

The Rev'd Canon Rowena King - Candidate Statement



Proposer: The Rev'd Adam Watson – Priest-in-Charge of St George's, Swallowbeck, and Rural Dean of Christianity

Seconder: The Rev'd Canon Carolyn Bailey – Rector of the Ness Group and Partnership Dean of the Elloes

I have been ordained 10 years, having previously worked in the fields of Education and school Chaplaincy, alongside 4 years working for the Iona Community in Scotland.

Post ordination, I combined full-time rural parish ministry in Gloucester Diocese, (looking after 5 churches and a fresh expression of church across six villages), alongside part-time work as a theological educator with Ripon College Cuddesdon in their regional training courses in Gloucester and Monmouth Dioceses. In March 2024, I moved to Lincoln Cathedral as Canon Missioner.

I value the diversity of the Church of England. I consider my home to be in the liberal, liturgical tradition of the Church, however I count myself friends with people across the diversity of church traditions and enjoy the opportunity to lead and worship in a variety of ways. I believe General Synod benefits from people who value this breadth, and who seek unity across diversity; I don't underestimate the challenges of seeking common ways forward. I would seek to transform the polarising styles of discourse often prevalent around contentious issues, and aim to find ways of working together across our differences.

I have a particular interest in Clergy Wellbeing (including pensions and remuneration) and would seek to support creative and courageous thinking around how best to address the current challenges of clergy workloads, finances, and deployment.

No statement would be complete without mentioning Living in Love and Faith. General Synod has already expressed its mind to move forward with the provision of Prayers of Love and Faith for those communities who feel called to offer them. Finding a way to move this commitment ahead in such a way that both enables and protects priests in ministering according to their conscience is important to me. I would therefore seek a process that enables us to move forward together in our diversity, whilst protecting the unity of our structures.

If elected, I would want to remain connected with clergy across the Diocese and to know which issues you consider most important for General Synod to discuss, and also to hear your views on issues raised for debate.

Thank you, for taking the time to consider my nomination as you prayerfully consider your vote.

Peace and Blessings,
Rowena