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## THE REVD DR NICK WEIR

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Dear Colleague,

**Proposer:**  
**The Revd Kylie Hodgins,**  
**Vicar of St Luke's Bricket**  
**Wood, Assistant Rural**  
**Dean, St Albans**

I would be delighted if you would consider voting for me to be one of your representatives on General Synod. The priorities I would seek to bring to synod would be: 1) Keeping mission and evangelism at the centre of the church's agenda. 2) Giving priority to raising up disciples and leaders who will be equipped to minister to all in our contemporary world. 3) Ensuring the national church provides for the welfare and flourishing of the clergy. Here are some of the attributes and skills I could bring to synod:

**Seconder:**  
**The Revd Charles Burch,**  
**Vicar of St Lawrence's**  
**Bovingdon,**  
**Diocesan Vocations**  
**Officer**

### **Parish and Pioneering experience**

- I am the vicar of a village suburb parish with a school, almshouses and open churchyard. After six years here, I am keenly aware of the pressures parish clergy are under, not just to keep everything going, but to adapt to constant change and strive to see real growth. It is hard work and yet I passionately believe that 'the local church is the hope of the world.' Prior to ordination I launched and led a fresh expression of church in Streatham, South London. I welcome a national vision that encourages initiative and enterprise. I support new forms of church to reach new communities, in parallel with existing forms of ministry that are proving effective.

### **A commitment to bring the gospel to all**

- My current parish includes London commuters and social housing side by side. I delight in how this is reflected in our church community, bringing people together. Our Streatham fresh expression community was about 50% minority ethnic in make up. I passionately believe that Jesus is for all.

### **Especially young people**

- I am deeply concerned about the decline of children and young people in church. This is an urgent nationwide problem that synod must be engaged with. I am still a younger minister (44) and have lots of experience of growing ministry among young people. For many years I led a CPAS Venture for 14-18s (Quantock 3). This was a fun activity holiday with a high minority ethnic participation and a clear presentation of Jesus Christ. My current parish runs an active children's and youth work (0-18s) both within and outside of our church community.
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### **A Passion for Education, Training and Disciple-growing**

- Like many clergy I am a foundation governor of our church school. I receive ordinands each year to train in the parish along with a curate, youth worker and ministry trainee. I have recently become a Vocations Advisor. I am committed to raising up the next generation of disciples, lay and ordained. I believe in the vital importance of high quality theological education to enable people to understand and address contemporary intellectual trends and communicate in our ever-changing and well-educated society.

### **Clergy Welfare**

- I am saddened that some of my colleagues are discouraged and that clergy burnout is a significant problem. I want to see that the financial and emotional welfare of the clergy on the agenda of synod.

### **A Professional background as a Psychiatrist**

- This has given me a great respect for the human mind and the scientific method. It has exposed me to varied and profound human suffering. I keep up my interest in mental health and have given talks and seminars in a range of churches. I seek to be clear thinking and compassionate towards all. I am engaging in Living in Love and Faith with a sympathetic and open mind. I deeply respect the church's teaching about family life and am not seeking doctrinal revision. Yet I also have a strong concern that we make disciples of people of all backgrounds and recognise the need for greater understanding and sensitivity.

Thank you very much for taking time to read my address. I am very happy to respond to any questions you may have. I would love your prayers and support. If elected I would serve you diligently and keep in good contact with you.

A bit more about me...

I am married to Cherry and we have three boys aged 4 to 9. I love to unwind by playing the violin, walking in hills, growing vegetables (badly!) and keeping up with old friends.

I began my spiritual journey, aged 8, in the Sunday school at St Mary's Kinsbourne Green in Harpenden. It is wonderful many years later to be back in the area serving the Lord.

Education: Pembroke College Cambridge - MA Medical Sciences, Green College Oxford - BM BCh Medicine, Membership of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, Oak Hill College - MTh Theology

Pre-ordination employment: Ministry Trainee (Holy Redeemer Church, Streatham), Psychiatrist (The Maudsley & Bethlem Royal Hospitals), General Hospital Medicine (Oxford)

Clergy Posts: Vicar, Holy Trinity Frogmore (since 2015), Curate, St Mary's Basingstoke

Other Responsibilities: Vocations Advisor (2021), Member of Diocesan Synod (2018-), Advisor to the Healing and Freedom Team (2017-), Oak Hill College Ordinand Supervisor (2015-), Latimer Trust Theological Workgroup & Council (2012-), St Albans Clergy Conference organising committee - seminar track (2017), CPAS Ventures Volunteer Leader (2000-2018)

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