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Candidate for House of Clergy]

Proposer: Matthew Lefroy
Secunder: Phil Cansdale



OPENING STATEMENT

We are, as the Church of England, are uniquely placed to see people disciplined and grow into maturity with a deep and rich faith, which I am whole-heartedly committed to. I am passionate in seeing the Church work together in mission and evangelism in the parishes and deaneries to make Christ known.

I am offering myself to serve on General synod to see:

- Mission, evangelism, and fresh expressions of church to be the main objectives of the next few years.
- To see churches grow and flourish as the Gospel is communicated to the people we serve.
- To see a Church that is united around the cross, allowing hope and vision for the future.
- To see a Church that is aware of local churches playing a part of something much bigger and are part of the greater Anglican communion.

PERSONAL DETAILS

My name is Matt Beer. I grew up in South Africa and moved to the UK in 2007. I currently live in Telford with my wife, Emily, and our spaniel, Zach. It is a delight and pleasure for me to be the Leader of Telford Minster. Previously, I was the curate of St Mary's Bletchley, and Parish Assistant of Christ Church Abingdon, in the Oxford Diocese, before ordination in 2016. I have a particular interest in seeing schools flourish as they nurture a new generation of leaders.

I am also a passionate gardener, countryside walker, runner, and love a good barbeque with as many people as possible.

My journey of faith began when I was invited as a child to Sunday school. I noticed that the people at the church were different than the people I had previously met in life. They were full of life, loved each other, and spoke about Jesus like a friend. As a teenager I decided to make a commitment to follow Christ and have not looked back since.

WHY AM I STANDING?

Having lived in another country and culture, we are so fortunate that this country is covered by prayer, parishes, and a commitment to see lives changed wherever we live. We are intimately involved in the best and worst moments of people's lives and bring hope and security to them as we share the Gospel. I am committed to seeing mission and ministry continue as we preach the gospel afresh to every generation. Having a particular passion for young people and children growing into lifelong apprentices of Jesus, I have served the Milton Keynes Deanery, specifically involved in youth provision, served as a Governor at 7 schools and a chair of Governors at 3 other schools.

I also have a big passion for Mission and Evangelism, coupled with a large amount of experience in international and local mission leading teams for SOMA in central and southern Africa and more locally, organizing mission and evangelism events in the UK. I am passionate about the Church and her mission for the people of the UK and have had a growing sense that I need to put myself forward to stand. This sense has not gone away over the last few months and has grown into something much bigger. I would love to see the voice of younger generations and fresh expressions grow louder in General synod.

WHAT AM I INTERESTED IN?

- Parish and Diocesan deployment.
- Lay ministry
- Resourcing into Parish and Deanery
- New church communities and fresh expressions
- Social responsibility
- Education
- The Anglican communion.

WHAT CAN I OFFER?

I am described by friends as full of energy, enthusiasm, and humor which I bring into everything that I do, whether that is a focus on mission, buildings or finance. I feel that I could offer experience of cross cultural mission, fresh expressions, education, and emerging generations, lay ministry, adding to the other voices that will be elected.

FINALLY

Should you vote to elect me to General Synod, my approachability, experience, and passion, will be put to good use in serving the whole Church, having an opportunity to put the things that you are passionate about into the debate. Thank you for reading this and choosing to vote for me. Please do pray for me and others as we seek to serve Christ, his Church, and the world.