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Following a varied career as a director of multinational companies and active participation in several roles and experience of churches in Kent, France and Bedfordshire I was ordained in 2007 and am now vicar of St. Margaret's, Streatley, chaplain to the Keech Hospice, a surrogate registrar and a vocations advisor for the diocese. The parish is a mix of rural and urban ministry with a farming village in the north and a segment of Luton to the south, reflecting the textured tapestry of the Church of England and the wide range of pastoral care that we offer to the people of our diocese. I believe strongly in God's provision and passion for all people and our calling to be a Church that is able to minister in different ways to different groups both within and without the church walls. Giving proper weight to scripture, tradition and reason we have as a corporate body to do the deep thinking that allows us to relate to our communities, to grow faith in the countryside, town and city holding together the traditional and the radical in the way we are, the things we stand for and in the way we worship from the Book of Common Prayer to the most modern of contemporary liturgies.

My special interests are the care of the elderly, ministry to the sick and dying, development of lay and ordained vocations particularly for the more mature seeking a change of role, support of chaplaincies in hospitals, hospices and the workplace, the ethics of business practices and our ministry to those returning to the church. In particular our reaching out to those who are thirsty for answers to the big questions and who are often forgotten in our agenda for youthful flourishing of congregations.

I am standing for General Synod now because by bringing my experience of senior leadership to a debate, I wish to help contribute to the thinking and direction of the Church of England. Among others, to encourage our engagement with the political and economic issues of the day, and to help the process of revision of our own structures and processes that can impede our flexibility and darkly colour others' perception of us. We have decisions to take about how we can adapt our training to encourage more priests and readers, how we will in future address the question of marriage and sexuality, how to encourage women and men with young families to be ministers, what changes we might make to help married clergy find incumbencies, to be sure that the church continues to be safe for all vulnerable people, how best to adapt to the virtual communities that our young especially are such a part of, how to have the proper vigorous debate with other faiths, to manage our finances, to look after those who have served us and now are retired, and in all things how to respect the traditional teaching of the church and people's understanding of that but still find a way to show God's love to everyone.

Our representation at General Synod is important, I am standing of course to represent the diocese but with my knowledge of those places where I have served, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Luton to the fore. Our synod college has previously had a quite rich St. Albans flavour and I wish to add some dark chocolate to the chilli and a nuance to the debate.

I shall be pleased for your vote and if elected will listen to your voices and do my best to try to make them heard.