

NOMINATION FORM FOR HOUSE OF LAITY

DIOCESE OF: NORWICH

To be returned to the Presiding Officer at

Diocesan House, 109 Dereham Road, Easton, Norwich, NR9 5ES

to reach the presiding officer not later than 5 p.m. on Monday, 7th September 2026.

Nominations may be delivered by post or in person.

ELECTION OF THREE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF LAITY TO REPRESENT THE DIOCESE IN THE GENERAL SYNOD

NOMINATION FORM *(please write in BLOCK CAPITALS)*

Particulars of candidate

Surname

Full Christian names

Commonly used name (if applicable).....

Address

.....Postcode

Are your personal circumstances such that your postal address should not be published
for the purposes of the election? Yes ☐ No ☐

Email:

On the electoral roll of the parish of.....

Year of birth: ____

Have you previously served as a member of the General Synod? Please indicate by
putting a cross in the appropriate box? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please give dates of previous service and the House to which you belonged:

.....

Particulars of nominator (1)

Full Name

Address

.....

Member of deanery synod

Signature of nominator (1)

I, the undersigned, being a qualified elector in the diocese of

..... nominate the above candidate as a person qualified to

serve as a member of the House of Laity for the diocese.

Signature of nominator Date 2026

Particulars of nominator (2)

Full Name

Address

.....

Member of deanery synod

Signature of nominator (2)

I, the undersigned, being a qualified elector in the diocese of

..... nominate the above candidate as a person qualified to

serve as a member of the House of Laity for the diocese.

Signature of nominator Date 2026

Consent of candidate

I hereby declare my consent to stand for election and to serve as a member of the House of Laity/ for the diocese of

Signature of candidate Date..... 2026

For qualifications and details of electoral addresses see accompanying notes.

HOUSE OF LAITY ELECTIONS

Qualifications of candidates

1. A candidate must be a lay person who:
 - a) has received Communion according to the use of the Church of England or a Church in communion with it at least three times in the twelve months before the date of the dissolution of the General Synod;
 - b) either is confirmed (or ready and desirous of being confirmed) or comes within paragraph 1(b) of Canon B 15A (i.e. is a communicant member of a Church which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity);
 - c) is aged 18 or over on the date of dissolution of the General Synod; and
 - d) satisfies one of the following conditions:
 - i. is on the church electoral roll of a parish in the diocese or, in the case of a cathedral in the diocese, if not a parish church, on the community roll;
 - ii. is declared by the leader of a mission initiative in the diocese to be part of the worshipping community involved in the initiative.
2. Unlike electors, candidates need not be members of a deanery synod.
3. Candidates must normally be qualified as such at 6.00 a.m. on Tuesday 14th July 2026 (the date of the dissolution of the 2021-2026 General Synod).
4. However, the leader of a mission initiative may declare a person to be part of the worshipping community involved in the initiative, at any time from Monday 15th June to 12th August 2026 inclusive.
5. A candidate must **not** be the holder of a paid office or employment to which one of the following central bodies may make or confirm an appointment:
 - the General Synod
 - the Convocations
 - the Church Commissioners (but a Church Commissioner in receipt of a salary or other emolument is not disqualified)
 - the Church of England Pensions Board
 - the Archbishops' Council
 - the Corporation of the Church House
6. A person is also disqualified if the person is included in a barred list under the [Safeguarding and Vulnerable Groups Act 2006](#) or the person has been convicted of an offence mentioned in [Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933](#)
7. A candidate may not stand for more than one diocese or electoral area simultaneously but may stand for an electoral area other than that in which the candidate is on an electoral roll or, if entered on the community roll of a

cathedral that is not a parish church, may stand for an area other than that in which the cathedral is situated.

Qualifications of nominators

8. Nominators must be diocesan electors qualified as such at 6.00 a.m. on the date of the dissolution, Tuesday 14th July 2026. The diocesan electors are the members of the house of laity of each deanery synod in the diocese, other than the co-opted members and the members of a religious community with representation in the General Synod.
9. If a poll is held, the name of each nominator of a candidate will be published alongside the name of the candidate.

Election addresses

Every candidate is entitled to ask the presiding officer to circulate an election address to the electors. The address is to be prepared at the candidate's own expense.

In a laity election, the address must be either in that electronic form or in hard copy on either or both sides of a single sheet of A4 paper.

Election addresses will be sent by the presiding officer to the electors with the invitations to vote on Monday 21st September 2026. They must be given to the presiding officer, by e-mail to: **stuart-jones@birketts.co.uk** or by post or in person at the above address, so as to be received by the presiding officer by 5 p.m. on Monday 7th September 2026. The presiding officer is under no obligation to circulate addresses received after that or which are not in the required form.

The election address of each elected candidate will be displayed on the diocesan website until the end of the quinquennium (or, if the elected person ceases to be a member at some earlier date, until that date).

Those wishing to stand for election may wish to know that Synod members will be reimbursed for travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses for meetings held in London, and travel for meetings held in York (as the diocese will be billed directly for your accommodation and meals). If you are not able to pay up front for these things, we will work with you to ensure this is not a barrier to you serving on General Synod.

Potential candidates may also wish to know that the 2026/27 rate of compensation set by the Archbishops' Council for loss of earnings due to attendance at General Synod or at meetings of the Synod's or Council's subordinate bodies is the actual loss up to £220 per day of absence.

Meetings of the General Synod, Committees and Commissions

1. The frequency and length of meetings of the full General Synod follow a regular pattern of two (or occasionally three) meetings in a calendar year.
2. Meetings are in February, July and (if needed) November. February and November meetings are non-residential and are held at Church House, Westminster. July meetings are residential and are held at the University of York.
3. Members will wish to set aside time to read before meetings begin sufficient time to read the relevant papers.
4. The weeks in which the meetings are held each year are fixed by a Synod resolution passed no later than the July meeting of the previous year. The Business Committee of the General Synod then informs Synod members in the agenda for each meeting of the precise dates (within the pre-arranged weeks) on which the Synod will meet, in the light of the needs of the agenda.
5. A February meeting usually spans up to five weekdays and the daily sitting hours usually run from 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2.00 to 7.00 p.m.
6. In York, residential meetings are usually held over a weekend from Friday afternoon to Tuesday afternoon. The Synod does not transact business on the Sunday morning during a weekend residential meeting. Instead, by invitation of the Dean and Chapter, members can attend a Sung Eucharist in York Minster.
7. The dates so far agreed for Synod meetings in 2026-2031 are—

2026

Monday 16th November – Wednesday 18th November

2027

Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February

Friday 9th July – Tuesday 13th July

Monday 15th November – Wednesday 17th November (if required)

2028

Monday 14th February – Tuesday 22nd February

Friday 7th July – Tuesday 11th July

Monday 20th November - Wednesday 22nd November (if required)

2029

Monday 19th February – Tuesday 27th February

Friday 6th July – Tuesday 10th July

Monday 19th November – Wednesday 21st November (if required).

8. It is preferred that members attend Synod meetings in person. However, if circumstances prevent this, members can participate remotely by Zoom.
9. Members are not required to record their attendance at any full meeting and do not have to attend a minimum number of meetings. It rests with each individual to do the best they can in the light of other commitments and particular concerns in each Synod agenda. The Business Committee does, however, try as far as possible to help members by ensuring that particular items of business begin at published times.
10. Members may be invited by the Appointments Committee to serve on permanent or temporary bodies but are entirely free to refuse. Individual members' preferences are carefully taken into account in fixing dates of committee meetings and every effort is made by the Appointments Committee to share out the committee work fairly among members who are qualified to deal with the tasks to be undertaken.
11. The Synod calls the sittings in Full Synod on one day a "session" and any number of sessions on consecutive days a "group of sessions". But this is only a matter of terminology and has no bearing on the frequency or length of sessions.