

Candidate: Alex Perry

- 1 Describe your Anglican identity in three words.**
Faith, Hope, Love
- 2 What would be your top three priorities for this coming General Synod if you were elected?**
a. removing manmade barriers to the Church, b. supporting our young people, c. addressing poverty in the UK and the Global South.
- 3 What would you bring to the General Synod which will enhance its culture, reputation and work?**
I am trained in dialogue – to explore areas of agreement and disagreement in a respectful manner.
- 4 How best do you think the National Church could use its significant financial resources to further the 5-marks of mission?**
I think the Church operates best at the level of the local parish. Local parishes should be able to apply for grants with their ideas from a national fund.
- 5 What steps do you believe General Synod must take next to ensure robust independent and transparent safeguarding practices across every level of the church?**
We need to take the same steps that have been recognised as appropriate and effective for safeguarding in secular organisations. I am glad that my parish church does this.
- 6 What is your vision for the rural church and how its life and mission should be supported?**
The rural church is as important as the urban church. We need to recognise that the rural church needs greater resources to be on a level playing field and invest accordingly.
- 7 What do you believe the church's role is at this time of climate crisis?**
We trust in God when faced with apocalyptic situations and we make use of our God given gifts to find the best outcomes we can for ourselves and our world.
- 8 In light of the Church of England's *From Lament to Action* report, and recognising the increasing polarisation in UK public life around nationalism, identity, and migration, what would your contribution be to fostering racial diversity and challenge discrimination in our church?**
We restate that the Christian Faith from Pentecost has been a multinational enterprise. We recognise that God does not use these artificial categories, but loves all human beings. We realise that other people present us with opportunities not threats.

- 9 What are your views on Project Spire (the Church Commissioners' findings about transatlantic chattel slavery and the proposal to create a fund for healing, repair and justice?)**

The cost of discipleship is costly but we still should do it.

- 10 What is your view about the sacramental ministry of priests and bishops who are women, and do you personally receive their ministry in full?**

I fully accept the sacramental ministry of women. My experiences of women in ministry (I have moved around a lot) have been positive.

- 11 What is your view on the current status of the 'House of Bishops' Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priests and the Five Guiding Principles?**

I think that those churches open to both female and male ordination will flourish more. However, I still want to maintain dialogue and fellowship with those who think differently.

- 12 What is your view about services of blessing in church after a civil same-sex marriage at (i) a usual service, or (ii) a standalone service, and (iii) same sex marriage conducted in churches (in all cases where the incumbent and PCC are supportive)?**

I affirm same-sex marriages and blessings in all cases. Those who think differently have got Five Guiding Principles to flourish differently in their churches.

- 13 What is your view about the ordination of candidates who are in same sex marriages, and the licensing of clergy who enter same sex marriage?**

I support this too (refer to my answer to question 12). Though not asked, I think the Church has ducked issues in heterosexuality too and we need to address these matters as well.

- 14 How do you plan to communicate and consult effectively with the wider electorate?**

I will support reflective events at the level of the parish church, the deanery, and the diocese in which Christians consider the big issues that the Church faces and the choices to be made. This is a collective effort and all on General Synod will also need to do this.