

Name: Catherine Saunders
Address: 51 Urswick Road, Ulverston, Cumbria, LA12 9LJ
Age: 51
Contact details: icsaunders2@gmail.com
Candidate for House of Laity



Proposer: Cathrine Livesey: cathliv@hotmail.com
Seconded: Matthew Topping: mdtopping1@gmail.com

I would consider it a privilege to serve as a member of The General Synod. The Church of England is in a unique position to be the moral compass, and beacon of hope in the current atmosphere of darkness and despair, both for the UK and across the nations.

- I would love to see;
 - The Church of England focused on, and empowered by the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, reaching out to all in our communities, to show people that 'The Lord is close to the broken hearted, and saves those who are crushed in spirit'. Psalm 34 v 18
 - The authority of the Bible restored.
 - People in our communities saved, built up and sent out to tell others of Christ's love.

PERSONAL DETAILS

- My name is Catherine Saunders.
I've been married for 21 years to Ian and we have two children aged 18 and 14.
I enjoy painting, especially flowers, and take inspiration from the beautiful area we live in. I work part time for a local giftware company, and also work from home as an artist. I love to visit gardens and go walking in the local area.
- I have been a member of the Church of England since childhood, being brought up in a Christian family and taken along firstly to St. Paul's, Barrow-in-Furness, then to Ulverston Parish Church.
- In my teenage years, I gradually came to the realisation that the Jesus of the Bible Stories was alive, personal and present, and that he wanted to journey along with me personally as my God, friend and guide; I remember that day still; amazing!

WHY AM I STANDING?

- The Church of England holds a special place in my heart. It has shaped, through the liturgy and sound doctrine, my personal faith in Jesus. I feel passionately that, by remaining faithful to God, the Church will be in an excellent position to guide all people to God, from individuals, to governments, which in turn will bring about right living, in our relationships with God and one another.
- As a member of my local church I've worked with the youth in my 20s. I helped lead a Crusaders Youth Group. We had many youngsters from the local community, and it was wonderful to draw alongside them and their families and share Christ's love with them as well as having a lot of fun (and sometimes tears).
- For many years I've been an active member of the team that leads the Sunday junior church. It is a joy to teach the children and listen to their questions; their childlike faith has been a real blessing to me, and a real lesson of how to trust God.

- I have been a member of the PCC in the distant past and I'm currently on a team embarking on offering meals, fun and most importantly friendship as we seek as a church to connect to members of our local community and support them as we come out of the pandemic
- I believe it is important that as a church we seek God's holy face, turn to Him, repent and seek to guide the Church, and nation back to our loving, compassionate, merciful and Holy God.

WHAT AM I INTERESTED IN?

- I would love to see Synod resourcing mission and ministry at the parish level.
- I am interested in looking into the Living in Love and Faith document.
- I support Open Doors, and sponsor a child through a small Christian charity in the Philippines called 'Jigsaw Kids Ministries'.

WHAT CAN I OFFER?

- I am a good listener, and hope that is a good quality when in debates/discussions.
- I feel passionately that the Church needs to reach out to local communities. There are many lonely and fearful people, especially since the pandemic. Although I work with a lot of young people, I feel compassion for the elderly and frail, having lost my Father during the pandemic, and being unable to visit or be with him when he died, has made a real impact on me. It would be wonderful to facilitate decisions Synod makes, to equip the Church 'on the ground'.

FINALLY

- If elected I would seek to make decisions prayerfully and by reading scripture which I believe is the inspired word of God (2 Timothy 3v 16 and 17).
- I would ask that you would prayerfully consider voting for me, that God's will is done. Thankyou.