings, which have broadened my understanding of the activities, priorities and challenges facing both rural and urban parishes.

I am also a Foundation Governor of Grendon Church of England Primary School, a role which strengthens my commitment to the Church's presence in education and in the life of local communities.

Before retirement, I was a career civil servant, working in both the Employment Department and the Department for Education. Through working with ministers and colleagues to develop and implement Government policy, I gained experience that I believe would serve me well in representing parish and diocesan perspectives within the Church of England's "parliament".

I am used to listening carefully, canvassing views, debating constructively and working with others to shape effective policy and practice.



My own rural parish church, situated within a private estate, has a distinctive context. Although we welcome many visitors, rather like a cathedral in miniature, they are often not drawn from the immediate local community. The church is tucked away from village residents, and this has deepened my awareness of the importance of building connection, visibility and belonging. People lead busy lives and the demands on them often impact on their ability to come to church on Sunday mornings. We, as the Parish Church need to come to them in the community.

Re-energising and Reimagining Our Parishes

I am standing for election because I believe that the parish is where much of the Church's life, energy and hope are first nurtured. Ordinary lay people play an essential part in sustaining and renewing our churches, and their voices deserve to be heard clearly within the wider life of the Church.

They also deserve to be kept informed, encouraged and connected. In many places, numbers are beginning slowly to grow, and the work being done in parishes and across the diocese to welcome more people, especially younger generations, is vital to our shared future. Pushing open the big brown door can be rather scary for some, but Jesus invites us to knock and walk through...



Despite the diminishing numbers of ordained clergy to administer within Parishes and Benefices the jury is still out about planting new churches. We have to find a solution that will ease the load of our clergy harmoniously.

Funding is intrinsically linked to this issue and I have faith that if we open our hearts and minds solutions will be found. I believe we all have the same goal – safeguarding mission and ministry in our communities.

If elected to General Synod I am prepared to work tirelessly for the working groups and committees for the maximum opportunity to get the voice of our Parishes and Diocese heard and influence policy. I will represent our parishes with care, honesty and faithfulness.

Thank you for taking the time to read my address and for your support if you vote for me.
Please do get in touch.

Nicola Wye