

Candidate for General Synod

Revd Leslie Siu

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Vicar of Wickham Market with Pettistree
Rural Dean of Loes Deanery

Proposer: Revd Canon John Alderton-Ford

Vicar of Christ Church, Moreton Hall

Seconder: Revd Susan Bates

Vicar of Debenham with Helmingham
Bishop's Council



Who am I?

- Vicar of Wickham Market with Pettistree and Rural Dean of Loes Deanery
- Married to Meleri. We have 5 primary school aged children, a dog, and 3 chickens(!)
- Born in England. Grew up in Hong Kong, where I was first introduced to the good news of the Lord Jesus at an Anglican Church. I came back to the UK at 12, going to school and university in London
- After university, I served at a church in inner city London for 3 years before going forward for ordination
- Thankful for the love of the Lord Jesus Christ, and blessed to be a part of the Church family
- I enjoying following (and occasionally playing) sports, as well as anything to do with technology, computing, and gaming

Why am I standing for General Synod?

I am passionate about the Church of England and the privilege we have of serving the nation as we point to Jesus. We have a wonderfully rich heritage in our theology and tradition, and which I am convinced is as relevant and important to share now as it has ever been. It has been a blessed experience to have been assistant and then Rural Dean, working with clergy and laity across the deanery.

The Parish Church is critical for our continued Christian presence, not as isolated presence, but together as we work with and for one another. Involvement with the wider national Church of England is therefore an important task, even as we continue in the hard work of daily ministry within our Parishes and Benefices.

As well as being the legislative body of the Church of England, General Synod has an important role in setting the tone of our mission and ministry. These are important conversations for both our local and national future, and I would love to offer myself to represent the diocese of St. Edmundsbury & Ipswich in this next quinquennium.

What can I offer General Synod?

As we seek to become a simpler, humbler, bolder church, I believe I have the following skills, experience, and background to contribute to General Synod.

- **A younger voice.** As a 34 year old, I hope to provide an important voice and perspective to Synod which will allow us to move forward confidently as we seek to reach the nation for Christ.
- **A diverse voice,** shaped by my international upbringing as well as being of UKME (Chinese) background. As General Synod considers issues around diversity, racism, and equality, I hope to offer a helpful perspective in order that we might best reflect the diversity found in the Living God, and serve each individual in our parishes well.
- **A rural voice.** Although most of my life has been spent in urban settings and ministry, coming to Wickham Market has helped me learn to appreciate the unique joys and challenges that come from being in a rural community. It is important that decisions made on a national level serve the needs of our rural communities.
- **A financial background,** centred around my first degree in Actuarial Science, means I will be able to engage well with discussions on finance as we seek to be faithful, ethical stewards of the resources we have, using them to serve God's kingdom while maintaining a concern for the wider creation.
- **Experience working with other organisations.** The Church of England does not exist in a vacuum and it is important that we engage with other denominations and the wider society around us. I have experience working within an ecumenical partnership as well as the privilege of serving as a governor at a Church of England Primary School.
- **A concern for those without a voice.** In the local community, I have helped our church to establish a project to tackle food poverty. On an international level, I have an interest in helping those who are marginalized and in need, engaging with issues like the persecuted church, and other global challenges, e.g. those from Hong Kong seeking political asylum.
- **Holding the old and the new together.** I have a love of our Anglican liturgy and traditions, while also being able to share in contemporary worship. During the pandemic, our Benefice have been able to make use of new technologies without losing a hold on the rich heritage of our worship.

Thank you for taking the time to consider the above. I would be pleased if you would give me a high preference vote. If elected, I will endeavour to serve the Lord Jesus in being a representative voice for the diocese of St. Edmundsbury & Ipswich.

If you would like to talk to me about these or any other issues please call me on 01728 561572 or email at leslie@wickhammarketchurch.org