

Christina Baron for General Synod 2026

Nominated by Steven Pugsley, Lay Dean, Exmoor deanery

Seconded by Val Barker, Lay Dean, Yeovil deanery



“ Christina has been a strong and committed voice for the laity at all levels. Over many years she has worked hard to connect our deaneries with the diocese. She has a proven track record as a powerful advocate for Bath and Wells at General Synod. ”

**Steven Pugsley,
Lay Dean of
Exmoor**

I live in Wells and am a member of the congregation and the PCC of St Thomas', where I used to lead the Sunday School. I have been Lay Dean - or, as it used to be called, Lay Chair - of Shepton Mallet Deanery and Lay Chair of Diocesan Synod. I am a member of the Board of Patronage, which appoints clergy to some parishes in the diocese.

I was first elected to represent Bath and Wells on General Synod in 2013 and in 2017 had the privilege of being elected by General Synod to the Crown Nominations Commission, which has the responsibility for discerning those whom God is calling to be diocesan bishops. Recently I had the great honour of taking part, with representatives from across the world-wide Anglican Communion, in the prayerful process of nominating the new Archbishop of Canterbury. If I am re-elected to General Synod, I will have one more year left to serve of my 10-year term on the CNC.

Before I retired I was a lecturer at the University of Bath, teaching courses on British History and modern Britain for overseas students. I have chaired two local NHS Trusts, based in Bridgwater and Clevedon. My husband, Alan, is a former churchwarden and we have three children and seven grandchildren.

Christina BARON

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Christina Baron

Dear Deanery Synod members

It has been a privilege to represent you on the General Synod and I hope you will give me your support to continue. General Synod deals with matters of importance to the Church and to wider society - such as safeguarding, where more remains to be done to ensure that survivors are listened to and that past abuses can never happen again. I support safeguarding becoming fully independent of the church.

As one of your General Synod representatives I have spoken at a number of Deanery Synods and have taken one group from Bath and Wells to London to see General Synod in action. If re-elected I hope to visit more Deanery Synods and to organise more group visits to General Synod.

Questions at Synod can be a valuable way of raising issues or getting information. I have asked questions on behalf of Church members, most recently about Festival Churches. I am always happy to raise concerns which people let me know about, such as recently about development of land belonging to the Church Commissioners.

Synod debates a wide range of matters, from liturgy and church flowers to the situation of Palestinian Christians. All synod business starts with worship and is supported by prayer and I hope that you will remember synod members and their work in your prayers during the next five year term.

Please do contact me if you want to know more or to ask me any questions.

Christina Baron

baron.christina@googlemail.com

01749-675071

07745-423253

Our parish churches

- **Parishes and parish churches are the foundation of the Church of England.** It is important to reach out to people wherever they are, through chaplaincy in schools, colleges, hospitals and wherever people gather, and through new forms of worship in new places: this work should be valued and celebrated but the parish must be affirmed and supported as the outward and visible sign of the unique mission of the Church of England - "here for all the people of England."

- All my children, and my husband, sang in St Thomas' choir and two of my grandchildren are now choristers. Over hundreds of years, **English church music** has given expression to faith and drawn people closer to Christ. **This is a precious heritage which the Church of England should support.**

- As parishes and dioceses struggle financially, they have to devise projects and then bid for funding from the national church. Bidding takes time and energy and can be demoralising for unsuccessful applicants. **More money from the Church Commissioners should go directly to support parish ministry**, without competing against other parts of the church.

Inclusive Church

I am committed to equality for everyone at all levels and roles within the church, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, mental health or sexuality.

ABOVE ALL, please do use your vote.

Voting closes: 5pm on Monday, 12th October if you are voting on paper
5pm on Tuesday, 13th October if you are voting via the elections portal

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